WORLD CUP CRICKET GOES TECHNICOLOUR

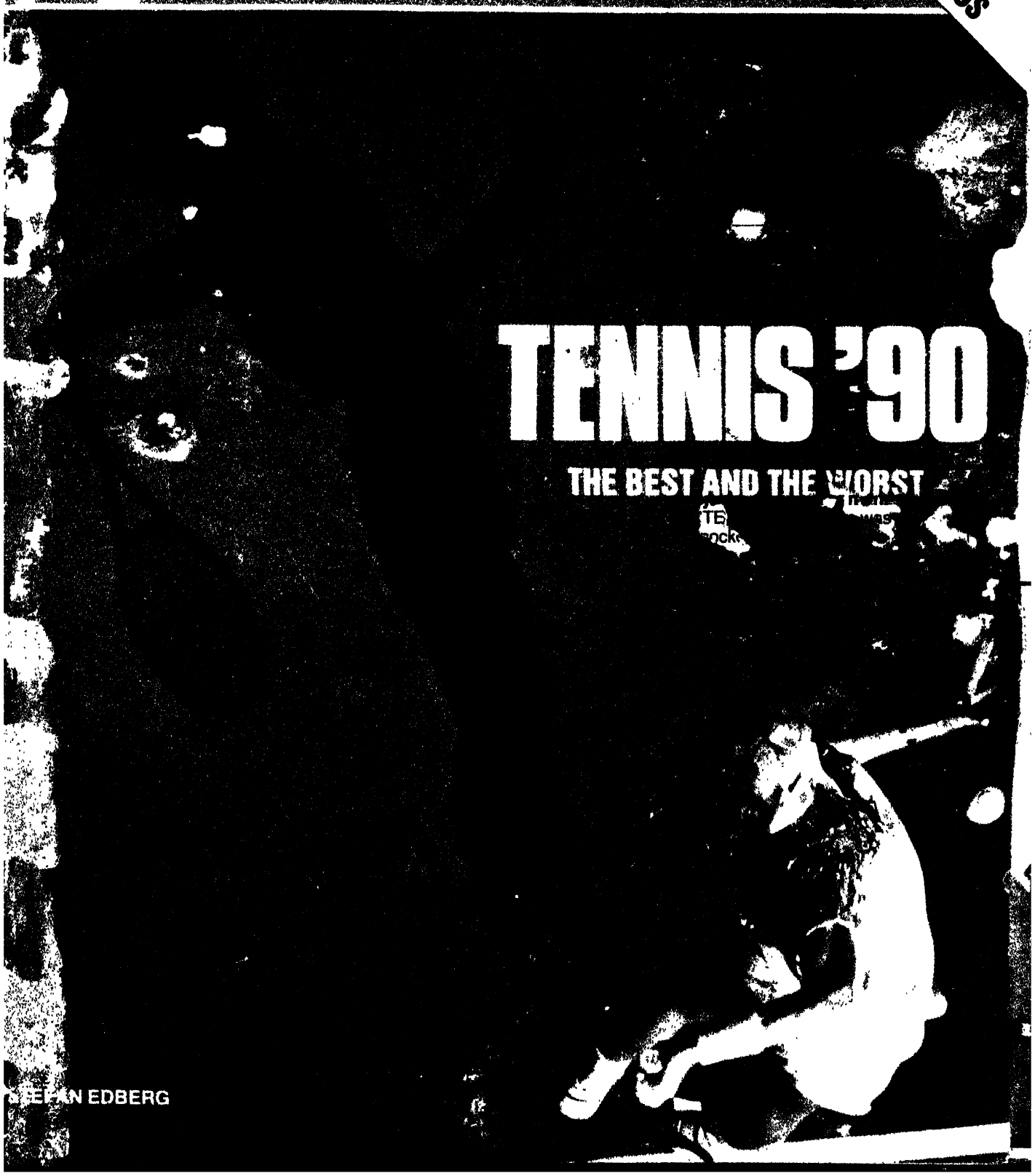
Sportsworld

FREE POSTER: LOTHAR MATTHAEUS

TENNIS '90

THE BEST AND THE WORST

STEFAN EDBERG



In a world full of surprises...

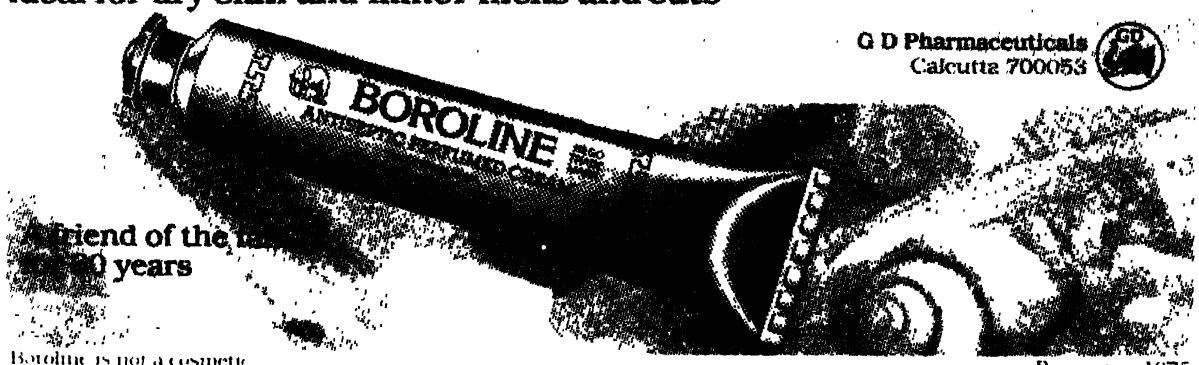


thank goodness you can count on

Boroline

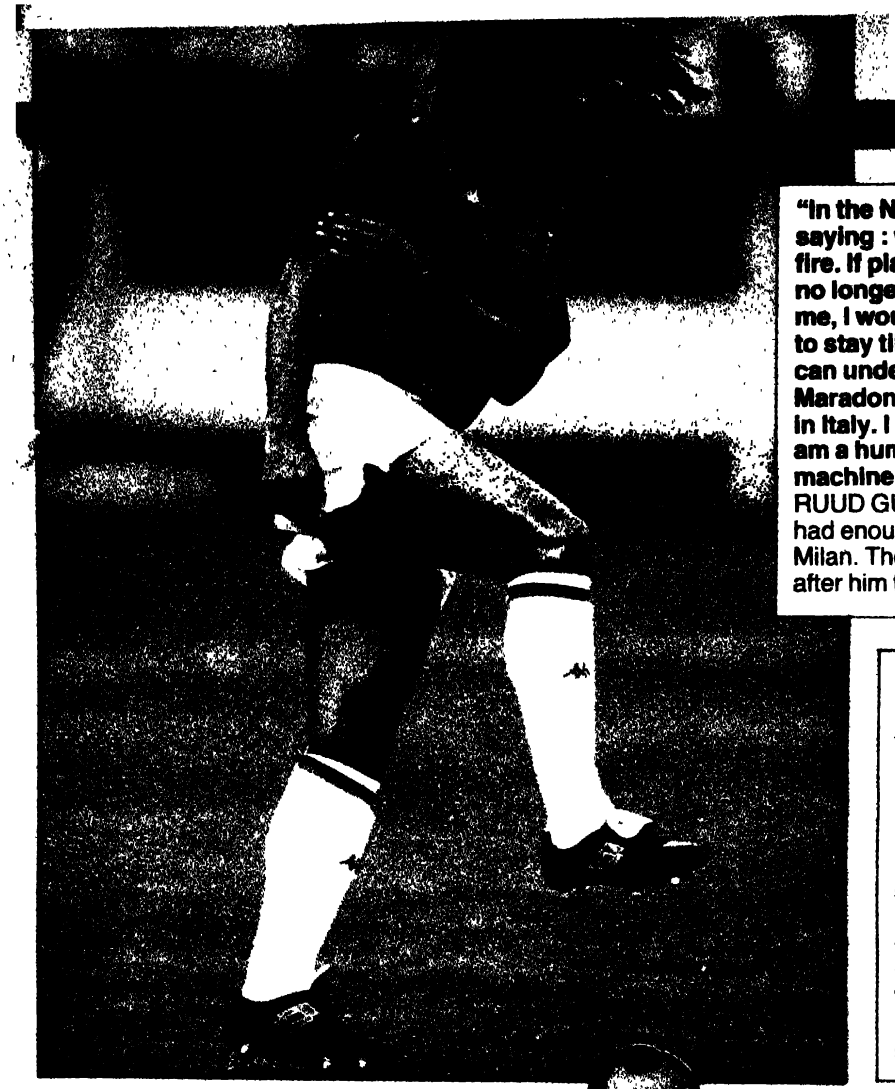
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friend of the
years

Boroline is not a cosmetic



VOICES

"In the Netherlands we have a saying : where the smoke is, is fire. If players, staff or owners no longer have confidence in me, I would like to know. I want to stay till 1993. But sometimes I can understand why Diego Maradona has had enough here in Italy. I am telling you now, I am a human being and not a machine."
RUUD GULLIT seems to have had enough of his tie-up with AC Milan. The club has recently been after him for his lack of form.

"Just before the match ball, I thought about the money and became nervous."
BRAD GILBERT on his first round match against Jonas Svenson of Sweden in the Grand Slam Cup.

"It is insulting to be ignored and treated as a mere stepping stone. If the idea is to make me feel insignificant, it is not working. I am not intimidated by Tyson or any other man."
STEWART, before he was knocked out

"Stewart is getting his best pay-day but he knows he'll fall fast. My trademark used to be tearing men apart, from the opening bell. I am going back to that. I'll batter Stewart's body till his hands drop."
MIKE TYSON, days before he knocked out Stewart in the first round



"London is the right place to launch the new century from. It's important for this country both domestically and internationally. For a long time we have lost our presence in the power corridors around the world. It is very important, this country can put it's feet very firmly on the platform of sport."
SEBASTIAN COE reasons as to why the Olympics 2000 should go to Britain.

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34 The Best and Worst of tennis in 1990. Paul Fein files this memorable list from the USA. A must for every tennis fan.



SPORTS FILE

We know it's the picnic season. But this is a colourful section of the gruelling Tour De France cycle race. And that ain't no picnic.



Sportsworld

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COLORSPORT



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Poster Photograph by colorsport

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Maradona with Claudia on their wedding day: Being sued for siring someone else's kid

DIEGO SCORES

After Maradona's blood

HOT news from Italy! Diego Maradona does not appear to be the most faithful of husbands. Why you ask? Well, it's rather simple. Maradona has been ordered by the court to undergo a blood test in order to determine the paternity of a boy born to Cristiana Sinagra, 26, a local woman who claims that Maradona is the father of her son. Phew!

Maradona under Italian law can refuse to comply with the court's wishes. He obviously wouldn't want to endanger the sanctity of *his* marriage by which he has two daughters. Meanwhile, apart from paternity problems, he is locked in a new row with his club Napoli, whom he continues to torment. Napoli has sued the company managing Maradona's contracts for $1 million, claiming that his highly published disciplinary problems have spoilt the image of the club.

Diego, looking for sympathy, called the move a 'stab in the back'.

AL(I) FOR A CAUSE

Saddam's a good guy

PARKINSON'S disease may have severely crippled the boxer in him, but Muhammad Ali has not got rid of his eccentricity.

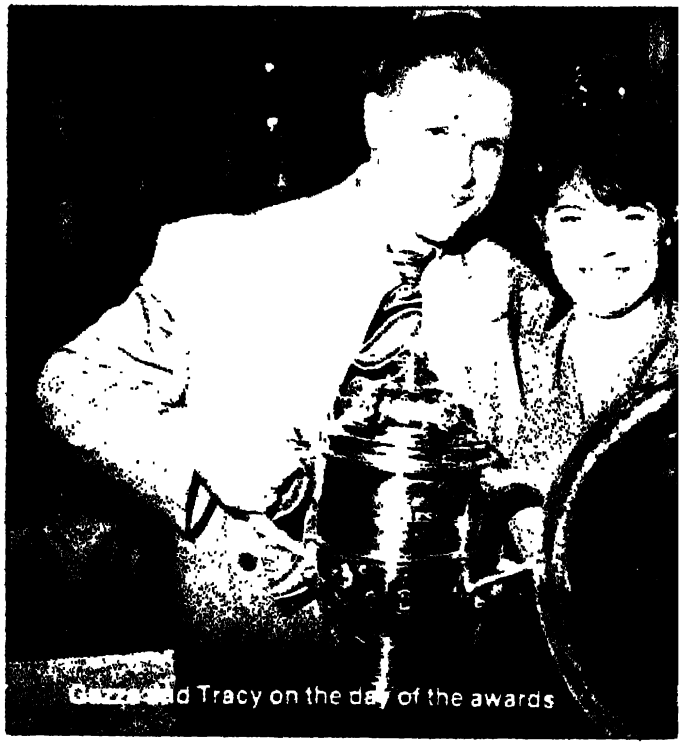
While the whole world is up in arms against Saddam Hussein's occupation of Kuwait, Ali has gone off on a one man campaign in defence of the man. He was in the news recently, making a trip to strife torn Iraq. The 'Black Superman' went on record by giving vociferous support to Saddam's call for an overall solution to the Middle East problems. He said in an interview (much to Saddam's delight) that the Iraqi president's call was founded on 'justice and peace' (irony). Ali also condemned the embargo against Iraq and the multinational troop deployment in the Gulf.

Ali said that he was in Baghdad as an 'apostle of peace to mark the solidarity of Muslims in the US with the Iraqi people who are in the middle of a ferocious and aggressive campaign'.

We don't know whether to take it seriously or not. But at least Ali returned with some hostages.

GAZZA'S YARNS

Tracy's truths



Gazza and Tracy on the day of the awards



Ali: propagating Muslim unity the world over

PAUL GASCOIGNE who captured the world with his theatrics and Tracy Edwards who sailed around it, were recently crowned King and Queen of British sport. They were the direct choices of the *Daily Express* readers, who voted in favour of them.



The contrast could hardly have been more poignant. While Gazza's World Cup tears plucked every British heart string, tiny Tracy endured the fury of the oceans with only the stars bearing witness to her feat. Gazza, however, does not feel he won the award due to the show of emotion watched worldwide. "I've won a lot of awards. But I don't think it's because I cried in the World Cup." Naah, tell us another one, mate.

Tracy was on the other hand more forthright in her acceptance speech: "It was a lifetime's ambition for me and one I never thought I would achieve. It proved that women can do it." Now that is easier to digest.

PRIVATE EYE

WE LOOK WHERE WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO!

Lester sends the punters scrambling



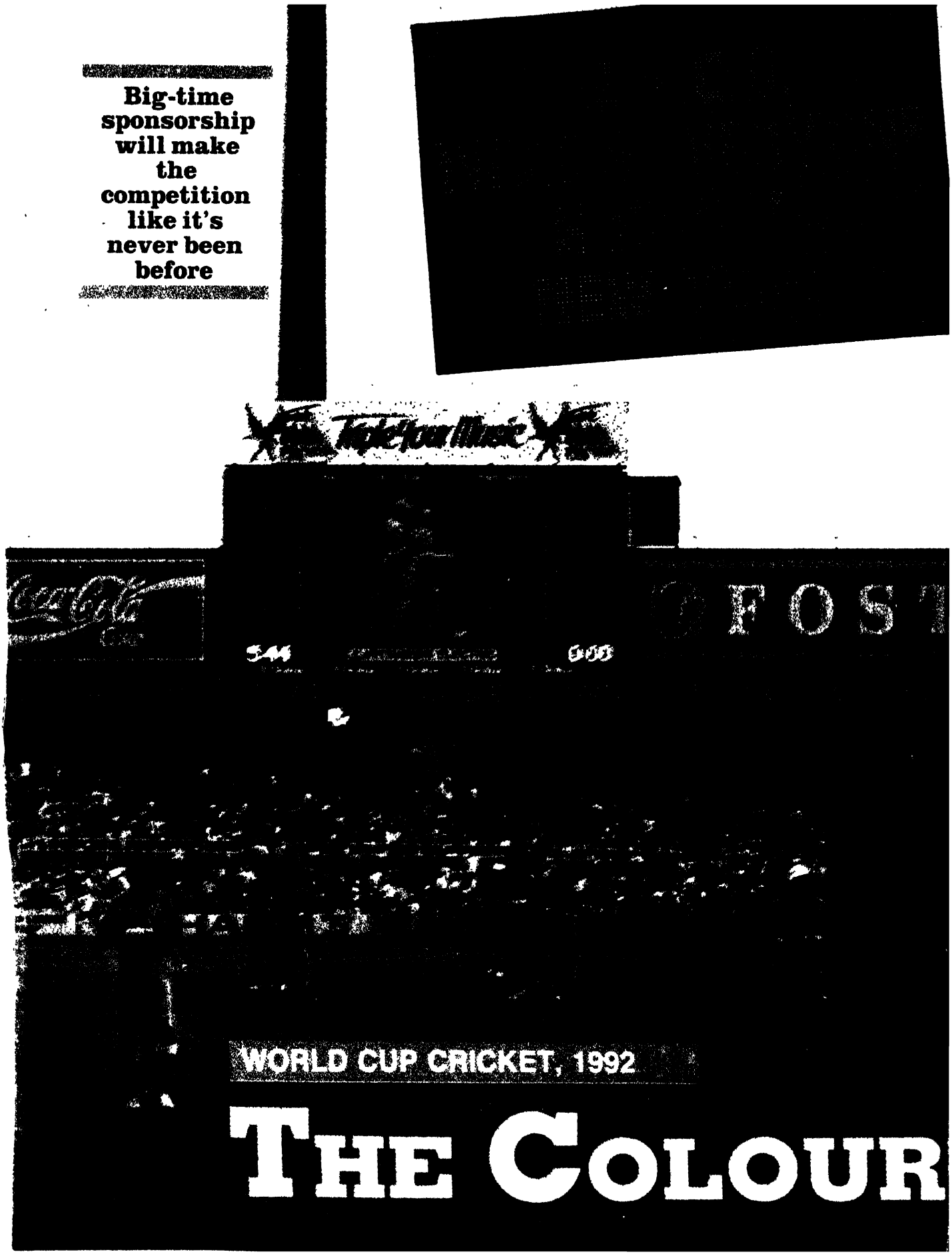
HIGH RIDERS

Will e'won't he?

AND now good news for all you punters. You better start lining up at the betting office cos' something good is coming your way. Rumour has it that legendary jockey, Lester Piggott who is just out of retirement (and jail) is likely to ride in the McDowell Indian Derby. Accompanying him will be another British great, Willie Carson. Together they should provide quite a treat.

Piggott, who has been in touch with India's biggest horse owners in Europe—the deal is so secret that even we didn't get their names—has expressed a desire to take part in the Derby on his way back home from Singapore. Negotiations are apparently entering its last stages in order to make sure Piggott makes it. Should we tip off our income-tax authorities? He could ride away with quite a packet.

Big-time sponsorship will make the competition like it's never been before

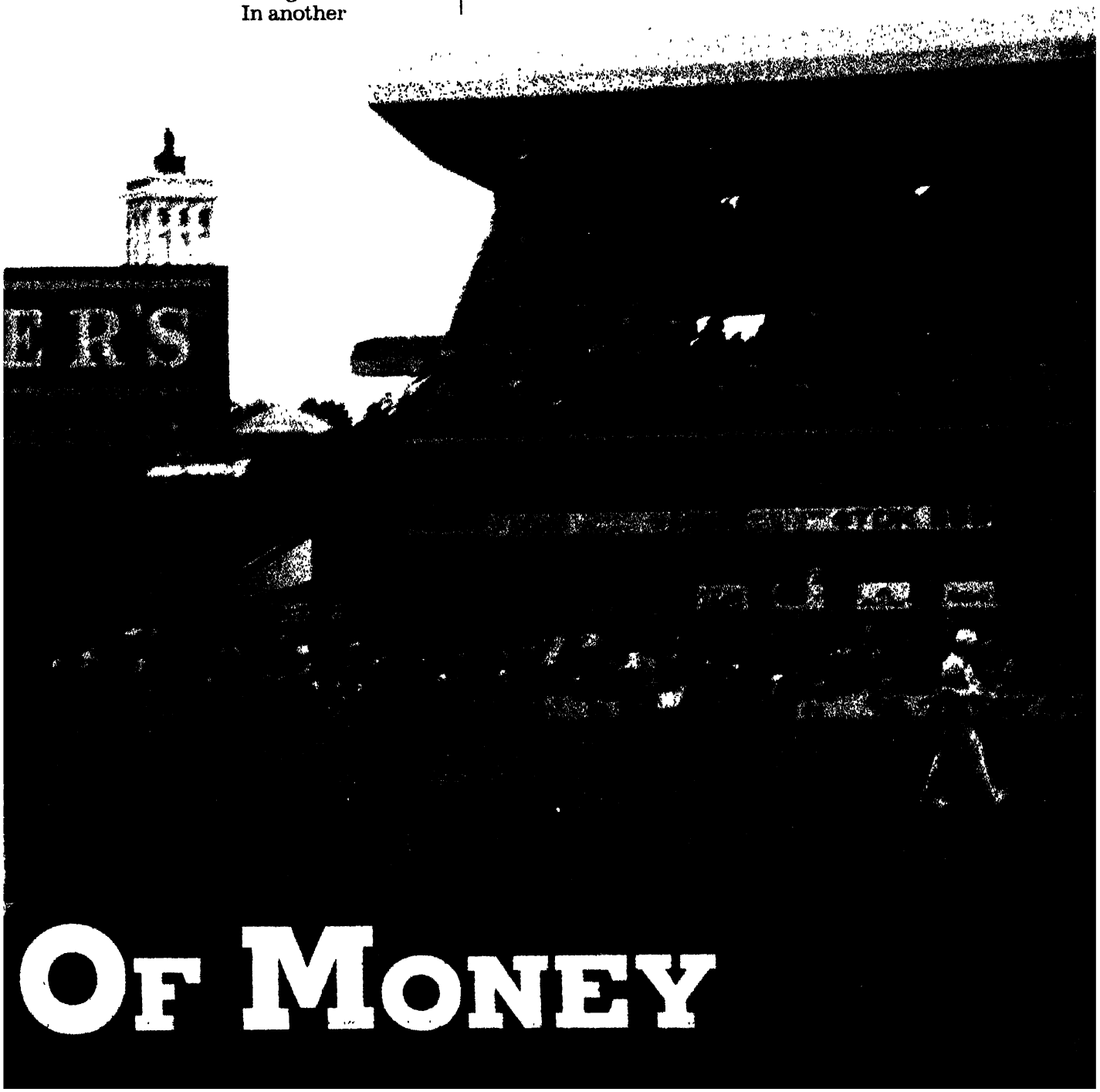


THE COLOUR

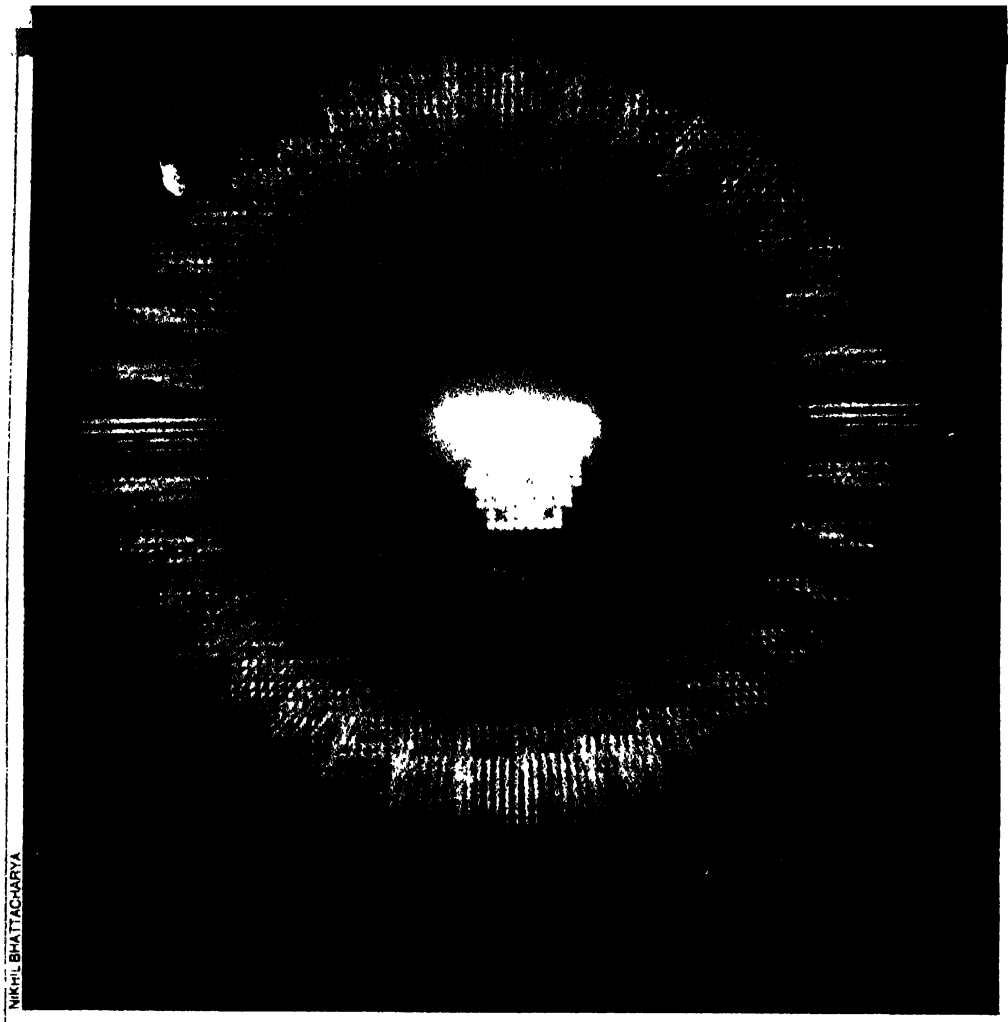
CRICKET'S next World Cup, to be played in the spring of 1992, has been Australianised. For the first time, coloured clothing and white balls will be used and five matches, including the final, will be played under floodlights.

In another fundamental change from the four previous World Cups, the eight competing countries will not be divided into two seeded groups. Instead, each side will play the other seven once each with the leading four then proceeding to the semi-finals.

Of the 31 games, 20 will be held in Australia and the rest in New Zealand. The opening match, on February 22, will feature the host nations and will be



OF MONEY



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

'Dinner break' at the SCG
The lights come on after the break.

staged in Auckland, but the venue for the final, on March 25, is unconfirmed

Melbourne and Sydney are competing for the honour. A decision will be taken by the Australian Cricket Board (ACB) at its meeting in February. Melbourne is the logical choice, as its rebuilding work will be complete and the ground's capacity is almost double that of Sydney

England, who will already have completed a six-week tour of New Zealand, begin their Cup programme in Perth, against Sri Lanka, and only venture outside Australia once, to play New Zealand in Wellington. If they remain in contention for the semi-finals, their last round-robin match, against Australia under the Melbourne lights, will be an immense attraction.

The host nations have taken a provocative, if predictable, decision by naming Benson and Hedges as sponsor of the Cup. It is predictable because Benson and Hedges has sponsored international cricket in Australia for 18 years; it is provocative because there is existing or threatened legislation in both countries to prohibit advertising by tobacco companies, including sponsorships.

Malcolm Gray, chairman of the World Cup committee, conceded that New Zealand's cricket authority still has to clear the matter with its government, but added: "We believe it is reasonable to accept sponsorship from any company producing something which is legal."

Prize money for the World Cup will total about £100,000. If it was to start tomorrow, Australia, the holders, would be favourites to win.

Alan Lee, Melbourne The Times

WORLD CUP DRAW

QUALIFYING MATCHES: February: 22: New Zealand v Australia (Auckland). 23: Pakistan v India (Melbourne); England v Sri Lanka (Perth). 25: New Zealand v Zimbabwe (Hamilton). 26: Australia v West Indies (Sydney, day/night). 28: Sri Lanka v Zimbabwe (New Plymouth). 29: West Indies v Pakistan (Brisbane). March: 1: Australia v India (Adelaide); New Zealand v England (Wellington). 3: Pakistan v Sri Lanka (venue to be announced). 4: England v West Indies (Sydney, day/night); India v Zimbabwe (Napier). 7: Australia v Zimbabwe (Hobart); West Indies v Sri Lanka (Adelaide); New Zealand v India (Christchurch). 8: England v Pakistan (Melbourne). 10: West Indies v India (Wellington). 11: Australia v Pakistan (Perth, day/night); England v Zimbabwe (Canberra). 12: New Zealand v Sri Lanka (Dunedin). 14: England v India (Sydney); Pakistan v Zimbabwe (to be announced). 15: Australia v Sri Lanka (Brisbane); New Zealand v West Indies (Auckland). 18: Australia v England (Melbourne, day/night); West Indies v Zimbabwe (to be announced); India v Sri Lanka (to be announced); New Zealand v Pakistan (Christchurch). SEMI-FINALS: March 21: Auckland 22: Sydney or Melbourne FINAL: March 25: Melbourne or Sydney (day/night).

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. What is common to Thomas Ward of South Africa, Roy Park of Australia, Shivlal Yadav of India, Derek Parry of West Indies, Rizwan-uz-Zaman of Pakistan and Chris Smith of England?

2. Which English cricketer's autobiography is entitled "Cricket Rebel"

3. Which famous writer formed a team called the "Allahkberries" and passed the following comment about his bowling? "I bowl a ball so slow that if I don't like the looks of it, I can go after it and retrieve it"

4. The only year in which Wisden's five cricketers of the year were members of the touring team, was when Sir Don Bradman's unbeatable Australians toured England. Name these five.

5. Which Australian opening batsman with over 4000 Test runs to his credit hit the only two sixes of his Test career in his penultimate Test?

6. Who has scored the highest number of runs in Tests without scoring a Test century?

7. Who took the famous photograph of the last ball of the first tied Test at Brisbane in 1960?

8. What is common to Jim Higgs of Australia and Randhir Singh of India?

9. Which Australian batsman wrote his autobiography titled "Looking for Runs"?

10. Which Warwickshire left arm spinner lent his name to a character made famous by a cricket mad writer?

11. Of which famous English captain did Kenneth Gregory write, "He deserved, as an adversary, Adolf Hitler"?

12. Who is the only man to have bowled with both his left and right hand, in the same over in a Test match?

13. Who is the only black to have played Test cricket for Australia?

14. Which former English bowler's first class career ended when he urinated on the pitch in a drunken state during a County match?

15. What is common to Martin Donnely of New Zealand and Percy Chapman of England?

RATING TEST:

Above 14: Wish you were part of our Quiz team
Between 11 and 14: You are not too bad.
Below 11: *Sportsworld* reading recommend.

THIS QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY:
P.B. MOHAN,
INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT,
TISCO, JAMSHEDPUR

All answers are sent in by the contributor

ANSWERS

1. They were all dismissed first ball on Test debut.
2. John Snow, the English fast bowler
3. Sir James Barrie, the author of "Peter Pan"
4. Ray Lindwall, Bill Johnston, Arthur Morris, Lindsay Hassett & Don Tallon.
5. Ian Redpath who pulled Lance Gibbs and Vanburn Holder for sixes in the fifth Test at Adelaide against the West Indies in 1975-76. This was his 65th Test.
6. Chetan Chauhan, 2084 runs.
7. Ron Lovitt.
8. They both went through an entire tour of England without scoring a single first class run-Higgs in 1975 and Randhir Singh in 1982.
9. Doug Walters.
10. Percy Jeeves, the butler in P.G. Wodehouse novels.
11. Douglas Jardine.
12. Hanif Mohammad, to Gary Sobers at Kingston in 1957-58, the innings during which Sobers scored 365 not out.
13. Sam Morris, whose West Indian parents migrated to Tasmania during the Gold Rush.
14. Bobby Peal the slow left arm bowler of Yorkshire.
15. They have both scored centuries at Lords, in a Test match, in the Gentlemen Vs Players Match and in the University Match.

POINT OF VIEW

Football IN 1990

BY BRIAN GLANVILLE

FIFA appeared to pull back from the brink, abandoning their more ludicrous innovations to "make the game more attractive."

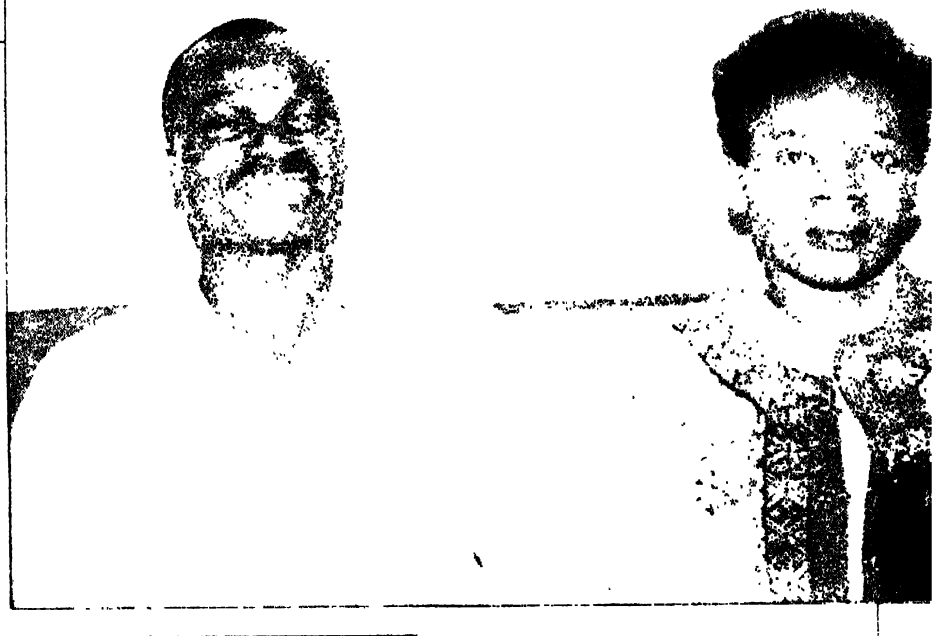
A sceptic might retort that if this were what they really had in mind, they could hardly do better than make a clean sweep of their own upper echelons, installing people who really know and care about the game.

João Havelange, the egregious president, has been in office now for over a 16 years, since he so controversially unseated Sir Stanley Rous. In that time, the World Cup has grown into a bloated monster, showing the game at its worst, rather than its best. It was inevitable that this would happen since Havelange,

> **FIFA's reasoning is deeply suspect, for it presupposes that goals make the game. Yet we all know that goalless draws can be fascinating; that games with a glut of goals may owe them to crass mistakes.**



Roger Milla: football's Man of the Year?



after his election campaign, had so many debts to be called in, especially from Africa and Asia.

FIFA's plaintive bleating about the need for change derives entirely from the recent World Cup, and may thus be seen as a blatant piece of special pleading Having created the circumstances in which football will almost certainly suffer, FIFA blame the rules rather than themselves

Since the World Cup, we have seen plenty of goals, all over the globe The Italian championship, where defence is paramount, has seen as many as seven goals in a game

A 24-team World Cup is hopelessly clumsy and topheavy necessitating an absurdly contorted first stage, which puts a huge emphasis on sheer survival By the time those teams which qualify come blinking into the light, they tend to be very tired There were several cases this summer in which teams were obliged to labour through extra time, looking positively exhausted Weariness had much to do with the dismal quality of the final

But beyond that, FIFA's reasoning is deeply suspect, for it presupposes that goals make the game. Yet we all know that goalless draws can be fascinating, that games with a glut may owe them to crass mistakes

FIFA also seem deeply disingenuous over the question of complaints, of the thousands of letters they allegedly received What if they did? Why should such a notoriously autocratic body suddenly lend sensitive ears to the cries of the man in the street, or on the terraces? Why should FIFA, which ideally should lead rather than follow, now be so influenced by the many-headed?

Setting up an investigating committee is essentially an evasion, though at least the committee will be graced by



Roberto Baggio celebrates his goal in the World Cup. One of the best goals seen in football this year

TIME TO GO TO THE POLLS

'TIS the season of the polls, a time of giving to those who, in soccer, already have the most.

Player of the year 1990: Lothar Matthaeus, Coach of the year: Franz Beckenbauer. Team of the year: West Germany.

The honours automatically follow this summer's World Cup. Winner-takes-all, and what fool dares argue?

Well, I'll have a go. I pick no quarrel about West Germany's triumph in Rome, where Matthaeus led vibrantly in the field and Beckenbauer mixed charm with the correct team selection.

If the polls were for *achievers*, Germany indubitably comes out on top. But, old romantic that I am, I go for Roger Milla and the Cameroons. For while West Germany fulfilled itself as a European team winning in Europe, Milla's merry men put Africa, a continent, on soccer's map.

I give you a simple test. Shut your eyes and think of Italia '90. Who springs to mind? Quickly now, no stopping to rationalise who won what. Which players actually gave the World Cup colour, surprise and rare abandon?

Milla, the 38-year-old who came out of retirement and scored like a child at play. His joy, his natural athletic movement, his celebratory dance shaped the African dream.

Wherever I now watch soccer, young (and often not so young) goal scorers attempt to mimic the Milla pelvic wiggle. At Manchester United, a blossoming teenager named Lee Sharpe netted a stunning hattrick, did his touchline Roger Milla and was prudishly told to grow up and behave!

How sad. Like Mutant Ninja Turtles, the Milla movement is with us. Who wants to admit that growing up (or growing old) has anything to do with sport?

Don't get me wrong, Matthaeus, before he tired, was an excellent World Cup captain, striking some stunning 20-meter goals. Justifiably, Giovanni Trapattoni, his coach at Inter Milan, brags that "Lothar is the universal player, the complete modern footballer. He has good technique, and the character of a winner."

Precisely. It is enough that he is 1990s winner. But there should still be a thing that transcends the winning; it is called enjoyment.

Milla radiates it, yet in most polls Milla barely scrapes into the top 10. He is down below Salvatore Schillaci, who, to be sure, was a pulsating goal scorer, a hypnotic television attraction, with those wild Sicilian eyes.

But why place Milla below Jurgen Klinsmann, Roberto Baggio, Andreas Brehme, Paul Gascoigne? And below Diego Maradona?

Now that is craven. Maradona, third in some polls, had a wretched World Cup, memorable only for his loser's tears. He also, by prima donna truancies, has ruined Napoli's season.

Maradona has been the most blessed soccer player of his generation and his genius may yet flicker again. But in 1990 he sourly hastened his own end.

Worse, some polls placed Argentina's coach, Carlos Bilardo, second to Beckenbauer. What warped values: Argentina murdered fair play in Italy. Bilardo was the architect of the crude kicking and cheating that took the old champion sickeningly close to the prize again. No, 1990 was the year Milla reminded us that soccer still has adventure beyond merely winning.

By ROB HUGHES

International Herald Tribune





The professional foul: World Cup hero Schillaci seeks the protection of the referee after being tackled and felled

Michel Platini, one who spoke out against the now discarded idiocy of increasing the size of the goals.

FIFA will now be moved to abandon such other fatuities as reducing teams to 10 men. The veto on passing back to the goalkeeper is old hat; the notion of making keepers part more quickly with the ball is nothing new.

If referees came down hard on keepers who retain the ball for more than the few seconds allowed, new dispensations would hardly be needed. As for passing back, it is a most risky pastime which gives away a host of goals.

No one would pretend the laws of the game are perfect, least of all that dealing with offside, which has been slightly amended this season, with no noticeable effect. But what FIFA should long ago have known is that the sheer face of professionalism in football will always tip the balance towards caution. The more money involved, the more caution one finds.

What FIFA could more usefully do, is look again at their new version of the professional foul rule.

Havelange, one remembers, came down ferociously on the professional foul rule as brought in by the Football League eight years or so ago.

FIFA belatedly introduced the rule on the very eve of the World Cup, without giving referees a chance to digest it, and without really understanding it at all. The League's rule related specifically to fouls outside the box, which might have prevented a goal. The penalty area could look after itself.

To make things worse, a player who punches a ball off the goal line now merely gives away a penalty, but stays on the field: though this paradox may now be dealt with.

Shades of the World Cup chaos, when Sepp Blatter, FIFA's general secretary, took it upon himself publicly to rebuke the confused referees, over the heads of the referees' committee. What a way to run a railroad, let alone the world's most popular sport. ●

CRICKET

THROUGH AMERICAN EYES

An American drops in to watch a cricket match... and grudgingly admits that it is not a wimpish sport

OF all the aspects of British culture that are alien to Americans, none seems quite so preposterous as cricket. We can sooner reconcile ourselves to the idea of warm beer than to a sport in which they take a break for tea.

Moreover, the game seems incomprehensible to any American who picks up a newspaper and reads accounts like this: "Steve Small ensured that NSW were in a comfortable position at 7-309 at stumps. He was perched on 71 for 32 minutes, but was somewhat more animated through the 90s before deciding to hook leftarm spinner Brett Williams over the fence and pass the 3,000 first-class run mark."

But after venturing to the Sydney Cricket Ground to see the Australian national team—the best in the world—in action, I am not sure that all the Yankee prejudices are well-founded. Certainly, this is not a wimpish sport as some Americans believe. Cricket players are a tough breed, as they must be to swing a heavy flat bat at a ball travelling toward them at 100 miles per hour (160 kilometres per hour). The fielders are expected to catch rocket shots at short range, barehanded.

The fans aren't wimpish either, and tea is most definitely not their beverage of choice. The crowd on the grassy "mound" at the Sydney Cricket Ground, the local equivalent of the bleachers, bears a resemblance to the habitues of the infamous "Dawg Pound" in Cleveland. When the action gets slow, they occasionally amuse themselves by throwing orange at the police.

It is, of course, easy to recognise in cricket the origins of American baseball. Instead of a pitcher there's a bowler, who takes a running start and flings the ball, stiff-armed, toward a batsman so that it (ideally) bounces just in front of his feet.

The batsman is out if the ball hits the wicket -- three vertical posts behind him -- or if the ball is caught on the fly by a fielder. The



batsman produces runs by hitting the ball and running a short distance to a nearby wicket, scoring as many as four runs for a ball that is hit on the ground, six for one that is hit over the fence

There are, of course, some major differences with baseball In cricket, two batsmen are in the game at any one time. There is no foul territory and a batsman can score runs by tipping the ball behind him.

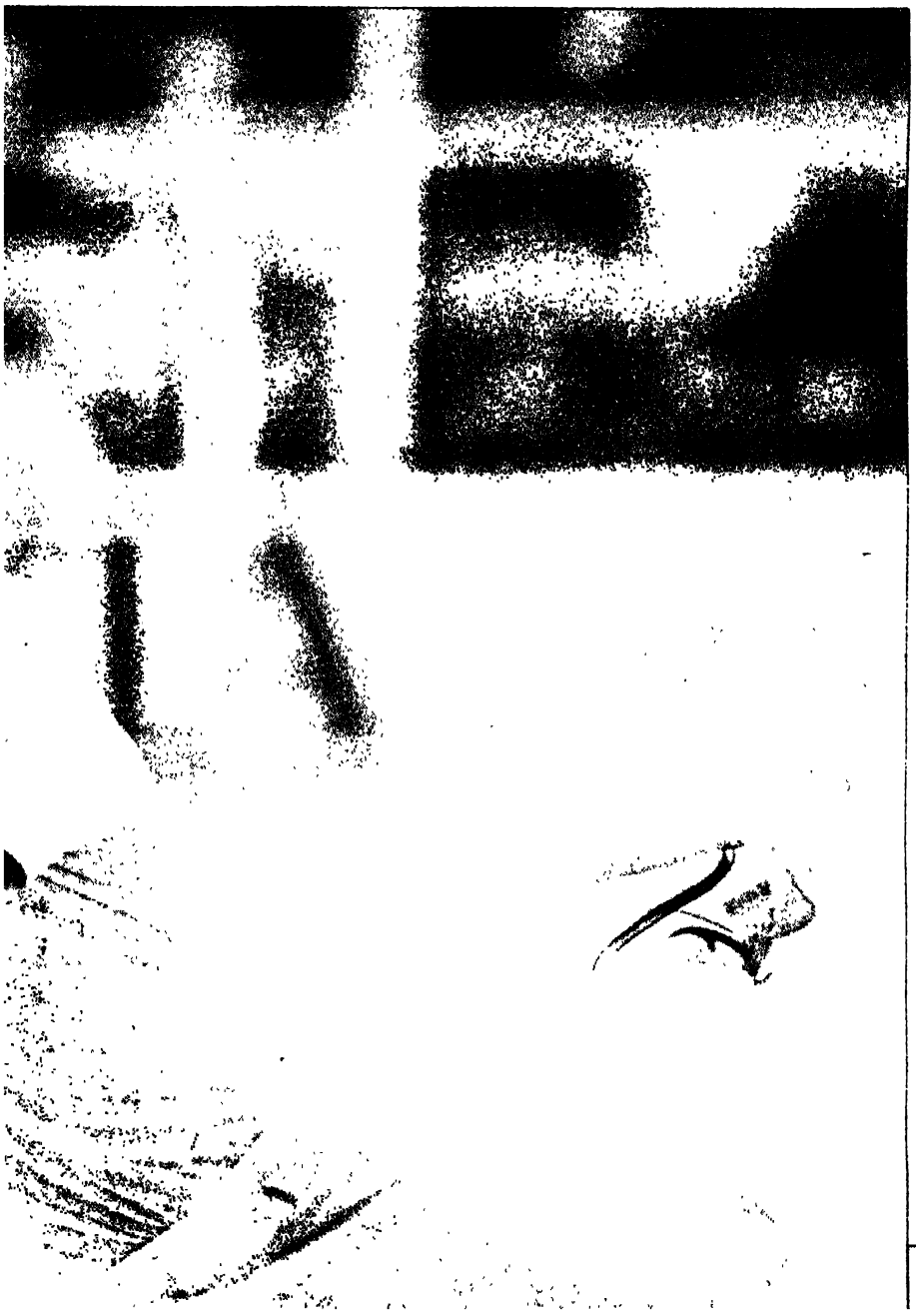
But the big difference is that when a batsman strikes the ball, he is not obligated to do anything. If he hits a dribbler to the nearest fielder, nothing happens. If he hits a hundred such dribblers, nothing changes.

As I watched one of Australia's star batsmen, Geoff Marsh, in action against New Zealand, he wasn't scoring many runs or doing anything else useful, as far as I could see, and I gave a quizzical look to the fan next to me. "Don't worry, mate," he assured me. "Marsh just isn't very good at getting runs quickly." An hour passed and Marsh still had the bat in his hands The fan assured me: "You'll start seeing a lot of runs in another hour or so."

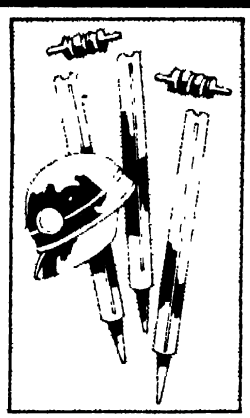
Cricket comes in two basic versions: long matches, and very, very, very long matches. The latter, the classic version of the game, is called Test cricket, and lasts for two innings each side gets 10 outs to an innings. A patient batsman may stand there all day That's why Test matches are allotted five days of playing time, with plenty of breaks for tea

This traditional, sleep-inducing formal dominated cricket for a century, until a new version of the game sprung up in 1977 a change spurred by money as much as monotony When the media baron Kerry Packer couldn t get exclusive television rights for a Test series, he retaliated by creating his own "World Series Cricket" and hiring

Robin Smith, who was offered a contract to play baseball in America, put to rest the fact that cricket is a wimps game, by catching a hard shot with bare hands



Cricket is not a wimpish sport as some Americans believe. Cricket players are a tough breed, as they must be to swing a heavy, flat bat at a ball travelling towards them at 100mph....





No they are not celebrating their World Series win. Desmond Haynes celebrates a century

Cricket comes in two basic versions; long matches and very, very, very long matches. The latter, is called Test cricket..... with plenty of breaks for tea.



several dozen of the world's best players - which wasn't hard to do, because at the time stars of the sport were making $10,000 a year or so.

The World Series was streamlined into a one-day format and the game was jazzed up with the introduction of coloured uniforms to replace the traditional, staid all-white ones. Purists denounced the hybrid as "Packer's Circus" or the "Pajama Game," but when Packer introduced one more innovation—night cricket—nobody was laughing. A crowd of 58,000 showed up to see the first match under the lights in Sydney, and "one-day cricket" was instantly established.

By U.S. standards, it's still not a fast-moving game. Each team bats one inning, but even if it hasn't made 10 outs—or, to use the proper terminology, if it hasn't lost 10 wickets—its inning ends when the opponent has bowled 300 times.

The rhythm of cricket is different from the seesaw scoring that characterises most sports, but it is a pleasurable and relaxed rhythm. You can arrive at the stadium an hour or so late and you'll know what you'll be missing: 20 or 30 runs. Go out for a couple of beers or a snack in the middle of the match and you've missed 20 or 30 runs.

And it's an ideal television game. When I doze off in front of the TV on autumn Sunday afternoons in the United States, my subconscious is always nagging me that Green Bay or San Diego may be scoring a critical touchdown. Here, I can fall asleep for a couple of hours with the knowledge that when I wake up Australia will have scored 20 or maybe even 30, and Geoff Marsh probably will still have the bat in his hands.

ANDREW BEYER

COURTESY THE WASHINGTON POST

DROPPED!

Why Videocon disassociated themselves from the Asia Cup cricket tournament

VIDEOCON INTERNATIONAL LIMITED
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VIDEOCON

December 26, 1990.

PRESS RELEASE

Breach of Contract by M/s. Radiant Sports Management concerning 'VIDEOCON ASIA CUP'.

VIDEOCON has served Notice this morning on M/s. Radiant Sports Management, New Delhi, terminating the contract entered into with them as the Sponsorers of the 4th Asia Cup. Indicated below are the events in chronological order finally leading to the decision which in the view of VIDEOCON is a breach of contract by M/s. Radiant Sports Management :

(1) M/s. Radiant Sports Management, in their capacity as the Promoters of the 4th Asia Cup, approached VIDEOCON on 3rd December, 1990 to sponsor the event. (Copy of their proposal letter-enclosed)

(2) A contract was entered into by VIDEOCON with M/s. Radiant Sports Management on the 10th of December, 1990. (A copy of the Contract enclosed)

(3) After the withdrawal of Pakistan from the tournament, VIDEOCON was persuaded to continue to act as Sponsorers and in the interest of sports at large, VIDEOCON decided to continue its sponsorship of the event. A fresh contract was entered into with M/s. Radiant Sports Management deleting the schedule of the matches with Pakistan Team as well as revising the consideration for the sponsorship. All other terms and conditions of the contract were maintained.

(4) As a sponsorer to the event, VIDEOCON was entitled to the following main rights in addition to several others:

a) The championship was always to be communicated as VIDEOCON ASIA CUP.

b) Live telecast would be effected by Doordarshan and running commentary would be broadcast by AIR.

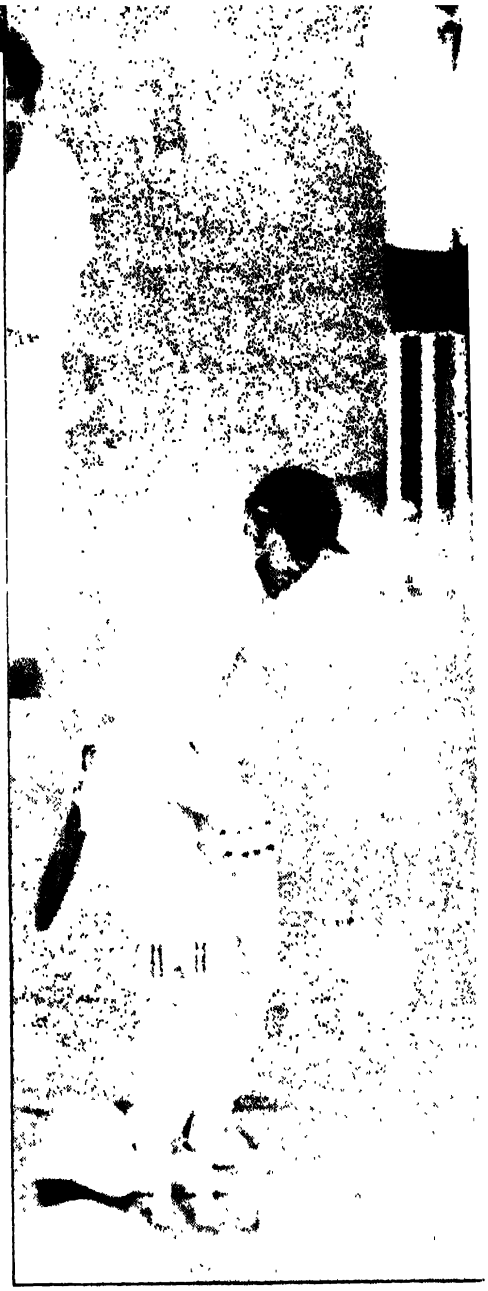
c) Highlights of all matches would be televised on the days of the matches on the National Network.

d) A Curtain Raiser would be televised on the National Network to promote the event prior to the start of the matches.

e) Within the grounds of the venue VIDEOCON would have advertising rights to the Scoreboards, ground singe behind both the stump positions, display of running lengths of banners, display of VIDEOCON Logo on the Drinks Trolly etc.

(5) Based on the agreement entered into with M/s. Radiant Sports Management, VIDEOCON proceeded with all actions. The first instalment of payment of Rs.7.5 Lacs was made by a cheque in favour of BCCI as per advice and instructions of M/s. Radiant Sports Management. This cheque was duly receipted by BCCI and subsequently encashed.

(6) We were subsequently informed by Mr. Jagmohan Dalmia, Hon. Secretary of BCCI on Saturday, the 22nd December, 1990 that he was unable to provide advertising rights to the scoreboard as it did not form a part of his contract with M/s. Radiant Sports Management. This was by itself a contravention of contract with M/s. Radiant Sports Management. Mr. A. Khetrapal, Executive Director of M/s. Radiant Sports Management was informed on telephone about the said breach and was asked to immediately settle the matter with BCCI Office. Later Mr. Jagmohan Dalmia informed us that due to a tragedy in Mr. Khetrapal's family, M/s. Radiant Sports Management had not been able to fulfil its payment schedule with BCCI. Consequently he threatened to call off the sponsorship and call a Press Conference in case VIDEOCON did not directly pay to BCCI Rs.7.5 Lacs within 24 hours. To avoid unpleasantness, VIDEOCON was forced to pay this amount by cheque directly to BCCI in advance after obtaining necessary authority from M/s. Radiant Sports Management.



THE NOTICE

Videocon asks for Rs. 25 lakhs back.....

KINDLY make the notice of anticipatory breach of Contract in terms of Provisions of Sec. 39 and other applicable provisions of Indian Contract Act 1872 on behalf of our Clients-M/s Videocon International Ltd.

You have entered into contract with our clients concerning sponsorship of 4th Asia Cup 1990 under the various terms and conditions specified in our letter dated 17th December 1990 duly accepted by you. The contract inter alia provides for certain promises on your part.

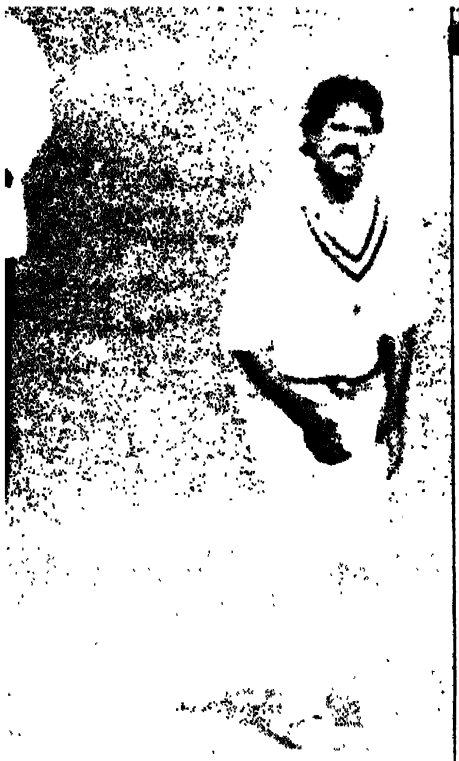
1. The Championship will be named as "VIDEOCON ASIA CUP."

2. The tournament will be inaugurated by the Hon'ble President of India.

3. Highlights of all the matches will be televised on the days of the matches on National Network.

4. Curtain raiser will also be televised on National Network.

Unfortunately none of above promises have been fulfilled and hence situation has arisen whereunder in terms of Provision of Sec. 39 and other applicable



VIDEOCON

(7) In subsequent conversations, VIDEOCON was assured by Mr. A. Khetrapal of M/s. Radiant Sports Management that all conditions of contract would be firmly met including the broadcasting of the Curtain Raiser, Highlights etc. It was also confirmed that in all broadcasts and other communications the tournament be always to be addressed to as the VIDEOCON ASIA CUP.

(8) There was a telephone call from mr. Jagmohan Dalmia in the evening of 24th December indicating that VIDEOCON was still required to pay an amount of Rs.5 Lacs towards the scoreboards of all venues as the matter had not been settled between M/s. Radiant Sports Management & BCCI in this regard. This was not acceptable to VIDEOCON as it was clearly a breach of contract entered into with M/s. Radiant Sports Management.

(9) No Curtain Raiser had been broadcast prior to the start of the first match telecast on 25th December, 1990. Moreover highlights of the first match on the 25th December, 1990 were also not broadcast as part of the contract.

(10) In no communication made to the public at large, either through advertising by M/s. Radiant Sports Management or BCCI or through the live broadcast on AIR or the live telecast of the event on Doordarshan was the tournament addressed to as The VIDEOCON ASIA CUP. This was inspite of assurances given at every stage by M/s. Radiant Sports Management that the event would always be addressed to as The VIDEOCON ASIA CUP.

(11) In view of the several breaches of contract, the main ones enumerated above a Notice of termination of Contract has been served on M/s. Radiant Sports Management, at noon today, namely the 26th December, 1990. In view of our decision to terminate the Contract, we are ipso facto withdrawing from the sponsorship of the 4th Asia Cup. (A copy of the contents of our Notice served is enclosed)

Kapil Dev claims a wicket in the opening match against Bangladesh

provisions of Indian Contract Act 1872.

Without prejudice to the rights of our clients under the said contract our clients wish to inform you that they intend to put an end to the entire contract forthwith i.e. from 12 noon on 26/12/90. Since our clients have already released the money to you on your account assuming the proper performance of all the terms and conditions, you are directed to repay the entire amount of Rs 15 lakhs forthwith to our clients. As a preventive measure our clients also reserved right to stop payments of all or any of the cheques issued to you/your behalf under the said contract.

Under the assumption that you will perform your part of promise our clients have committed expenditure of more than Rs. 10 lakhs on the event which has gone totally bad You are therefore also directed to make good the damages of Rs. 10 lakhs along with the amount of Rs. 15 lakhs paid to you/on your instructions otherwise we would be forced to take legal action against you.

MULLA & MULLA & CRAIGIE BLUNT & CAROE, Bombay.

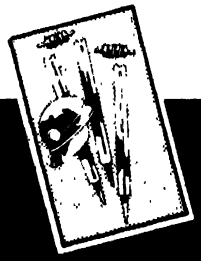
MULLA & MULLA & CRAIGIE, BLUNT & CAROE
Advocates Solicitors and Notaries
Jehangir Wadia Building,
51 M.G. Road, Bombay 400 001.

"Cricket is not just a game; it is a heritage"

JOHN MAJOR, once a useful club cricketer and now facing bouncers as Britain's new Prime Minister, assesses his favourite sport

IN THE glorious sun of late July and early August I managed to watch a lot of cricket. I saw, in particular, four days of that remarkable Test at Lord's where Gooch scored 333 and 123 to notch more runs in a single Test match than any cricketer had scored before (or ever will probably); where Kapil hit four successive towering sixes to save the follow-on; where Azharuddin charmed with a glorious hundred in reply; where Tendulkar took an unforgettable running catch that only a fleet-footed 17-year-old could have reached; and where England won with Fraser bowling a lovely line and length.

The very stuff of romance and dreams. A remarkable game fit to rank with the great ones. And so, of course, are some of the players

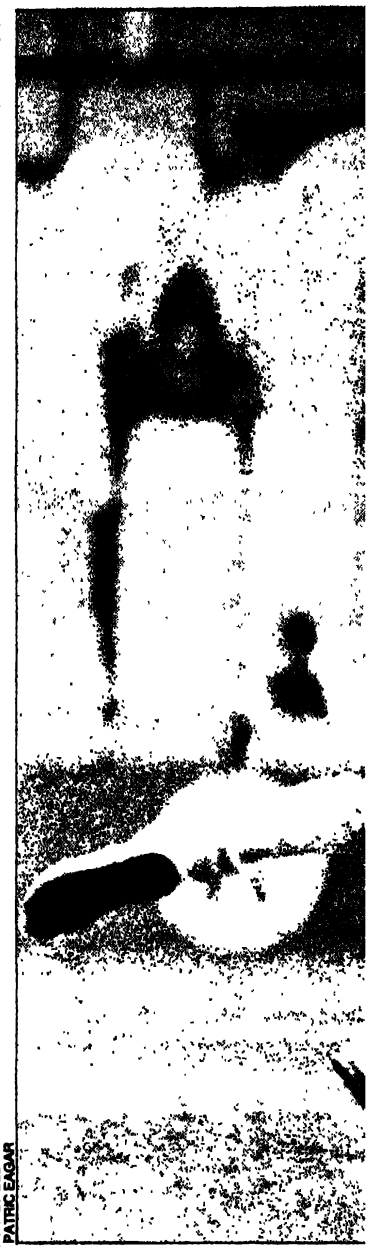


Cricket needs to be marketed. It needs better facilities. It needs the personalities to attract the crowds

despite cricket's unfailing nostalgia for yesteryear.

"How good is Tendulkar?" I asked Denis Compton. "The boy's a genius," came the reply. "And what of Angus Fraser?" I asked Alec Bedser. "Oh, he's a good bowler," said the greatest of all medium pacers. Good, so there is genius about. And many other fine players too. When were there last two such promising young fast bowlers as Waqar and Akram? And is not Atherton authentic class? Or Ian Bishop of the West Indies?

Yes, there are lots of fine young players for the future. But after the Lord's Test I wanted to see more of the Indians so I went home to my first love. Home, that is, to The Oval for the game against Surrey. I sat for much of the day in the stand above the committee room and pavilion looking from on high, straight down the wicket. Three things struck me forcibly, all of which are relevant to the future of cricket.



PATRIC EAGAR

The first was an elderlyish man, mid 50s perhaps, and badly crippled. He shuffled with a stick, painfully I thought, in an out of the burning sun and up and down the stairs to the members' bar and refreshments. Movement was an effort but clearly he felt the effort was worth-while for cricket. We spoke



briefly; he had been a regular at The Oval for 38 years. Loved the place. Came whenever he could. No bitterness at his infirmity but just an affection for those young men with strong limbs, keen eyes and a sporting talent sufficient to enable them to play for their county and, in some cases, their country. Surely, I thought, the county game is safe while it inspires such devotion.

And therein lies the second point. For outside the respectably full pavilion and members' stands the paying crowd was pathetic in number. Admittedly, it was a Wednesday, and the day after a Test. And it clashed with one-day cricket on television. But still, a pathetic crowd. Cricket administrators are acutely aware of this problem—in many counties fewer than 15 per cent of receipts are through the gate. The rest comes in membership fees, sponsorship, distributed receipts from Test matches, etc—but not from paying spectators.

So cricket needs to be marketed. It needs better facilities. It needs the personalities to attract the crowds. And it needs England to win Test matches, for nothing increases interest and receipts more than that. That is the essence: new adherents and new cash.

Both John Major and Alec Bedser feel Sachin Tendulkar (here beating a diving Chris Lewis at leg slip) is "a genius"

That leads me to my third point. As I sat in my high perch, Alec Stewart, batting at the

Pavilion End, swept Compton-style, backward of square. It zipped over the ropes in front of the new beauty at The Oval, the West Stand, incorporating the Ken Barrington Centre. Ken Barrington was much loved throughout cricket. His memory attracted large and generous donations (sadly, more from abroad than at home) to raise the money for this magnificent improvement. There is a new stand, the most



Would Alfred Mynn have contained Viv Richards?



A Major couple...John and wife Norma take up residence at the most famous address in the world: 10 Downing Street

glamorous boxes I've yet seen and, below them, cricket nets and facilities indoors to make your mouth water. Surrey hope to bring many a promising youngster there to add to the conveyor belt of young talent they have discovered in recent years.

My points, therefore, come together. The game can still generate huge interest and excitement; there *are* great players about that future generations will cherish more than we do (unworthy thought: would Felix have scored runs against the West





THE HAT-TRICK MAN

How good a cricketer was John Major?

JOHN MAJOR, it can be said confidently, is the best cricketer to have become Prime Minister since Sir Alec Douglas-Home.

This is a very important factor in the health and happiness of the nation, the reassurance that the new bloke in charge occasionally worries about higher things than the trade figures or poll tax.

What every cricketer will want to know is how good he was out on the pitch, Ian Greig, Surrey's captain, has bowled at the Premier: "It was clear that the guy had had an injury. He wasn't 100 per cent mobile but he had played and looked as if he had been a very useful club cricketer."

The now famous photograph of Major, as Chancellor, driving, was in fact taken during a spell from Greig. "Ah," Greig added, very professionally, "it was one of my more innocuous deliveries."

Surrey, helpful as ever, were pleased to pass on more detail upon their now most illustrious member: he was a right-arm medium pace bowler who could bat a little, who appeared for Rutlish School Colts' XI. After leaving school at 16 he appeared for a few clubs in Streatham and London but his career was effectively ended at 20 when he broke a leg in several places, and lost his left knee cap, after a car accident in Nigeria, where he was working in banking.

While a club cricketer he won several *Evening Standard* certificates for his bowling prowess. "My best performance," he told Surrey, "was when I took seven or eight wickets, I can't quite remember, for nine runs, including a hat-trick." That tells any cricketer that medium-pace Major must have been a pretty shrewd judge of length and line.

There is ample confirmation of his continuing interest. Brian Johnston knows him as a regular visitor to Test Match Special's box and when Johnston sent him a note, wishing him luck, during the leadership contest, Major could still find time to reply and to mention England's plight in Brisbane.

Derek Hodgson

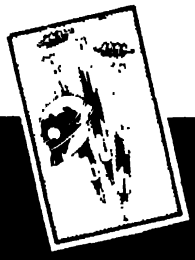


PATRIC EAGAR

Major was there in person to cheer Graham Gooch onto his record-breaking 333 against India at Lord's

Indies attack of recent years? Would Alfred Mynn have contained Viv Richards?); and cricket's administrators are becoming more businesslike daily in trying to provide facilities and attractions to bring back mass support to cricket.

All this is to the good. Can more be done? Well, yes it can. Surely there is a case for further reforms to remove some of the impediments that sometimes bring bitterness and controversy to the loveliest of games. Why not professional, international umpires to bring consistency to on-field decisions? And why not uncovered wickets to bring back the guile and charm of spin to the county game? And, yes, drat it, why not more overs during the day to offer better value to the spectator who pays ever more for his seat—especially at Test matches.



I, for one, do not believe that cricket's greatest days are behind it...it can have a great future provided, on-field and off, all those who love it play up and play the game

Such reforms are easy to call for but difficult to deliver. But cricket is spreading its wings again. It is growing in popularity in continental Europe; in the USA, and international television will carry it further.

I, for one, do not believe that cricket's greatest days are behind it. Cricket is not just a game; it is a heritage. A thing of grace. It can have a great future provided, on-field and off, all those who love it play up and play the game.

COURTESY THE INDEPENDENT

THE sign at the rear of the Northside Bombers Boxing Club says "In Harmony." When Charles Hamm, the 52-year-old plumber who has run the place since 1978, first saw the sign, he liked the sentiment so much that he made sure the lettered poster board ended up on that wall of his storefront gym.

Harmony is a nice notion. But on St. Louis' West Florissant Avenue, where the gym sits, harmony is a pretty elusive objective these days. The street courses through blocks of boarded-up and damaged buildings, an



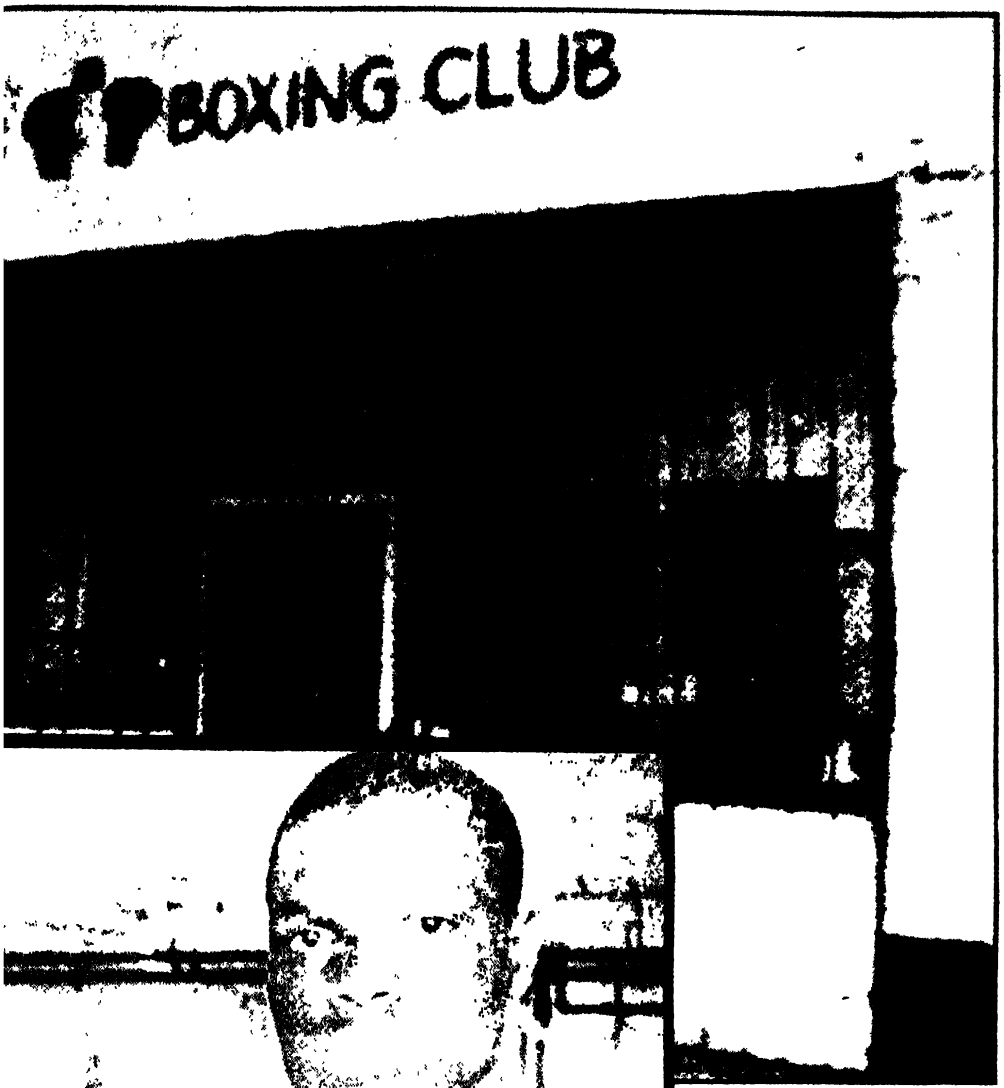
Leon Calvin

Death Outside The Ring

This is the story on the life and death of Leon Calvin Spinks Jr.

When compared to the streets of America, the boxing clubs are a place of safety and comfort. Here the fury of the punk on the street gets nurtured and channelised only to be let loose in the ring

BY PHIL BERGER





urban landscape promising more poverty and violence than anything resembling harmony.

From the day he opened the modest gym, Hamm, who lives one floor up with his wife, Jeridean, recognised the trouble that was out there on the streets. And like a Pied Piper he fought it by cruising the North Side ghetto in his van, urging the youngsters loitering on the street corners to try boxing.

Leon Calvin, Spinks' son. A life full of talent was snuffed out prematurely

The North side Bombers club: A place where many a talent was shaped up to bear fruit

Some boys came to the Bombers gym for the challenge of the sport, others for the hamburgers that the mild-mannered Hamm would buy after a day's training was done. Leon Calvin was 8 years old when he first showed up in 1979.

For the next 11 years, Calvin was a regular at Hamm's gym, learning enough about the manly art to turn pro in June. But on Sunday morning, July 21, Calvin's career was cut short when he was shot to death on a bridge connecting East St. Louis, Ill., and St. Louis. Police found him in a car at 5:30 A.M.

The death of Calvin, the son of the former heavyweight champion Leon Spinks Jr., underscored not only the pervasiveness of inner-city violence but also the random nature of it, which makes the quest for success by the young inner-city athlete a bit of a roulette spin.

For Calvin, a 6-foot-1-inch light heavyweight who some thought had the potential to be a world-class boxer, the abrupt ending was, of course, a personal tragedy. But in the context of his famous father's difficult life, it stood as another sad twist to the chaotic Spinks tale. For Hamm, Calvin's death was a sorrow compounded by the time and attention he had invested in the

CALVIN SPINKS' LAST PRO FIGHT

On Tuesday July 10th, the baseball All-Star game was being played at Chicago's Wrigley Field. Less than an hour away, in Merrillville, Indiana, boxing fans were enjoying their own "celebrity" sports event. The main bouts at the All Star Sports Bar featured John Lark, a 16-0 junior light-weight from Gary, IN. and world-ranked middleweight Ron Collins from Texas. On the undercard, a light heavyweight, Leon Calvin from St Louis, was fighting his second pro bout. Among those watching Calvin was his father, former heavyweight champion, Leon Spinks.

Before Calvin's fight, the exchamp was introduced to the crowd. The following day was his birthday Like so many eyeing a shot at the senior tour, he's thirtysomething. Tonight the crowd's attention turned to his 19 year-old-son Would the youngster bear the sins (or the wins) of the father?

Calvin's opponent, Jordan Keepers from Milwaukee, had a fair punch, a good chin and defensive skills that helped him endure a few rounds All these qualities gave Calvin a fair chance to show his abilities. Many young pros bring the amateur style of boxing to their first few contests. Calvin, a two-time St. Louis Golden Gloves champ, didn't There was leverage behind his punches and he knew how to cut off the ring Credit his corner for his abilities, but give credit as well to one ringside fan cheering his son on all the way

From the opening bell on, Leon Sr. stood behind a neutral corner. His eyes stayed on the action Like a general watching a battle from higher ground, he barked constant strategies to his son: "Up and down Leon! Keep punching, right hand, left hook!"

The commands seemed to be getting through to Calvin. His best weapon was the left hook, it opened a cut along Keepers eyebrow in the first round. More body shots rocked Keepers in the second. In the third a left hook from Calvin put Keepers down for an eight count. One minute later Keepers was on the ropes taking heavy punishment when referee Sean Curtin stopped the contest at 2:58.

When the win was officially announced, Calvin took a cue from another champion, Jorge Paez, and celebrated his victory with a quick breakdance in the middle of the ring. Cocky? Maybe, but he proved himself through his boxing ability and saved his showboating until after the bout.

The elder Leon basked in typical father's glory, holding court at the bar while patrons praised his son. "What do you think, pretty good," the champ asked, knowing the answer.

"He fights like you used to, Leon "

While not offended by the comparison, the champ wanted to make it clear that his son was destined for far more greatness: "He kind of fights like I did at first But you wait ..He's only gonna get better "

"He has good power in his left," the writer offered

"He has power in both hands," Leon countered.

The champ jutted his pelvis out like Elvis Presley "He's got a lot of power here, too."

The crowd ate it up.

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fighter, a commitment that was never easy

Back in 1979, when Hamm first encountered him Calvin was a good natured youth with a radiant smile, but possessed of a mischievous side as well, he tended to use the crass words that Hamm forbade and sometimes hit other boys while just standing around

"Even bigger boys", said Hamm "He'd hit 'em pretty hard Which irritated me. When you got a gym, you got to be careful You can't let anybody get hurt "

Hamm, a former boxer who does not drink, smoke or use profane language, had to order the boy out of the gym on more than one occasion Calvin kept coming back, though And somewhere in that first year, Hamm found out that Calvin's father was Spinks, who in 1978 was the heavyweight champion of the world.

His curiosity piqued, Hamm began watching more closely to see whether this boy from the 1900 block of nearby East John Street had his father's spark for fighting Calvin proved he did. As an amateur trained by Hamm, he won two St Louis Golden Gloves titles. But the promise Calvin showed as a boxer was threatened by what he did outside the ring

Like his father, who had been called "Neon Leon" because of his tendency to go partying when he should have been training, Calvin was something of a good-time Charlie And he was an expert dancer "Around when he was 14, 15," Hamm recalled, "that's when you'd look out the window and see a crowd collecting. You'd figure there was a fight going on But no, it'd be Leon just dancing, with the music coming out of what we call ghetto blasters those boom boxes the kids have. Outside the gym, or over where he lived on East John Street, he'd have people watching him dance."

As Calvin grew older, he continued to dance, going to clubs and house parties. Hamm warned him about the late hours he was keeping, and the

After the card ended both Leons were in the dressing room. The father was talking with the press about his glory years, the Olympics, his fights with Ali, and the possibility of a comeback. Leon Calvin stood alone, packing his equipment. Speaking about himself he seemed uncomfortable, but this made his answer appear more thoughtful and earnest.

Did he turn pro too early? "My father and mother thought so, they wanted me to wait. But I have to make my own decisions in life. I thought I was ready."

Should his father make a comeback? "That's his life. If he wants to, he should. He was a champion."

Thoughts of a Ken Griffey-like situation in boxing went through the writer's mind, a reference to baseball's father-son tandem entry Would he fight on the same card with his father? "Not right away. Maybe later. Lots of offers are coming in. I'd think I'd like to. We'll have to see "

In the weeks that followed, he was quoted in *Sports Illustrated*, commenting that he was proud of the Spinks name and its contribution to boxing. He signed a promotional deal with Cedric Kushner, paving the way for him to build his career. What was to follow? Television fights, a title shot, who knows? As usually happens in these stories we are only left with speculation on what could have been.

On Sunday, July 22nd, eight days before his scheduled third pro fight, Leon Calvin Spinks was found shot to death in his girlfriend's car, gone before his star had a chance to shine.

—John Siuntres

questionable characters some of the gang members, who were part of that social circle.

He saw the night life to which Calvin was attracted with its alcohol, drugs and occasional violence—as being at cross purposes to a fighter's more ascetic existence.

It wasn't long before Calvin was beset by the very complications that the older man feared.

Two years ago, while at a party, Calvin was shot in the abdomen by a friend who was aiming at somebody else. Surviving that, he was arrested this past year and charged with illegal possession of a handgun. The case was pending when Hamm persuaded Calvin to turn professional in June.

Hamm's hope was that as a professional Calvin might spend more time in the gym, away from his risky night life

"At the time he turned pro, I set him down right in front of me at my house," said Hamm, "and I told him, 'Back away from those parties.' He told me, 'Mr. Hamm, it takes time. I just can't stop everything.' I told him, 'Just start doing it, That's all the time it takes'."

ON July 10, Calvin, 1-0 as a professional, fought Jordan Keepers in Meriville, Indiana. In he audience that night was his father. It was the first time that Spinks -- who over the years had spent little time with his son—had ever seen him box. That absence accounted, in part, for the detached reaction Calvin had when Spinks stopped by the dressing room before the fight to wish him well.

Even when the former champion told his son that he would be at ringside shouting advice to which he should pay heed, Calvin just nodded but would not speak.

But after Calvin scored a third-round knockout and a jubilant Spinks was the first man into the ring, the son was more receptive. He hugged his father and smiled.

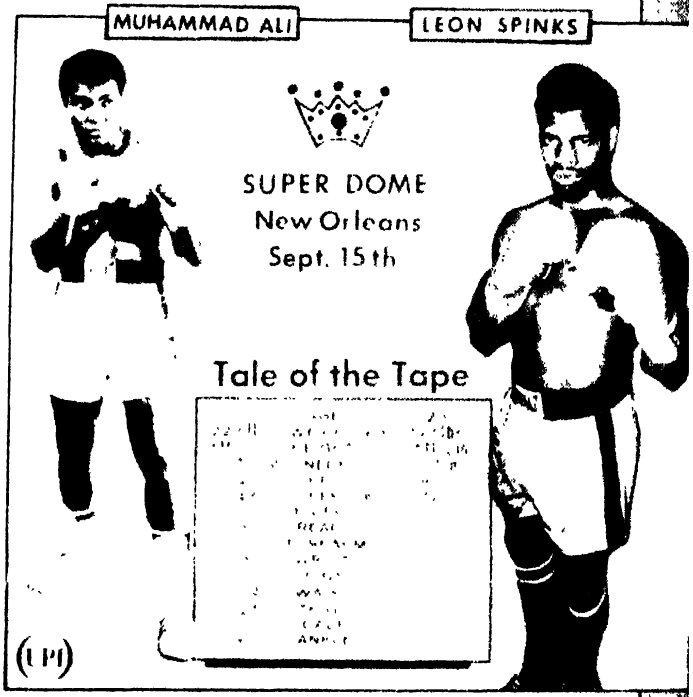
"Later on," said Hamm, "the ring announcer called both of them back as father and son. They hugged again. After that, they were jolly-jolly, and giving autographs."

Off that victory came an offer of a three-year promotional deal from Cedric Kushner, the New York-based promoter of the world welterweight champion Marlon Starling.

On Saturday July 14, a St. Louis mailman named Jim Howell, who with Hamm was co-manager of Calvin, showed the fighter the Kushner contract.

"He smiled that big

The Tale of the Tape: People knew Spinks only because he beat Ali. They forgot him quickly after Ali beat him



smile of his,' said Howell, "and told me, 'Quick, give me that pen before they change their mind ' Leon had made $200 for each of his first two fights, and up to that point I don't think he was aware that people could make real big money boxing.

At home now Calvin took to sashaying up to his brothers, Darrell, 17, and Corey, 12, and, while throwing shadow punches, telling them. "They bring 'em here, I'll knock 'em out.. They bring 'em here, I'll knock 'em out "

On July 21, the 19-year-old Calvin had a late afternon workout at Howell's gym just outside the city limits. That evening, he went to a party, and around midnight, returned home Not for long, though When Darrell Calvin saw his brother head toward the front door, on the way to a nightclub, he told him not to go "He had a fight coming up July 30," said the younger brother, "and needed to get his rest. But he told me, 'I ain't gonna stay out long.' He left by himself "

Leon Calvin never made it back to East John Street

Zadie Mae Calvin grew up in the same Pruitt-Igoe projects in St Louis that Leon Spinks Jr did Spinks was only 17 when Ms Calvin gave birth to her Leon, the first of the three sons she had by Spinks, whom she never married. In 1978, when Corey was born, Spinks, married by then to another woman, would upset Muhammad Ali and become heavyweight champion of the world.

In some of his earliest interviews back then, Spinks would make pained references to his past and in particular to a disappointing relationshjip with his father, Leon Sr.

Leon Sr and his wife, Kay, were separated when Leon Jr. was young. The father's sporadic contacts afterward tended to disappoint and eventually alienate the son. "I remember I stayed with him one time and I did something," Leon Spinks Jr said. "He hung me on a nail and hit me across the face with some cord of some kind. It put a long mark on my face. He told me he was sorry. But ever since then, I didn't like him. O.K., I had done wrong. But why'd he have to scar me up? I mean, I can take a butt-whupping. But you don't have to scar me ""

The father was, Spinks said, "in and out of trouble all the time," and he affected Spink's self-esteem, even from a distance Like his father, Leon Spinks Jr., even as champion, would have his share of trouble Within six weeks of defeating Ali, Spinks was sued by a motel for unpaid bills, sued for back rent in Philadelphia and arrested for driving the wrong way on a one-way street in St Louis.

That turmoil would be constant in a pro career that saw Spinks lose the title in his first defense of it and then fight on until 1988. By then he was a chronic loser, boxing for a pitiful fraction of the millions of dollars he had made and lost. In contrast, his brother, Michael, who won the heavyweight title from Larry Holmes in 1985, would go on to earn $13.5 million in a 1988 bout against Mike Tyson.

THROUGH those years, the Calvins of East John Street struggled. Their welfare payments were supplemented by what Zadie Mae's mother, Aline Pickett, earned as a nurse's aide while she lived with them.

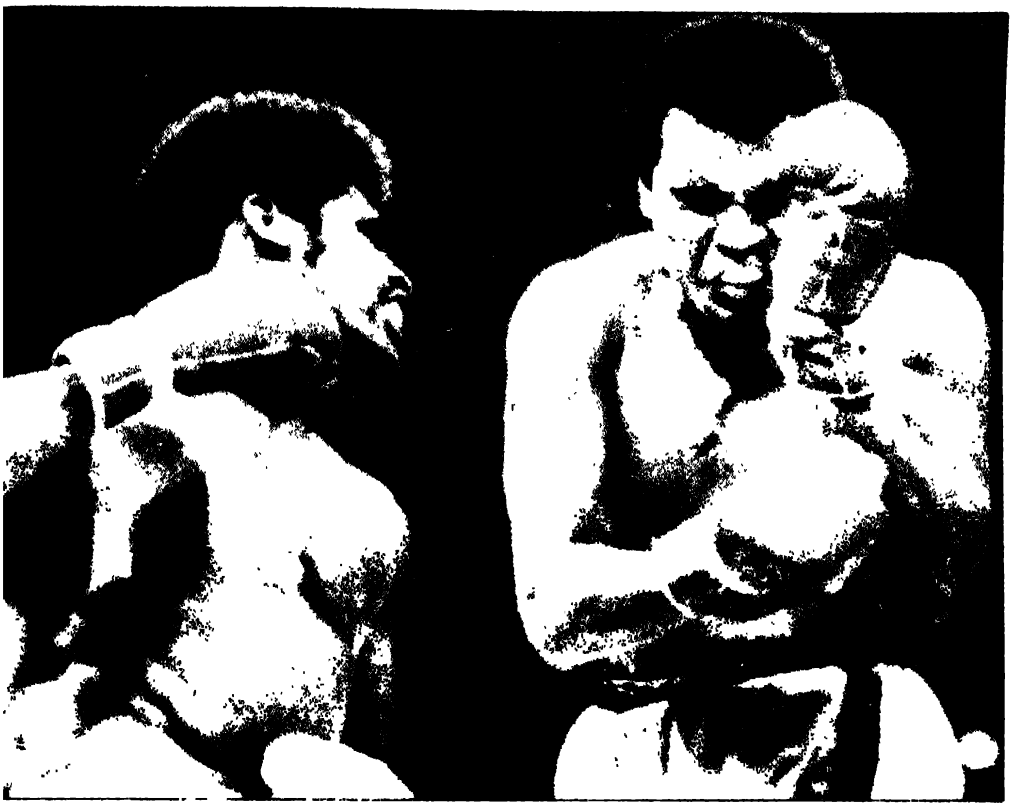
"Zadie Mae was not able to work on account of her health," said Mrs. Pickett "I worked at a nursing home and then at a hospital. I was bring ing home $265 every two weeks from the nursing home And when I went over to the hospital, $750 a month."

The relationship with their father was disappointing, Darrell Calvin said. Except for annual Spinks family reunions, Spinks was rarely in touch with them. Then, two years ago, after Spinks invited his three sons to spend time with him in Detroit, the visit ended badly. On his return, the story that Leon Calvin told was that when his father turned down a request for money and he pursued with it , Spinks got physical with him. Calvin's attitude toward his father hardened.

"He'd tell me," Hamm said, "'My daddy was heavyweight champion, and we ain't got

A riches to rags story. Spinks lived his life badly. Here he is seen coming out of court after facing various charges





The only high point of Spinks' career was when he outfought the 'Greatest': Muhammad Ali

nothing.' I wasn't the type to give him all feelings, but I'd say, 'O.K., Leon, look at yourself.'"

This was a reference to the two children Calvin had fathered and from whom he remained mostly distant.

What male guidance the Calvin boys and their half-brother, Stever received, would come from Hamm, in whose gym all of them boxed. While Hamm was raising two sons and a daughter of his own, he was nurturing the Calvins.

"They would need, like boxing shoe and trunks, and we didn't have the money, so he bought it for them," Aline Pickett said.

Where many of Hamm's fighters who made a name as amateurs would move on to better-equipped gyms, Leon Calvin did not. He remained loyal to Hamm. But in a ghetto of often capricious violence, minding him was not easy.

Likeable though he was, Leon Calvin had an unpredictability much like his father's that seemed to invite hard circumstances.

When, for instance, the police stopped a car he was driving and found a handgun inside—a weapon that, Hamm said, belonged to a friend of the fighter's—Calvin was drinking, in plain view, a bottle of beer.

Hamm tried hard, though, to keep Calvin on the straight and narrow, hiring him as a plumber's helper so that he would have spending money and manoeuvering him out of the many jams in which he regularly got entangled.

But in East St. Louis on that Sunday morning, Leon Calvin got into trouble that Hamm could not fix.

Like the Illinois State Police, Hamm found the facts about Calvin's last hours difficult to ascertain. Questioning friends of the fighter who he thought would know what happened, he encountered resistance.

"I'd ask for details," Hamm said. "They didn't know" 'You lying,' I'd say. 'You know everything.'"

As he pressed for answers, the details of the final night began to emerge. Calvin, it turned out, was friendly with members of a street gang called the Crips. At a party on Saturday night, July 20, he had been present when a member of a rival gang, the Bloods, was badly beaten.

By Sunday morning, as the scene shifted to an East St. Louis club, there would be another fight involving the gangs that would be quelled, at least until the place closed in at 5 A.M. At closing time, as the youths spilled out into the streets, gunfire erupted. Calvin jumped into the car of a woman friend who drove hard towards the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Bridge, which spans the Mississippi River.

"There were two other cars with friends of Leon's that were being shot at," Hamm said. "Gunfire was ringing as they were going across the bridge. They forced the car Leon was in to the side of the road. The girl driving, she jumped out and ran, and the persons in the other car went to shooting."

A few days after the shooting, Capt. Phil Kocis of the Illinois State Police said Hamm's version of the events was basically correct.

On the Thursday night after he was killed, Calvin's body lay in an open casket at the Foster Funeral Home—a Golden Gloves medal hanging from his neck, a pair of miniature boxing gloves on his chest. Leon Spinks Jr. did not want to go into detail about the relationship he had with his son.

"I loved him," he said. "I'm glad I got to spend time with him. It's too bad it got cut short, though."

COURTESY BOXING ILLUSTRATED

1990 Cricket Milestones



- *Sir Richard Hadlee of New Zealand became the first bowler in Test cricket to claim 400-Test wicket by dismissing Sanjay Manjrekar in the second innings of the first Test at Christchurch against India in the three Tests series*
- *Sir Richard Hadlee ended his Test career by taking five wickets for 53 runs against England in the third and final Test at Edgbaston on July 9, 1990 He has taken five wickets in an innings 36 times, which is a record by itself. Incidentally, he also claimed the wicket of Devon Malcolm in the last ball of his cricketing career. Sir Richard has scored 3124 runs and claimed 431 wickets in 86 Tests*

- *Graham Gooch, created a world record by scoring most runs in a Test match He scored 456 runs (333 and 123) against India in the first Test at Lords He bettered the previous record off 380 runs (247 * and 133) scored by Australia's Greig Chappell at Wellington against New Zealand in 73-74 series .*
- *Graham Gooch also became the first cricketer in the world to score a triple century and century in the same Test, against India at Lords.*
- *Gooch, also became the only cricketer in the world to score five Test centuries at Lords*
- *Graham Gooch eclipsed Sir Don Bradman's record of 974 runs, the highest scored in an English summer Note Bradman, however, required only seven innings whereas Gooch took eleven innings.*
- *Gooch scored 752 runs in the three Test series against India and thus surpassed the previous record of 583 runs, scored by Zaheer Abbas of Pakistan against India in 1978.*

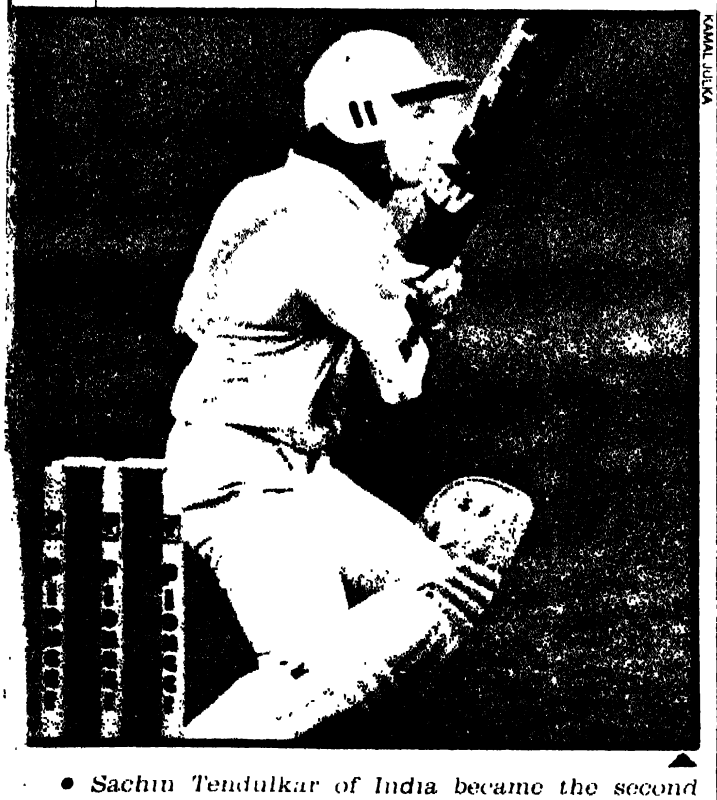


- *Kapil Dev Nikhanj of India notched the world record by smashing four consecutive sixes in an over off Eddie Hemmings of England in the first innings of the first Test at Lords in the three Test series. He erased the previous record of three sixes struck by W. Hammond of England in an over off Newmann at Auckland against New Zealand in 1932-33 and Silvester Clarke of West Indies in an over off Nazir Ahmed at Faisalabad against Pakistan in 1980-81.*
- *Kapil Dev also equalled the world record off getting 24 runs in an over joining Andy Roberts of West Indies, Sandip Patil of India and Ian Botham of England.*





PATRIC EAGAR



KAMAL JOLKA

- Sachin Tendulkar of India became the second youngest Test cricketer after Mustaq Mohammad of Pakistan to score a century. He scored 119 not out against England in the second Test at Manchester in the three Test series.
- Gordon Greenidge played his 100th Test for the West Indies, by appearing in the fifth Test against England at Antigua on April 12-17, 1990.
- Allan Border played his record 50th Test as Australian captain, against Pakistan in the second Test at Adelaide on January 10, 1990.
- Dean Jones scored 116 and 121* in both the innings in the second Test against Pakistan at Adelaide and became the tenth Australian batsman in Test cricket to do so.
- Waqar Younus of Pakistan took a hattrick against New Zealand in the third Test at Faisalabad in the three Test series by claiming Trevor Franklin, Mark Greatbatch and Ken Rutherford in three consecutive balls.
- Javed Miandad crossed the 8000 runs landmark and became the first Pakistani and fifth batsman in the world to do so when he had scored 13 in the second innings of the third Test at Faisalabad against New Zealand.
- Carl Rackemann of Australia took three wickets in four balls claiming Imram Khan, Tausif Ahmed and Mustaq Ahmed in the second Test at Adelaide against Pakistan in the three Test series. Dennis Lillee achieved this feat against England at the Oval in 1972.
- Imran Khan of Pakistan, by taking two wickets against Australia at Melbourne in January, 1990, crossed Dennis Lillee's previous record of 355 Test wickets and became the fourth bowler after Hadlee, Botham and Kapil Dev to do so.
- Allan Lamb is the second English cricketer, to score a century on his debut Test as captain after 93 years. The last man to score a century on debut as English captain was AC McLaren, who made 109 against Australia at Sydney in December, 1987.
- Sri Lanka slumped to their lowest Test score of 82 in the first innings of the only Test played against India at Chandigarh in 1990.
- Waqar Younus in taking 53 wickets in the ten Tests he has played so far achieved a Pakistani record of capturing the fastest 50 wickets. He erased Khan Mohammad's previous of 50 wickets in 11 Tests.
- New Zealand posted their highest total in one day cricket when they hammered 338 for four off 50 overs against Bangladesh in the Austral Asia Cup at Sharjah on April 28, 1990.
- Simon O'Donnell of Australia scored the fastest fifty in one day cricket off a mere 18 balls against Sri Lanka in the semi final of the Austral-Asia Cup on May 2, 1990. He eclipsed the previous mark shared by New Zealand's Lance Cairns and Pakistan's Salim Malik. The latter batsmen took 21 balls to notch up their fifties. Cairns achieved the feat against Australia in Melbourne in 82-83, while Malik against India in Calcutta in 1986-87. O'Donnell's entire innings of 74 lasted just 29 balls.

COMPILED BY HARI PRASAD CHATTOPADHYAY

TENNIS '90

THE BEST & THE WORST

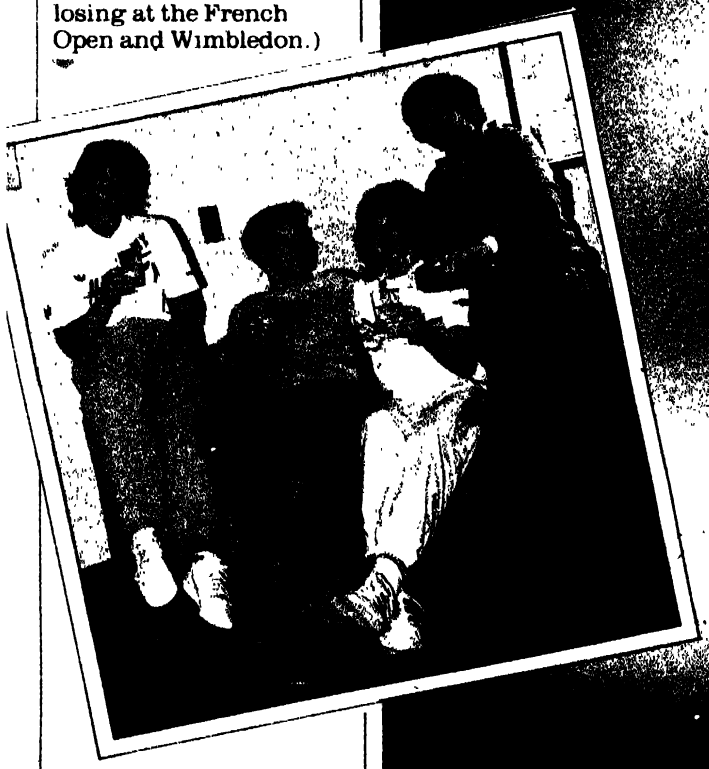


BEST VICTORY GESTURE—After Frenchman Yannick Noah defeated West German Carl-Uwe Steeb 5-7, 6-3, 6-4 to win the $400,000 New South Wales Open· his first title in nearly two years ··he stood on his head in celebration

BEST BUMPER STICKER—"If you think that I cannot drive a car, then you should see me play tennis." (Seen on a car in Hamburg, Germany.)

BEST CONFESSION—"These days I am not at my very best I could not fight as usual because of all the turmoil Tennis is a game won with the head and lately my head has not been on tennis " (Steffi Graf, distracted and distressed by tabloid reports of her father's alleged affair, after losing at the French Open and Wimbledon.)

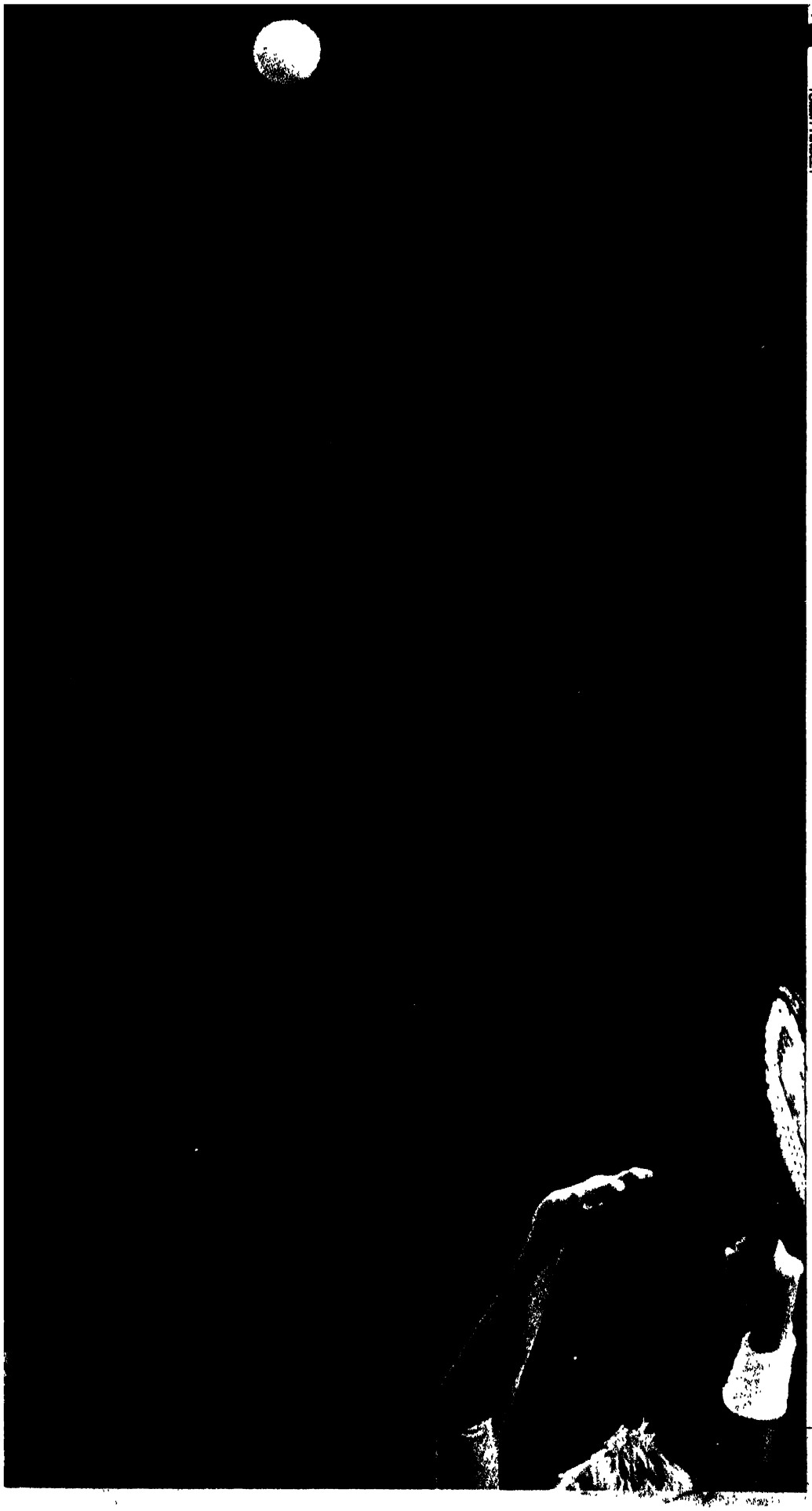
TOMMY HINDLEY





BEST CAPRIATI PREDICTIONS—"She can't miss, and I only said that about John McEnroe and Steffi Graf. She has the ability to wind up on the top level that only Chris Evert, Martina Navratilova and Graf have occupied." (Arthur Ashe) "She's quite the best newcomer I've ever seen, who could easily be world champion before she is 17." (Billie Jean King)

WORST PREPARATION—Neglecting to scout Ferrando, Seles incorrectly thought she was a baseliner and was caught by surprise by her serve-and-volley strategy when she was upset at the U.S. Open. Equally foolish, Seles made a racket change only a week before the U.S. Open—from a Prince 110 graphite to a Yonex RZ-380.



TOM HANLEY

BEST BELATED AWARENESS—The shoe is on the other foot now for Chris Evert, the television broadcaster, who admitted, "It's tough to get an interview with a tennis player. I remember when NBC would ask me to do an interview, and if I wasn't in the mood or I had to practice or if I had to get mentally prepared for a match, I'd just say, 'No.' Now, I find myself telling the players, 'Hey, come on, it's television. It's great exposure and experience.' But it's like pulling teeth to try to get them to come to the booth and talk."

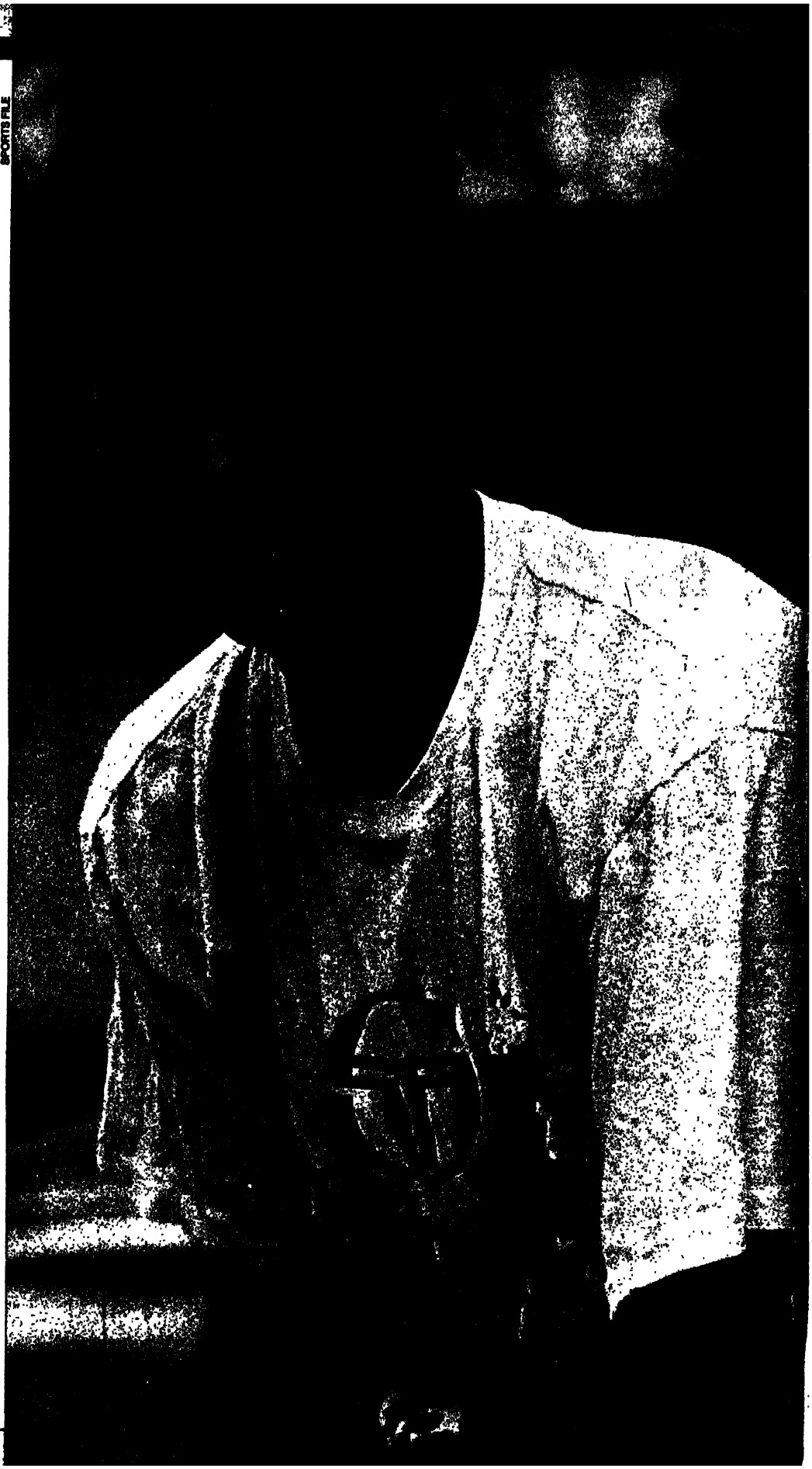
WORST SCANDAL—The German and British tabloids—"MY FAMILY AGONY" shouted today's front-page headlines during Wimbledon—had a field day sensationalising Peter Graf's alleged extra-marital affair. Playboy model and call girl Nicole Meissner, 22, and boxing promoter Eberhard Thust, 43, allegedly tried to extort $400,000 from the Grafs, claiming that Peter fathered Nicole's six-month-old daughter. Although the couple was arrested for blackmail, the revelations devastated Steffi and clearly hurt her performance.

BEST BALLBOY PERSPECTIVE—"We're all rooting for Jennifer (Capriati) because she's the same age as us and she asks for the ball nicely." (A Wimbledon ballboy speaking for his peers on their choice for women's singles champion.)

BEST RESPECT—After becoming the youngest U.S. champion, Pete Sampras showed a refreshing respect for the game's bygone heroes. "I've always looked up to the older guys, like (Rod) Laver and (Ken) Rosewall. I really enjoyed that era. I have tremendous respect for those guys, I really do. I think all those Australians were class individuals and I would like to be in that category."

BEST "WHAT PRICE STARDOM?"—Pamela Stephanie Romas, a 13-year-old from Scarsdale, New York, was disillusioned when Boris Becker stated he would take steroids and other performance-enhancing drugs if other players did, even if there were a possible risk. "It bothers me to see an athlete not concerned about his health or his sport and only concerned about money," she wrote to The New York Times. "Is this a good example to set for my generation? If he meant what he said, he doesn't deserve to be an international sports hero."

BEST LONG-OVERDUE EJECTION—After repeatedly directing profanity at Grand Slam chief of supervisors Ken Farrar and being heard on live Australian television, fourth-seeded John McEnroe was disqualified in the fourth set of his fourth-round Australian Open match against Mikael Pernfors. Believe it or not, it was the first time tempestuous and abusive Mac ever got booted from a match.



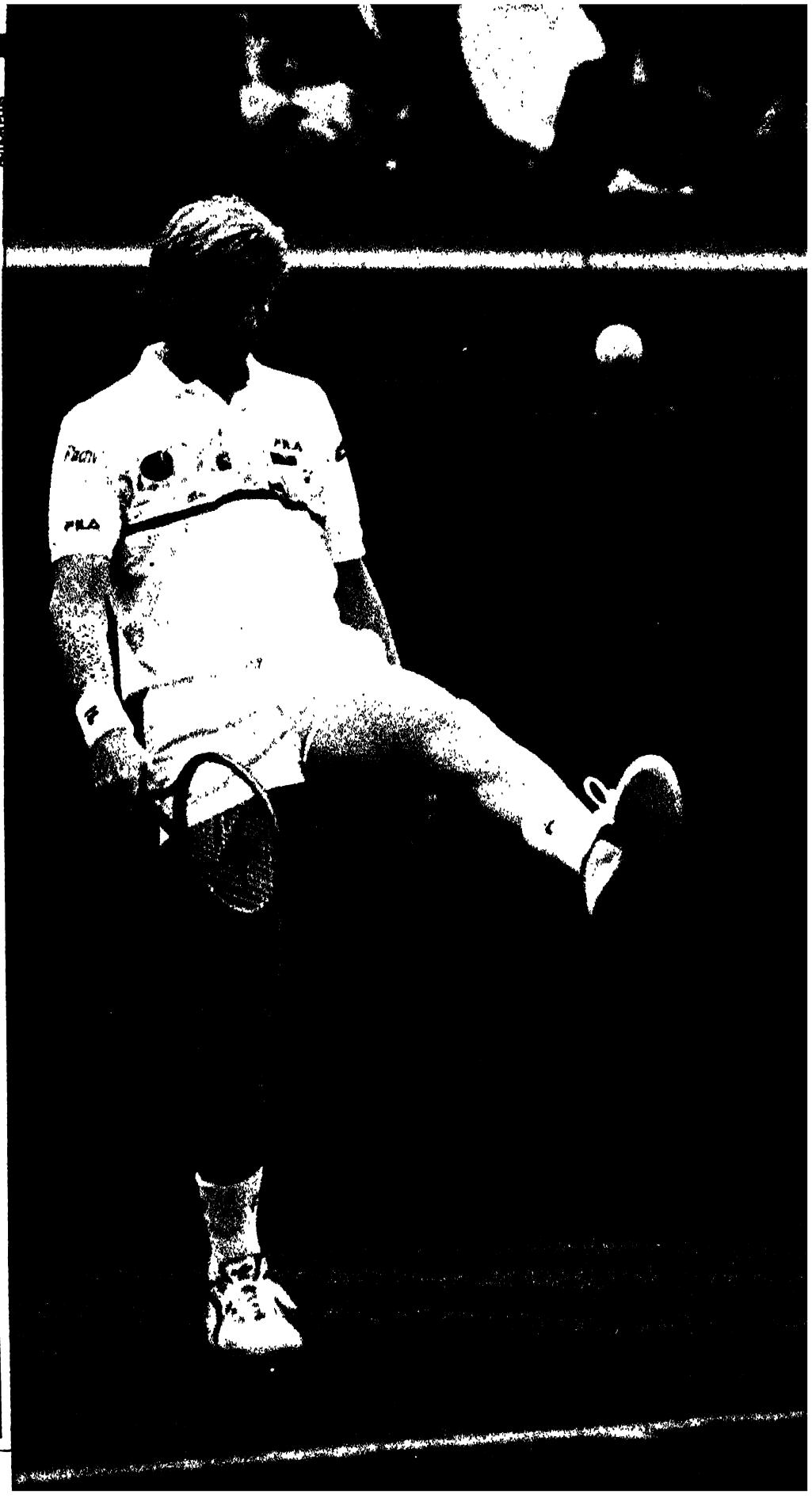
BEST PHILOSOPHY OF LIFE—Introspective Boris Becker opined: "We're living in the year 1990 and in sport it's still all about money. It's sad but true. It's sad because man is in this circus forever.

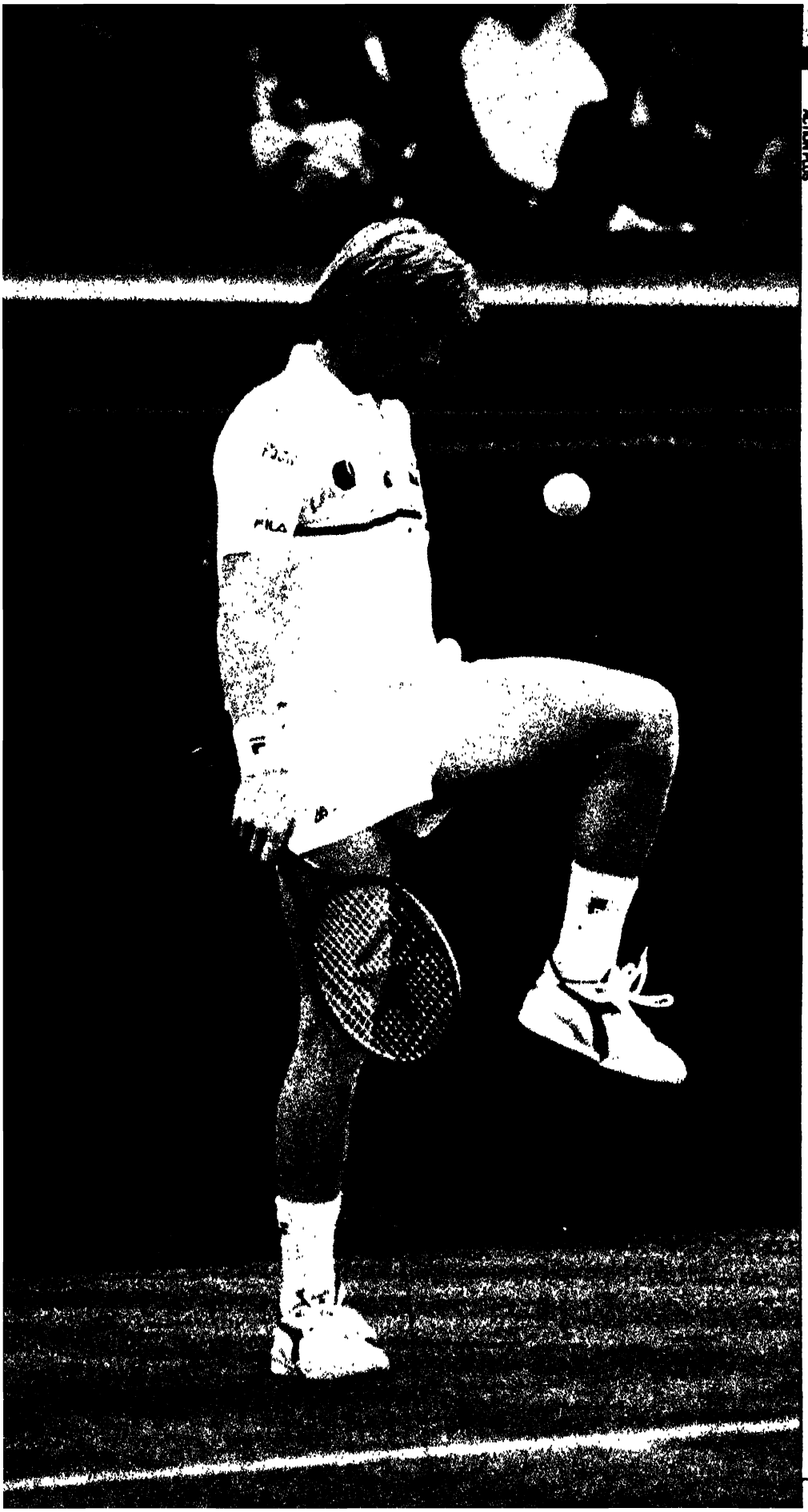
BEST TRIBUTE TO TENNIS—Of the 23 major sports that prominent sports psychologist Dr. Jim Loehr has investigated, the one that requires the greatest mental toughness is tennis.

BEST MIXED DOUBLES ADVICE—Todd Woodbridge is a baby-faced 19-year-old Aussie with a killer philosophy. After he and Liz Sayers won the U.S. Open mixed doubles title, Woodbridge explained, "You've gotta really be nasty, try to hit everything at the woman."

BEST NOISE ABATEMENT—Roaring airplanes, the bane of U.S. Open players and fans for years, were gone thanks to New York Mayor David Dinkins, a tennis fanatic, who asked the Federal Aviation Administration to rearrange the takeoff pattern on La Guardia Airport's runway 13.

BEST REUNION—Jimmy Connors and Chris Evert, once tennis' darling couple, became a team again as NBC-TV's new "contemporary" tennis analysts for Wimbledon, the French Open and the Family Circle tournaments. Both were incisive, opinionated and appealing.





ACTION PLUS

WORST FANS—Fickle German spectators booed and derisively whistled at Boris Becker during his singles and doubles defeats in the World Team Cup at Dusseldorf. As Becker noted: "They have short memories. They forget how we won here last year and also all our successes, and they expect us to win every time."

BEST BIZARRE PROPOSAL—Complaining that some players, like his opponent Mikael Pernfors, get away with swearing on court because they don't do it in English, John McEnroe, who was expelled from the Australian Open for swearing, made this unusual proposal: "I think if the officials are going to do this to me, they are going to eventually have to get a fleet of interpreters, and everything any player says, he's going to be liable for. Otherwise, they've got to ease up."

BEST SPORTSMANSHIP—Jerome Boucher, an 11-year-old from Paradise Valley, Arizona, displayed wonderful sportsmanship after winning a long, three-set match in the New Mexico Junior Open. He spontaneously turned his attention to his distraught, sobbing opponent and consoled him with words of encouragement, support and an "it's gonna be alright" pep talk.

BEST PHOTO SPREAD—Sexy Steffi in a provocative pose in Vogue magazine.



TOMMY HINDLEY

BEST MARTINA METAPHOR—"I'm not a dinosaur by any stretch of the imagination. I'm a meteor." (Martina Navratilova after her quarterfinal victory at Wimbledon.)

BEST TRIBUTE TO BILLIE JEAN—During Wimbledon which she'd win for a record ninth time, Martina Navratilova talked glowingly about her coach Billie Jean King. "She has taught me more in one year than I have learned in 10 years. Her knowledge is just phenomenal. She has forgotten more than most people know."

WORST CHEAP SHOT—Ripping Martina Navratilova as a poor role model for young players because she is a homosexual, all-time great Margaret Court, a born-again Christian minister living in Perth, Australia, said: "(Navratilova) is a great player, but I'd like to see somebody at the top to whom the younger players can look up to. It is very sad for children to be exposed to homosexuality. Martina is a nice person. Her life has just gone astray."

BEST DEFENSE OF MARTINA—"Martina has been a role model for me...we should judge her on what she did on the court, not on her private life," countered Chris Evert who also rebutted allegations that lesbianism was a major problem on the women's circuit. "I've been on the tour for 18 years and I've never seen anything."

BEST PHILANTHROPY—Ion Tiriac, the sinister-looking but generous tournament promoter and manager of Boris Becker, helped rebuild Ceausescu-ravaged Romania by staging the European Zone Davis Cup tie against Britain in Bucharest and importing badly needed medicines for local hospitals—all of which reportedly cost him at least $200,000 of his own money. He also arranged for proceeds from the concession sales at the Davis Cup match to be donated to Romanian orphans.

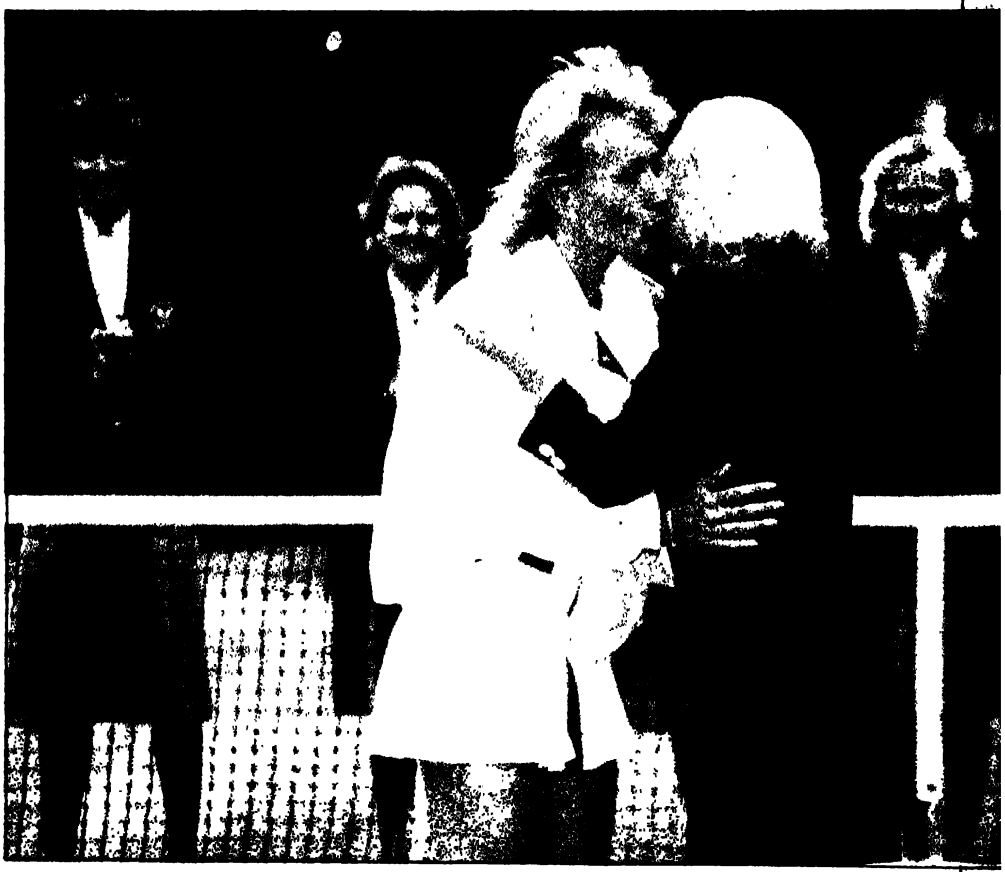
BEST "GOLDEN OLDIES"—Defying age in a gruelling sport that favors youth, Martina Navratilova easily won her record ninth Wimbledon crown at 33; Ivan Lendl captured his third Australian Open at 30; and overlooked Andres Gomez surprised everyone by grabbing the French Open, his first Grand Slam title, at 30. Hats off also to Britain's Nick Brown, who after retiring at age 24, came back and was selected to play Davis Cup singles for the first time at 29.

BEST ROYAL KISS—The Duchess of Kent was so moved by Martina Navratilova's record ninth Wimbledon title that at the trophy presentation she kissed Navratilova on both cheeks and then held her hands while they chatted. "Normally no one touches Royalty beyond a handshake," said one British journalist. "It was unique."

BEST ANALOGY—Martina Navratilova, on Andre Agassi, who passed up Wimbledon to rest: "It's like a football player who skips the Super Bowl because he has to get ready for training camp."

WORST TRAITORS—Soviet star and world No. 11 Andrei Chesnokov skipped the inaugural $330,000 Kremlin Cup in Moscow, and world No. 13 Natalia Zvereva, who often complains of being homesick when touring, snubbed the $100,000 Moscow Open. They clearly owed it to their fans, countrymen and these fledgling tournaments to play.

BEST DAVIS CUP HEROICS—Paolo Cane, ranked a modest No. 35 led Italy to a surprising 3-2 first round Davis Cup win over four-time champion Sweden by upsetting Mats Wilander and Jonas Svensson in singles and partnering Diego Nargiso to a doubles victory before a vociferous, sell-out crowd at Cagliari, Sardinia.



BEST BURNING ISSUE—Grunting. How loud is too distracting? And will grunting offenders soon draw warnings and point penalties?

BEST ANTI-GRUNTING STATEMENT—"Some of these players grunt when they dropshot, and no dropshot deserves a grunt." (Pam Shriver, one of several players miffed by the distracting, loud and often unnecessary grunting of today's players).

BEST JUSTIFIED FINES—Despite all their talk about the absolute necessity of having their own tour, many of the top players simply failed to support the new ATP Tour properly. Believe it or not, Stefan Edberg, Andre Agassi and Ivan Lendl, three guys who regularly play irrelevant exhibitions, failed to play the minimum required number of tournaments and were justifiably assessed record fines of $115,496, $85,042 and $95,443, respectively.

BEST CAREER COMEBACK (I)—Thomas Muster was told he would never play tennis again after he was seriously injured in a car accident caused by a drunk driver before his 1989 Lipton International final. But Muster showed extraordinary dedication and determination and rebounded strongly to gain the French Open semis and rank No. 6.

BEST CAREER COMEBACK (II)—Juan Aguilera, a clever Spanish clay courter, ranked No. 7 in the world in late 1984 before the illness and death of his father and concurrent break-up with his coach caused his game and his ranking to collapse. Happily, at 28, Aguilera bounced back to No. 15.

BEST "TALK IS CHEAP"—The foot-in-mouth award goes to world No. 5 Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario. Just before her match with No. 44 (but rising fast) Jennifer Capriati at the Family Circle Magazine Cup, she said, "I'm not worried about playing Capriati. I have plenty of confidence." Capriati humbled her 6-1, 6-1.

BEST TENNIS DIPLOMACY—In a Davis Cup match marked by goodwill and normalcy, Israel hosted the People's Republic of China. The two nations do not have full diplomatic relations, and China competes in the Asian Games, from which Israel, for political reasons, has long been excluded.

BEST CONUNDRUM—Monica Seles, on what it would take to beat Steffi Graf: "I have to think of her as just another player. How do I do that?" Seles said that March 5, 1990, but she did beat Graf twice after that in 1990.

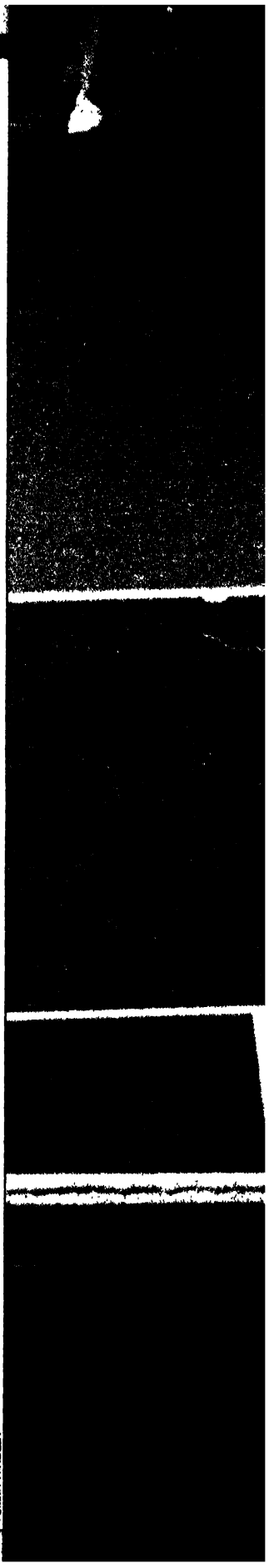
BEST DOUBLES TEAM (MALE)—Pieter Aldrich and Danie Visser, sharp-volleying South Africans, captured the US and Australian Opens and were runner-up at Wimbledon.

BEST CANDID COMMENT—"If you had told me two weeks ago I was going to win the tournament, I would have said you were pretty crazy." (Pete Sampras, 19, after becoming the youngest player in history to win the U.S. open.)

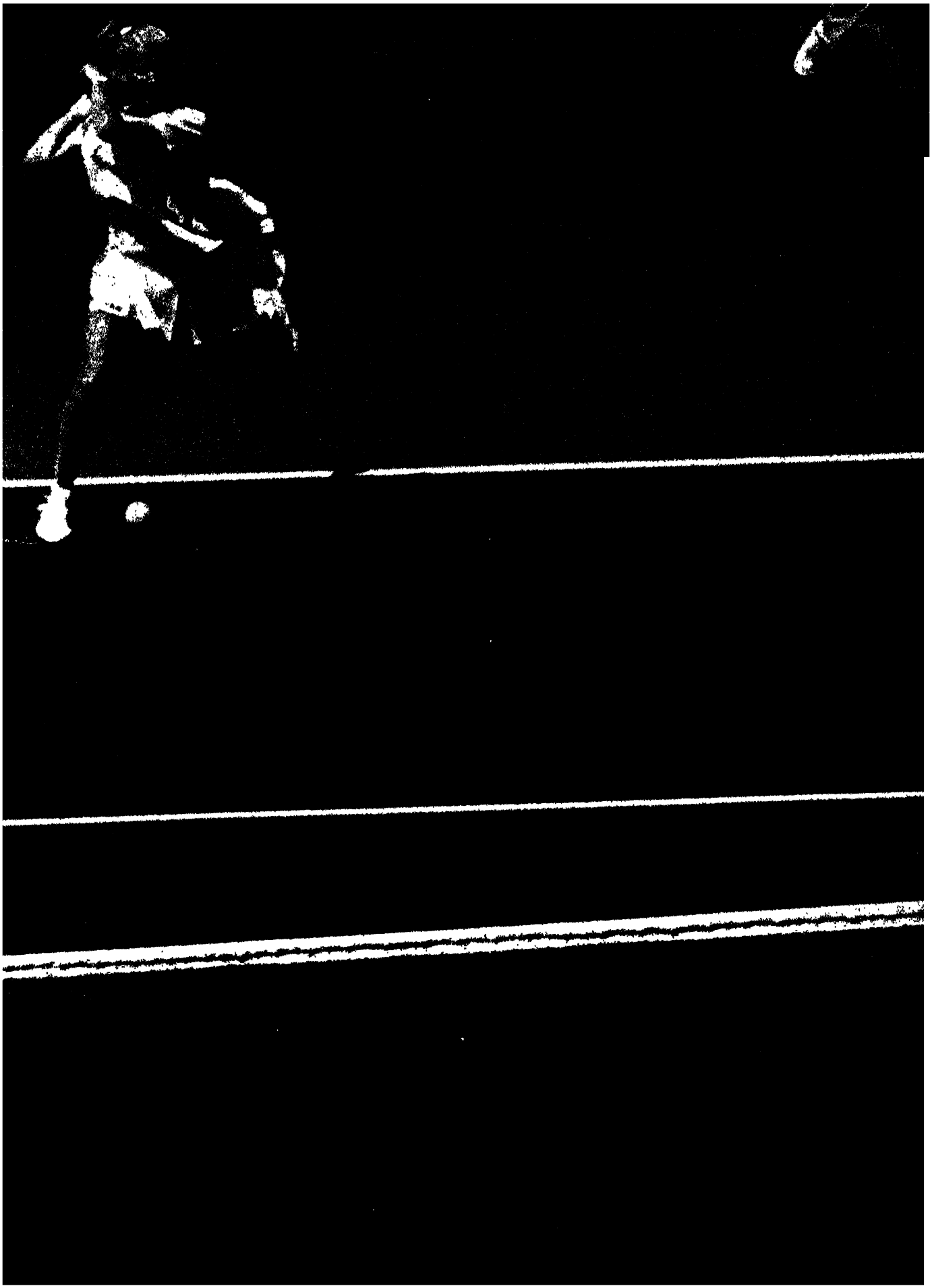
BEST CHUTZPAH—After he accepted the $26,640 prize money for winning the Hong Kong Open—which was sponsored by Salem cigarettes—outspoken Pat Cash declared, "I think it's a disgrace to smoke cigarettes."

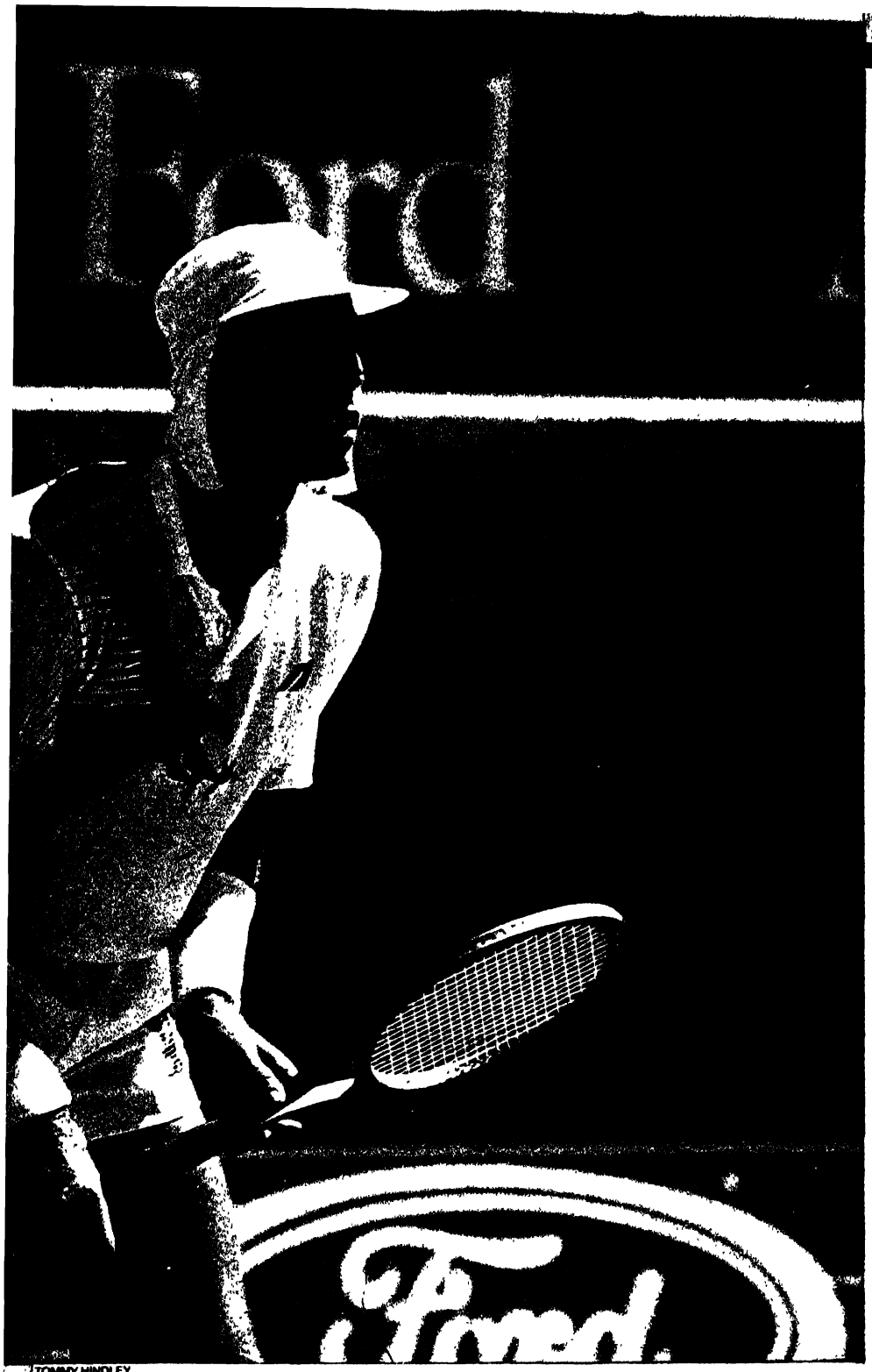
BEST "HE SAID IT"—"I've improved 3,000 per cent...well, maybe I'm exaggerating. Maybe it's just 2,000 per cent." (Pat Cash talking about his return from a serious Achilles tendon injury before his fourth-round Wimbledon match against Boris Becker.)





TOMMY HINDLEY





TOMMY HINDLEY

BEST QUOTE ABOUT MAC— Ion Tiriac, Boris Becker's manager, on John McEnroe: "Half come to see him win. Half come to see him lose. Half come to see what happens."

BEST "FAMOUS LAST WORDS"—Before John McEnroe was bounced out in straight sets in a Wimbledon first-round match by Derrick Rostagno, Mac dismissively spouted: "Who's Rostagno? Nothing personal but I could have had a harder draw. There's at least 20 guys tougher than him and I'm not planning to lose."

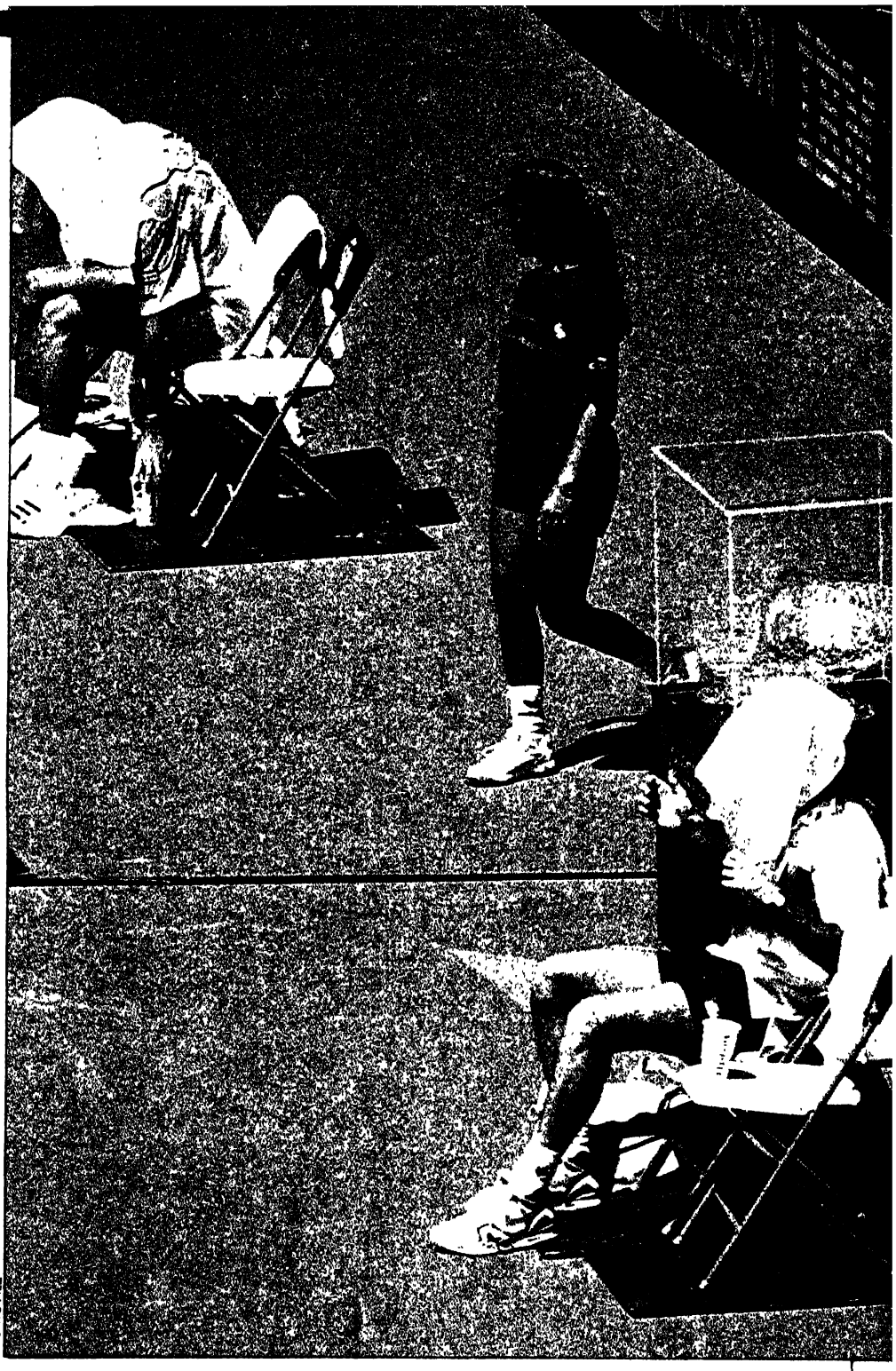
BEST ENDORSEMENT DEAL—Ivan Lendl's nine-year racket endorsement deal with Mizuno for a reported $20 million.

BEST "AND YOU CAN QUOTE ME"—"John represented everything I wanted. He wasn't an actor. He was a really big success. He was young. He had money. He totally turned me on." (Tatum O'Neal on what first attracted her to John McEnroe.)

BEST ACT OF CONSCIENCE (I)—In a highly unusual gesture, Yannick Noah refused to accept his $30,000 guarantee (fee just for showing up) after losing in the first round of a Bordeaux tournament. (Of course, he was wrong to have negotiated for appearance money in the first place.)

BEST ACT OF CONSCIENCE (II)—After getting injured in the second set of his first round match at the OTB Open, Derrick Rostagno returned his $2,500 guarantee.

BEST QUICK CHANGE IDEA—Women can thank the Lipton International Players Championships for its new Laykold Changing Booth. The portable tent enables them to make a quick and private change of their soaking shirts on court and avoid spectacles such as when Barbara Potter changed shirts while four ballboys held towels around her at Wimbledon in 1988.



SPORTS FILE

WORST DISRESPECT—When the media at the French Open asked finalist Andre Agassi his feelings about meeting the legendary Jean Borotra, one of France's celebrated "Four Musketeers," the brash Agassi replied, "Oh, that old guy? I didn't even know who he was."

BEST STROKE CHANGE—Pete Sampras' decision—he was convinced by his longtime coach, Dr Pete Fischer—at age 14 to switch from a two-handed backhand to a one-hander which transformed him from a counterpuncher into a more versatile and dynamic all-court player.

BEST REVENGE—Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere, crushed 6-0, 6-0 by Martina Navratilova at the 1989 US Open, gained sweet revenge when she shocked the No. 2 ranked, four-time champion 7-5, 3-6, 6-3 in the 1990 US Open fourth round.

BEST BUSINESS TYCOON—Jennifer Capriati. The 14-year-old wunder-kid with charisma struck it rich with endorsement deals with Diadora ($3.5 million), Oil of Olay ($6 million) and Prince ($1.1 million).

BEST IRONY—Twenty-one months before 19-year-old Pete Sampras upset three-time champion Ivan Lendl 6-4, 7-6, 3-6, 4-6, 6-2 in the US. Open quarterfinals, Lendl invited Sampras to train with him at his Greenwich, Connnecticut estate. Besides several hours of gruelling daily practice, Lendl had him biking 20 miles a day and lectured him on proper diet and sleep habits.

BEST WARNING—Although it came at least a decade late, Boris Becker gave John McEnroe this warning (threat?) during a three-hour discussion: "If you start behaving like a beast during the match, I will turn into the bigger beast and I will destroy you."



TOMMY HINDLEY

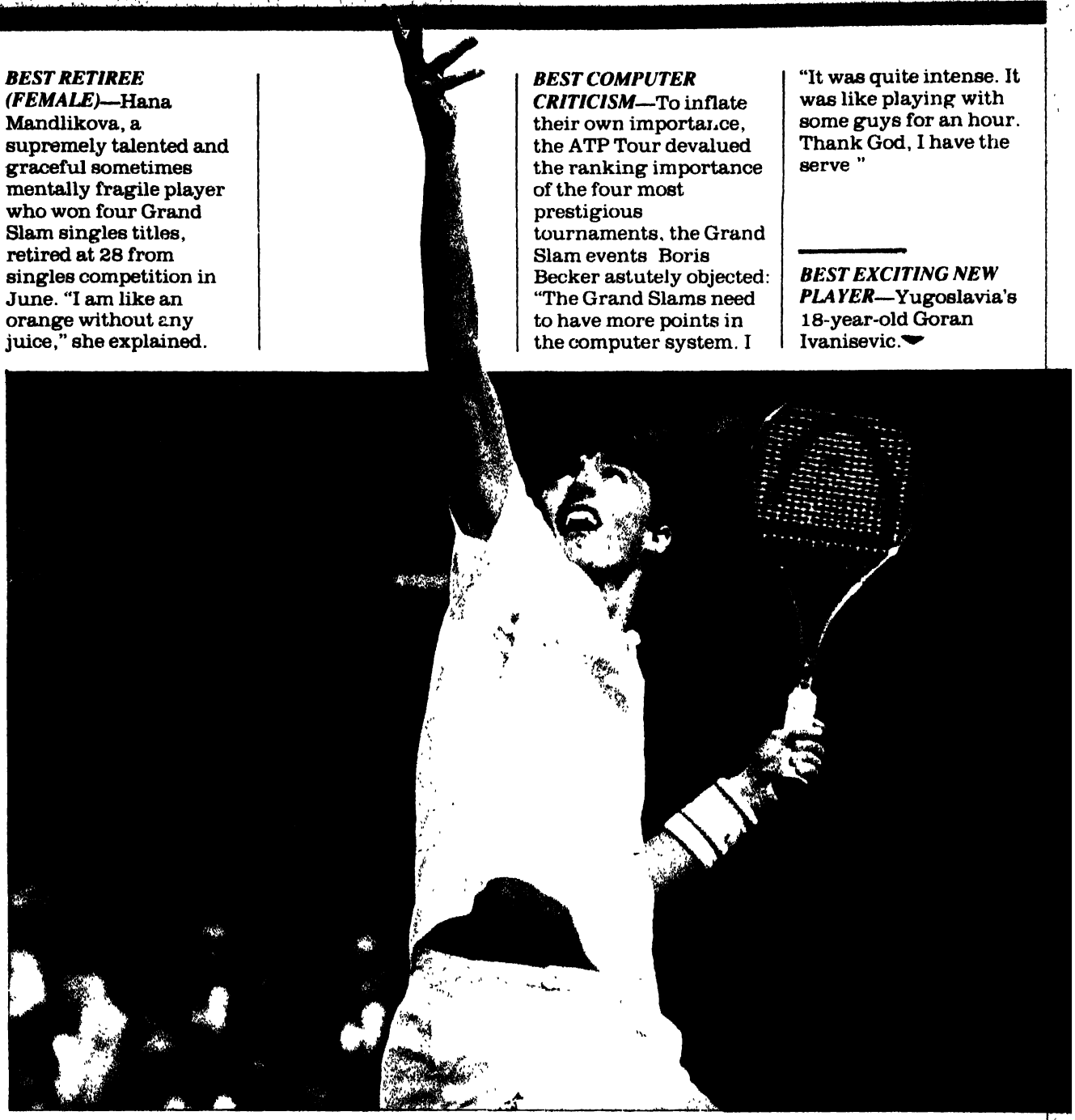
BEST GABY CONFIDENTIAL—"I prefer to be appreciated for my beauty and other qualities rather than only being seen as a tennis champion." (Gabriela Sabatini)

BEST STRATEGY—Gabriela Sabatini, who claimed she was "the forgotton woman of tennis" at the start of the US Open, upset Steffi Graf 6-2, 7-6 in large part because she abandoned her baseline game and rushed net 43 times. The strategy was brilliant because: 1) it surprised Garf 2) it put great pressure on Garf's vulnerable backhand 3) it shortened the match and made Sabatini's inferior.

BEST MCENROE CONFESSION (II)—Offering Andre Agassi, who was just fined $3,000 for his US Open outburst, some fatherly advice, John McEnroe confided "It's not the fines that hurt, it's the embarrassment of people talking about it the whole time."

WORST LUCK—You had to sympathize with American Patty Fendick at the US Open. First, her mixed doubles partner, Ken Flach, angrily walked off the court during the third set of their match with Elise Burgin and Laurie Warder, causing the match to be defaulted. Then her doubles partner, Zina Garrison, limping from right ankle and Achilles tendon injuries, had to withdraw from the doubles.

BEST RETIREE (FEMALE)—Hana Mandlikova, a supremely talented and graceful sometimes mentally fragile player who won four Grand Slam singles titles, retired at 28 from singles competition in June. "I am like an orange without any juice," she explained.



"The determination is not there, the motivation is not there and I am too proud to be losing to players I should not lose to. That is why I am walking away."

BEST RETIREE (MALE)—One year after his doctor told him he had "the knees of a 60-year-old," Swedish clay court specialist Kent Carlsson, the rest of whom is just 22, decided to quit tennis in May. Chronic knee problems had sidelined Carlsson, known for his extreme Western grips and unerring, ultra-heavy topspin shots, for the previous 10 months. Carlsson ranked as high as No. 6 in 1988.

BEST COMPUTER CRITICISM—To inflate their own importance, the ATP Tour devalued the ranking importance of the four most prestigious tournaments, the Grand Slam events Boris Becker astutely objected: "The Grand Slams need to have more points in the computer system. I don't think it is right that I have a chance to become No 1 (in 1990) without winning a major tournament."

BEST GRAF ACCOLADE—After a rapid-fire 20-minute hitting session with Steffi Graf just before the Australian Open, Boris Becker revealed, "It was quite intense. It was like playing with some guys for an hour. Thank God, I have the serve."

BEST EXCITING NEW PLAYER—Yugoslavia's 18-year-old Goran Ivanisevic.

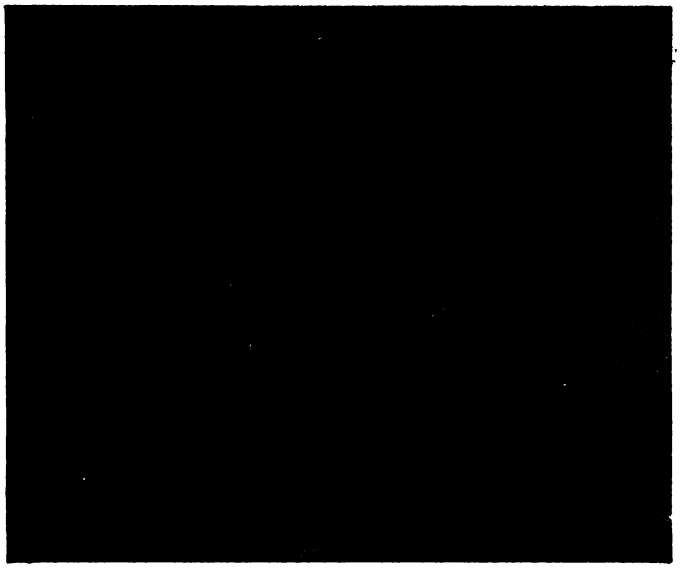
BEST OVERSHADOWED PLAYER—Overshadowed by kid stars like Jennifer Capriati and Monica Seles as well as veteran champions Steffi Graf and Martina Navratilova and Argentine beauty Gabriela Sabatini, Miami's Mary Joe Fernandez steadily climbed to No. 4 in the world.

MASTERMINDS

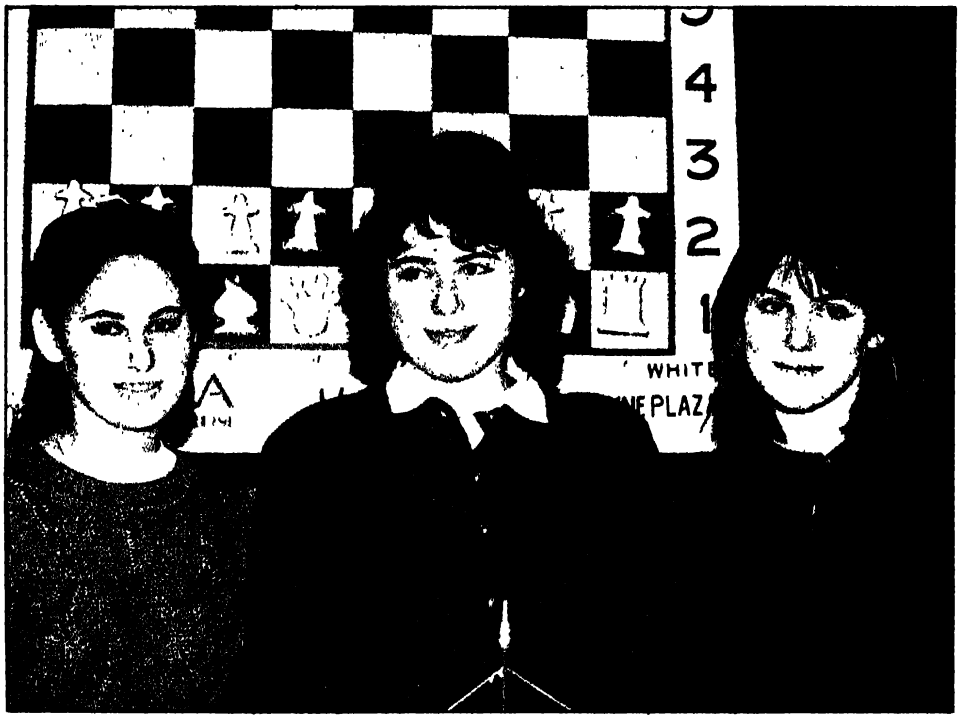


Gata Kaminsky: grand display

V. Anand: onward march



DEVANGSHU DUTTA analyses the game plans of the chess maestros who contested the tournament and witnessed the remarkable genius of India's Grandmaster V. Anand and the Polish talent Gata Kaminsky at work...



The promising Polgar sisters: (From left) Judit, Zsulsa and Zsofia

Photographs RAJESH KUMAR

THE inaugural Triveni Grandmasters chess tournament held in Delhi recently featured a very strong field. Apart from Viswanathan Anand there were two others with realistic world championship ambitions. The top seed was the 16-year-old Gata Kamsky (USA) who is already ranked fifth in the world. According to experts, he is the strongest teenager in the history of the game.

The strongest woman, 13-year-old Judit Polgar, the youngest of the famous Hungarian trio was also present. So were her elder sisters Zsuzsa and Zsofia. Experienced GMs Mikhail Chernin (USSR) and Eugenio Torre (Philippines) were the other foreigners in the fray.

For most spectators the prestige fight between Anand and Kamsky was the talking point. Would Anand be able to defend his "turf" against the young Soviet defector? What kind of form would India's only GM display in his last serious contest before the Candidates match with Dreeyev in January?

There were other Indians with a lot at stake. Dibyendu Barua played wonderfully at the Novi Sad Olympiad, picking up his second GM norm in November. If he made another norm here he would have been India's second GM. Thipsay was also in good form and looking for his second GM norm.

It all made for an action-packed tournament. Anand and Kamsky outclassed the rest of the field and tied for first place. Anand however, thrashed Kamsky in their individual encounter.

Thipsay and Barua started brilliantly with wins against Torre and Chernin. They both went into the last round needing a win for their respective GM norms. It was not to be.

Barua had earlier thrown away a totally won endgame against Zsofia, the middle sister. He recovered to draw with Kamsky and then beat Anand in the penultimate round. In the last round against Zsuzsa, he played uncharacteristically quiet chess and lost.

Thipsay also lost a tense last round battle with Anand. Both had to win and Anand once again displayed his uncanny ability to hit top form at the right moment.

Anand was playing here just to keep his eye in. He would not exert himself unduly or reveal any of his preparation for the Candidates match. After this he will go into hibernation with his second, Dutch GM John Van Der Wiel.

Still, he exceeded the GM norm, maintained his rating and played superbly when he had to. His best game was the crushing victory over Kamsky.

Three people beat him. Against Judit Polgar he blundered in a superior position and he made errors against D.V. Prasad and Barua when he was trying too hard to win. He won the other eight games not conceding a single draw.

Overall, he displayed remarkable form and he did not give away any secrets. Dreeyev will be an anxious man and by my reckoning Anand must be the favourite going into the match.

Kamsky showed his reputation does not flatter him. The US Open champion has great opening preparation and terrific endgame technique. He also has a flair for messy middlegame complications.

Zsuzsa and Judit must have been slightly disappointed in missing the GM norm by half a point. Chernin and Torre were both in indifferent form while the rest of the Indians trailed behind.

FINAL STANDINGS: Joint First) V. Anand and G. Kamsky (8 points) 3rd) J. Polgar & Zsuzsa Polgar (6½) 5th) D. Barua & P. Thipsay (6) 7th) E. Torre (5½) 8th) Zsofia Polgar (5) 9th) M. Chernin (5) 10th) D.V. Prasad (4½) 11th) R. Ravisekhar (3) 12th) N.S. Babu (2) ●

Dibyendu Barua played wonderfully at Novi Sad Olympiad, picking up his second GM norm in November. If he made another norm here he would have been India's second GM...



CAPITAL NOTES



With medium pace mortality abnormally high, several quick bowlers have represented India over the years, but nobody has really survived. You have Kulkarni, Chetan, R.P. Singh, Robin Singh, Razdan, Ankola and others, but for the new ball only Kapil's name comes readily to mind



KAPIL's lament in practically every interview is about lack of support 'from the other end.' With medium pace mortality abnormally high, several quick bowlers have represented India over the years but nobody has really survived. You have had Raju Kulkarni, Chetan Sharma, R.P. Singh, Robin Singh, Vivek Razdan, Salil Ankola and others, but for the new ball only Kapil's name comes readily to mind.

Kapil may have acknowledged—temporarily—Manoj Prabhakar as his tutor, but among young bowlers hopes now rest with Delhi's Atul Wassan.

The question is: is he any different from others who have played and promptly perished?

Perhaps yes, for two reasons. One, he has emerged on the strength of outstanding success in domestic cricket—39 wickets in a Ranji season is really an exceptional performance. Hence he does not owe his place to whimsical selection or accommodation of regional interest. Two, the guy's quick, talented, young, willing to listen and work.

I remember á senior Delhi pro telling me more than two seasons ago (when Wassan was only a university cricketer on the periphery of the Delhi team) "if he gets a break, *woh chal jayega*." At the moment Wassan's career is, what's it called, at the crossroads Began impressively in New Zealand, slipped in England, missed Sharjah due to injury. Has kept his place on the basis of 'potential', but if he fails to get his act together he could be consigned to the dustbin of anonymity.

Commenting on Wassan one senior player observed that he is in the process of learning that Ranji and Tests are entirely different propositions. Things are not totally rosy—has lost rhythm, injuries have plagued him and the bowling arm is somewhat rounder. Basically: compared to last season he has lost ground.

"I've sorted out my problems," feels Wassan. "Last year I suffered a freak injury before Sharjah. While bowling, my left foot got stuck in the follow through, my upper body moved but the left elbow struck my ribs so hard that they cracked The injury put me out of action for a while. But now the ribs have healed and I am fully fit. I am determined to do well and secure my place in the Indian team."

WHEN someone mentioned "blind cricket" my first reaction was of extreme suspicion. And curiosity. Cricket is difficult enough with two eyes and if sight is impaired, or absent, how does one cope?

Truged along to see the blind play cricket and believe me my eyes opened. 19 teams were around from different parts of the country participating in the inaugural Tata Steel Cup, and the players seemed to manage quite well. A total of 5 centuries were scored—Vema Narayan of Bangalore hit 176 not out while Anand Sharma scored an unbeaten 151 in the finals. The players hit shots, held catches, applauded, cheered and generally had a rollicking time.

The blind play cricket by the ear as the batsman hears the ball (specially made with ball bearings inside that make a tinkling sound) instead of seeing it. Bowling is underarm and deliveries must land within the bowlers half of the wicket to be legal, enabling the batsmen to gauge the direction.

Explained George Abraham, the moving force behind the

"Just try playing with

By AMRIT MATHUR



The blind play cricket by the ear as the batsman hears the ball (ball bearings are put inside so that it makes a sound) instead of seeing it



tournament: "Sports, and cricket, are a vehicle for rehabilitation. It improves mobility. From experience it is noticed that by playing actively a blind person's confidence increases as does coordination. Moreover the keenness of competition helps build up leadership qualities and team work."

Like other kids of their age the blind are extremely enthusiastic about cricket. They are real experts, capable of reeling off details of Tendulkar or Gavaskar which would stagger statistician BB Mama. Says George Abraham: "They always follow the Indian team. Even if matches are on in Australia or the West Indies they stay awake listening to the commentary."

No wonder, when Kapil Dev dropped in to watch the tournament there was mass hysteria. He was mobbed as everyone reached to touch him to find out, as someone said, *"ki kis mitti ka bana hua hai."* (What is he made of?)

Said an overwhelmed Kapil: "The experience of watching these kids play was really unique. It is amazing. Just try playing with your eyes shut. The kids were hitting so well—it was absolutely unbelievable."

RAJINDER GOEL, a man of few words and many, many wickets once said that playing for India had become very "easy". Specially for bowlers. People with not even 10 first-class wickets in their careers have made it, he said, not without a touch of justified bitterness.

While Goel was perhaps obliquely referring to Maninder Singh, many agree with the general drift of his views. There have been many instances of young bowlers slipping into the Indian team on the strength of promise or potential, not performance. Salil Ankola went to Pakistan, we were informed, "because the Manager would look after

your eyes shut..." Kapil Dev

COLORSPORT



Maninder Singh seems to be on the mend

him." Vivek Razdan represented India without playing Ranji. Now Saradindu Mukherjee with only 4 Ranji matches for Bengal and hardly any wickets is already there

Strangely, while the young bowlers make it quickly they do not last the distance And for them staging a comeback becomes doubly difficult. Once dropped the young bowler stays dropped and quietly disappears from the scene

One person in such wilderness is Delhi's, Maninder Singh. Hailed as a teenaged prodigy, the logical heir to Bishen Bedi's artful left arm spin, Maninder arrived arousing huge expectations But things soured He quickly lost his place and his confidence. And now, there appears to be no light at the end of the tunnel.

But why should things foul up for someone so obviously talented as Maninder? There are no clear answers in such things said an observer, but evidently Maninder failed to cope with the relentless scrutiny of international cricket Also, his bowling failed to adjust to the differing demands of one-day and Test cricket Maninder started bowling flat and defensive.

What was worse was his bowling action came unstuck. Experimentation caused loss of rhythm which led to panic and further experimentation. "It was strange," said a team mate," as it looked he had a different action for every session of play. He appeared confused and little went right for him last season."

Fortunately, Maninder is on the mend and seems to have extricated himself from his personal mess. Took 10 wickets in his season's first Ranji game and that was just the *Nasha* he was looking for. He is now more assured and is approaching the rest of the season with more poise.

Said Gurcharan Singh, Maninder's long-time coach, "He is still the best left-arm spinner in the country. His bowling had developed certain flaws but he has worked very hard right through the summer and the problems have been ironed out. I am sure his performances will convince everyone." ●

Evidently, Maninder Singh failed to cope with the relentless scrutiny of international cricket. Also, his bowling failed to adjust to the differing demands of one-day and Test cricket. Maninder started bowling flat and defensive

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK



How easily this picture from the Wills trophy could be misunderstood for 'player arrogance'. But surely there is a better place and a better time to ask for an autograph?

The Indian Hockey Federation managed to go through the formalities of staging the Nationals. The cold and the rain at Jammu were merely supporting actors in the farce. Novy Kapadia reports

ICE HOCKEY

Cedric In The Dumps

A notable absentee at the Jammu Nationals, was the articulate and visionary Bombay coach,Cedric D'Souza. Why was he missing? No easy answers were forthcoming. The hockey fraternity was astonished by his absence. After his success with Bombay in the Gwalior Nationals in 1989, Cedric was billed as a future India coach.

Bombay's talented international inside-forward Edgar Mascarenhas was terse and non-commital. "Cedric did not come for personal reasons." Skipper-cum-coach Joaquim Carvalho said: "No comments." Centre-forward Darryl D'Souza and left-half John Fernadez said: "We missed Cedric's analysis of opponents and clever tactics."

However, the most disparaging remark was by Bombay Hockey Association member and IHF's Chief Technical delegate, P.S. Sujlana. Explaining Cedric's absence, Sujlana said: "Cedric was no coach. Success in 1989 went to his head Bombay won in 1989 due to the clever scheming of Marcellus Gomes. Cedric capitalised on this and made too many demands. So we sacked him as Bombay's coach this year "

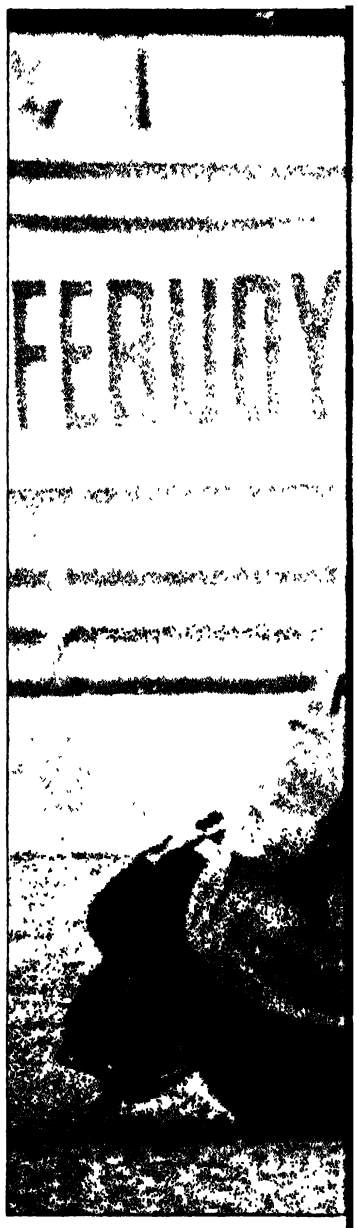
Another view which emerged was that Cedric D'Souza was disgusted that the Nationals were being played on grass and so refused to coach. Reputed as a thinking coach, Cedric must now be aware of Rudyard Kipling's twin impostors,of success and failure.

In 1989, he was hailed as the messiah of Indian hockey Erstwhile SAI officers,BVP Rao and D.K. Chatterjee wanted Cedric to study hockey coaching in West Germany for a year before becoming National coach. Now he is down in the dumps. What is in store for Cedric in 1991?

TO the Indian Hockey Federation (IHF), sponsors are mere trifle. In 1988, it was the Wills national championship at Lucknow and Delhi In 1989, it became the Burton nationals at Delhi and Gwalior This year, it was the Lifebuoy nationals on grass at Jammu The IHF changes sponsors like a fashionable model, discarding yesterday's apparel.

Why can't the IHF maintain a good liason with their sponsors? The answer is obvious The IHF are seemingly unserious about the conduct of the nationals Just about a decade ago, the nationals were the ultimate hockey tournament of the country. The championship lasted at least two weeks.

In 1990, 50 matches of the nationals were played in just seven days 37 league matches were played in a mere three days, at three different venues.



Balwinder Singh of Railways being foiled by Indian Airlines keeper AB Subbiah in the final

Unseasonal rain, led to matches on two days being postponed and the schedule on the first day was also curtailed. This led to a crisis, as Doordarshan's ultimatum for the telecast of the final had to be complied with.

The organisers were in a dilemma. Harrass the players and make them play at times two matches a day or postpone the final and forget about live coverage. Which one was it going to be? The choice was clear. If money was to be obtained from the sponsors, live telecast was essential. Hence the hectic schedule. The Association of Indian Hockey Players (AIHP) grumbled about the exacting schedule. Office-bearers Sujit Kumar and Hardeep Singh (Haryana) talked about issuing an ultimatum. But the hockey players union lacks guts. They have no Gavaskar or Kapil Dev or even Arun Lal to take on the establishment. Railways, Orissa, U.P., Goa, Patiala, Madhya Bharat all played two matches a day without a murmur of protest.

Organising secretary Avtar Singh and assistant Ravinderpal Singh deserve kudos for crisis management. When their venues were waterlogged, they

The IHF as usual are reticent about revealing details about sponsorship. It is believed that Lifebuoy gave Rs 12-15 lakhs as part of their deal with the federation



arranged for two new venues, the BSF grounds and the Gandhinagar Ashram complex. Jammu hosted the nationals for the first time and naturally were keen to make a good impression.

The game would have got a boost if the IHF ensured that the nationals are conducted properly. There should be fewer matches per day. If one centre cannot hold all matches, they can be held at different cities.

At Jammu, the population of about 4 lakhs and the migrants from Kashmir, saw Lifebuoy hoardings and posters at every nook and corner. It looked more like an ad. campaign for Lifebuoy than the hockey nationals. A true case of the tail wagging the dog. The IHF would do well to learn



Pargat Singh intercepts Services outside-left Vijay Kujur in the semi-finals



Umpire Puran Singh warns Punjab's Pardeep Singh (No. 5) while the others look on

management and marketing techniques from private sector firms like Hindustan Lever.

Avtar Singh stressed that the sponsorship deal was between Lifebuoy and IHF and he knew little about the financial implications. The IHF as usual are reticent about revealing details about sponsorship. It is believed that Lifebuoy gave Rs 12-15 lakhs as part of their deal with the federation.

The Jammu and Kashmir Hockey Association had good resources. They had the

The Last Of A Rare Breed?

A refreshing sight at the Jammu Nationals was the adulation that hockey stars received from an appreciative public. Pargat Singh, Jagbir Singh and R.P. Singh got the adulation and applause normally reserved for cricket stars.

The most popular player in Jammu was undoubtedly Pargat Singh. Every time he moved up with the ball, a tumultous roar reverberated around the Maulana Azad stadium. Pargat missed the league phase, as he was on duty for the Asia XI, at the Inter-Continental Cup at Kuala Lumpur.

Success at the Malaysian capital added to Pargat's popularity. When he first played in the quarter-finals vs UP, schoolboys from Jammu thronged the stadium chanting, "Pargat, Pargat." He was cheered everytime he touched the ball. After the final he was besieged by autograph hunters and later had to be rescued by the organisers.

Pleasantly surprised at such admiration, Pargat admitted, "Winning the Inter-Continental Cup as captain of Asia had added to my stature. People called me world champion." Echoing Tony Grieg's famous remark, Pargat also said; "Everybody likes to be treated as a hero, so I am happy that as a hockey player I have got such applause."

R.P. Singh was the second most popular player. The angry young man of Indian hockey, R.P. endeared himself to the fans with his dash and commitment. Critical of staging the Nationals on grass, R.P. candidly said: "The Nationals was a tamasha." However the crowds gasped at R.P.'s dash in penalty corners. It was always a breathtaking sight. Such was his dash, that in all six matches, none of the Railways opponents could take a proper strike at goal off penalty corners.

Using speed to foil penalty corners has become R.P. Singh's forte. He said, "Since the BMW tournament in June nobody has scored a penalty corner against my team. In the BMW tournament, I foiled experts like Bovelander and in the Asian Games I did not let any Pakistani or Malaysian or Korean aim properly at goal. In the Nationals, I did the same for Railways." The weapon of speed has added to RP's repertoire. He is now in the mould of Pakistan's legendary ex-right-winger Islauhuddin, who foiled ten penalty corner attempts by India's Mukhbain Singh in the 1972 Munich Olympics by sheer speed off the mark.



The jubilant Railways players with the Rangaswamy Cup - the symbol of hockey supremacy

support of the State government. The Director of Youth Welfare and Sports, Mr. Nasir Ahmed Khan, revealed that they had paid Rs 1.85 lakhs to the organisers. The IHF terms for participants is not extraordinary. Players are paid Rs. 50 per head per day and given first class train fare. So with the money collected, staging a slick nationals should not be difficult. But does the IHF have the will to do the same? That is the question.

THE Jammu nationals did not reveal any extraordinary talent.

But there were many new umpires on display. With eight veteran umpires suspended, it was as international A.S. Bawa said, "a great opportunity for younger umpires." At the Jammu nationals, there were no international grade umpires, Kuku Walia, T.S. Bhullar, R.S. Sodhi and Satinder Walia are all suspended. Some were suspended for very petty reasons. Kuku Walia, who supervised the 1987-89 finals, for a dispute about television commentary and Bhullar for organising a local tournament at Jalandhar. In both cases, it was not connected with supervision and the IHF could have resolved the case if they were serious about the proper conducting of the nationals.

Instead of blending new umpires with senior umpires, the IHF opted entirely for the new brigade. Hence decisions were often inconsistent and erratic. In the tense Indian Airlines vs Punjab semi-final, umpire Puran Singh, a former Western Railway player, was lax about abusive language. Punjab's burly full back Ravinder Singh uttered reviling abuse as he questioned the umpire's decision The abuse could be heard in the stands, but Puran merely verbally cautioned the player instead of showing him the green or yellow card. For similar incidents, Bombay's skipper-cum-coach ex-Olympian Joaquim Carvalho and current international John Fernandez were shown yellow cards in the opening minutes of their



Tight security at the Maulana Azad stadium.

Why The Dearth Of Goals

THE statistics compiled by K.N. Dubey, joint secretary of the Madhya Bharat Hockey Association and technical delegate of the IHF, amply reveal the paucity of talent and goals at the recent 54th Lifebuoy National Hockey Championships at Jammu. Dubey's statistics show that in all 187 goals were scored in 50 matches. Of this tally, 108 were field goals, 61 from penalty-corners and 18 from penalty strokes. Punjab's centre-forward Olympian Gundeep Kumar emerged as the top-scorer with six goals in six matches. He scored the only hat-trick of the tournament, when Punjab trounced Himachal Pradesh 6-0 in a Pool E league match.

Bengal's centre-forward Abdul Hakeem and inside-right Davinder Singh scored four goals each in a match but they weren't hat-tricks. They achieved this feat in Bengal's resounding 12-1 win over Assam in their opening Pool G match. Incidentally, this was the highest victory margin of the championship. Hakeem finished as the second highest top-scorer with five goals from four matches. Davinder and Punjab's left-winger Ram Saran scored four goals each. However, Davinder's goals came from only one match. He played three matches in all. Ram Saran scored four goals in six matches.

M.P. Singh, James Kerketta, Balwinder Singh and U.P.'s inside-left Mohammed Nasir scored three goals each. Besides Bengal, the only other team to win by a double figure margin were champions Indian Railways. They beat Vidarbha 10-1 in a Pool A league match.

The tally of the 187 goals was at least 75 less than the 1989 Gwalior Nationals. Two major reasons were cited for this paucity of goals. Indian Airlines manager Misbah-ul-Hassan said: "Except for five matches on the first day, all league matches were reduced to sixty minutes. This made it easier for weaker teams to defend. Stronger teams had lesser time to score goals."

Another major factor were the grass pitches. Whilst the grass pitches at the Maulana Azad stadium and University ground were satisfactory, the grounds at the Gandhi Nagar complex and the BSF grounds were bumpy. Bombay's skipper, ex-Olympian Joaquim Carvalho said: "On uneven grounds trapping was difficult. This led to erratic hockey and fewer goals."

Punjab's coach, 1980 and 1984 Olympian Charanjit Kumar explained the hazards of playing on grass. "If we had played on astro-truf, we would have won all our three Pool E matches by eight to twelve goals.Instead a weak team like Rajasthan held us goalless till half-time, before losing 0-3. Our speedy forwards could not function effectively on grass. It was easier for defences to stop forwards on grass pitches. Thus fewer goals were scored at the Jammu Nationals."

Dubey also revealed that 89 green and nine yellow cards were shown in the entire championships. Two players, Tanvir Jamal of Madhya Bharat and Victor Moses of Andhra Pradesh were shown the red card for abusive language. Interestingly, both the 1989 and 1990 Nationals were decided on the tie-breaker. However last year, Bombay even won their semi-final via the tie-breaker. In the 1989 final tie-breaker, Bombay's custodian Mark Patterson saved twice. However in the 1990 final, neither Airlines nor the Railways custodian saved a single scoop. Railways scored with all five attempts.

quarter-final vs Services, by umpire W.A. Roman of Madhya Bharat. No wonder ex-Olympian full back Vineet Kumar (IA) said, "umpiring at the nationals was very inconsistent and at times very weak, so the players always tried to pressurise them."

Shakeel Qureishi (Bhopal) and Harbans Singh (Patiala) supervised the final. It was their first national final. Both were competent but slightly theatrical and tentative. In the second half, Harbans made a major faus pax. He showed the yellow card to Railway's right half Nirmal Singh for striking IA's left winger Atif Idris on the knee. Actually the popular Pargat Singh had struck the blow. Either Harbans was overawed by Pargat's reputation and so dismissed Nirmal as compensation or it was an error of judgement. In either case such decisions mar an umpire's reputation.

Chief technical delegate P.S. Sujlana had bricfed the assembled umpires on the interpretation of rules but consistency was lacking when decisions were made. Punjab's coach, the 1980 and 1984 Olympian, Charanjit Kumar rightly said, "inconsistent umpiring is also a cause of deteriorating standards." Thus it is obvious the IHF needs to do a lot of re-thinking, if the nationals are not to become in R.P. Singh's words "a tamasha." ●

SARDA PLYWOOD TENNIS MASTERS

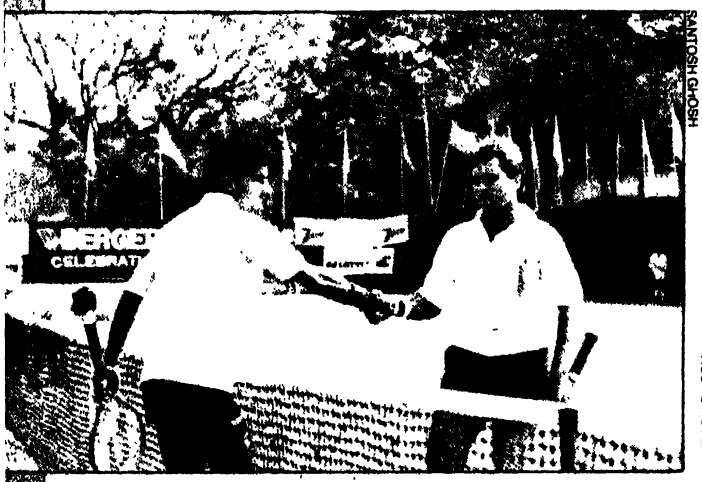
Cool Breeze,

WINTER in Calcutta, close enough to heaven to earth. An exaggerration? Not, if you were at the Dakshin Kalikata (DKS) last week.

Soft sunshine, cool breeze, hot coffee, tennis.

Absolutely delicious.

And everyone was happy. Well almost.



SANTOSH GHOSH



SANTOSH GHOSH

Leander Paes was. You know that fresh faced kid with the Satanic volleys. Came back victorious from Australia on Sunday, played three matches on Monday, and did his usual snatching-victory-from-the-jaws-of-defeat act. Or to put in better perspective, 'Chuby' Narendranath, his opponent, did a snatching-defeat-from-the-jaws-of-victory act.

Chubby had Leander down 6-3, 4-2 and let him go. Paes eventually won 3-6, 6-4, 6-1, but like in the final, when he dropped the first set to Piperno, must learn that it is better to be efficient than theatrical—read that as dominating the match from the beginning,rather than being forced into situations of pressure. Yet,jetlag or not, the kid wins and so there's little to complain about. His baseline patience was indicating of a new maturity, and one scorching back hand down-the-line pass that left the smell of cordite behind had us wondering what he eats for lunch. Gunpowder?

Janaki Krishnamurthy was happy too. Chubby-cheeked and bouncy, she has a charmingly relaxed style of play which makes you wonder whether even on court she's lost in the Mills & Boon romances that she reads. She had Aradhnana Reddy by the throat, let her go, but showed fine courage to come back and throttle her 6-2, 3-6, 6-3. Reddy was flat, with too many errors, and totally destroyed by the effrontery of Krishnamurthy's repeated drop shots.

Pretty thrilled also was Sandeep Kirtane, on his admirable progress to the semi-finals. For one so slight, he generates impressive pace with his whippy groundstrokes. And when he combined that with a calm self-assurance, he became too hot to handle for K.G. Ramesh and Gaurav Natekar, But Kirtane lost some nerve against the net-rushing Paes, trying to do to much with his returns, littering the court with so many needless unforced errors that it resembled a mini garbage dump. An interesting talent, but at 17 he must move fast.

Enrico Piperno sported a wry smile too—he played some fine tennis, his best for some time, to take the first set from Paes in the final, but on court at least the student dictates the moves. If Piperno has the guile of a fox, his ward has the instincts of a hunter—their battles therefore are a refreshing blend of intellect and muscle.

The winter good-cheer nosedived when Zeeshan Ali forfeited his semi final against Enrico Piperno

The winter good-cheer nose dived, but only momentarily, when Zeeshan Ali, forfeited his semi final against Piperno citing a recurring injury. The

Hot Tennis



SANTOSH GHOSH

Leander Paes won. You know, that fresh faced kid with the Satanic volleys

Masters was Ali's return to competitive play after weeks of injury, and all looked well as he stroked fluently to victory in his first two matches. Then his back went, in the places rendering all expecations of a duel with Paes—who is better, is the question that remains unanswered for all.

If there was a further dampner in the broader perspective, it was the absence of a bright new shinging talent—nothing to invigorate the senses. Saurav Panja, now at Nandan Bal's academy at Pune, who won the junior round-robin event, is touted as the next potential champion. Hopefully, he will not get bogged down in the marshes of satisfied mediocrity that befalls most Indian sportsmen.

DKS deserve much credit for a slick and tastefully organised tournament, as does Sarda Plywood for their continued financial inputs. This year in fact, by offering Rs 36,000 to the men's champion, it became the country's highest prize money tournament.

Rohit Brijnath

Time For Change

THOUGH it was heartening to see Azhar winning his first Test as a captain by a convincing margin, Kapil coming back to form, and Venkatpathy Raju proving himself to be a good spinner, it was shocking to see the attitude of the crowd towards Ravi Shastri. It was very unsupportive on the part of the crowd there to chant 'Hai Hai Shastri' every time something happened on the field. They seem to have forgotten that he is back in the team on the basis of his superlative performances in domestic cricket and in England. His authoritative 88 in the 1st innings against Lanka was a treat to watch. He is a cricketer who has proved that grit and perseverence pays.
RAJIB MISRA,
Sambalpur.

Congratulations!

IT was a proud and thrilling moment for us Indians when Kapil Dev claimed his 376th wicket to cross Ian Botham's record. Now only the record of Richard Hadlee remains before he becomes the best. Kapil has got back his wicket-capturing ability, and this has got his confidence back. He can now go all out to prove his critics wrong.
SRINIVAS NYAPATHY,
Rajahmundry.

A Dream Come True

NEW ZEALAND's annihilation in the series against the Pakistanis confirmed what Imran Khan had said about the Kiwis before the series. Even though New Zealand's manager had demanded disciplinary action against the Khan, in the end it was fruitless because Imran had the last laugh.

However Imran Khan's prejudice at considering his opponents matchless before the series did not fit a man of his stature.
S. HUSSAIN,
Dibrugarh.

All The Best

CONGRATULATIONS to Azhar and his men for giving us our first Test victory after 14 Tests. The convincing margin by which we won has once again given us faith in the Indian team. Kapil Dev also reached a personal landmark when he become the 2nd highest wicket-taker in the world. Hope his dreams of becoming the highest wicket-taker in the world also come true soon. All the best to Kapil Dev and to the Indian team for the forthcoming tournaments.
SUBRAT SAMAL,
Burla.

Shot In the Arm

VOICES in the issue dated 28th Nov-4th Dec revealed Gavaskar's care for his former colleague Kapil Dev when he said that Kapil had not got his due Kapil's involvement in the game is an object lesson to youngesters. There is no doubt that Kapil came, saw and conquered the cricketing world with his belligerent approach. His recent achievement of equalling Botham's record is a shot in the arm for the seniormost Indian cricketer
C.K. SUBRAMANIAM,
Madras.

Out With It

IN the modern world where war is 'impasse' and peace is 'avant garde' somehow the brutal sport of boxing cannot be cherished by genuine sportslovers. While we advocate less violence on the field in soccer, hockey and other sports, how can we let a man (so called boxer or pugilist) brutally attacking another man, be called a sport? While amateur boxing is somewhat moderate in brutality, professional boxing is not. If boxing can be supported then maybe we should also bring back the ancient Roman sport of man fighting animals in a coliseum. Boxing, with its adverse effect on boxers and watchers, should be banned as it no way fits in the world where culture, civilization and sophistication are in vogue.
S.SURESH,
Madurai



Learning From The Germans

Former international Shabbir Ali went to Stuttgart (Germany) for a course and came back home with a Trainer's Licence

I had the rare opportunity of attending a six-week course for Coaches in Training at a sports-schule (sports school) at Ruit (near Stuttgart) Conducted by the Deutshen Fussball Bund (DFB), the programme culminated after an examination, each successful candidate being awarded a Trainer Licence by the DFB. And of course I was thrilled to be a recipient of the licence.

But before obtaining the licence I had to undertake a two-day course on first-aid and the rules of the game. If all goes fine, the referees' association will certify that I am conversant with the Rule Book. In fact, it was while getting the Trainer Licence that I understood why Germany is such a force in world soccer.

How is the course conducted? Throughout the day we are given theoritical and practice lessons and then shown videos. Everything being done professionally and in all seriousness. The coaches had also arranged for me to witness the training sessions and matches of the Stuttgart Bundesliga team (one name in the team was a familiar one: G. Buchwald, a member of the World Cup winning German team and Basualdo, a member of the Argentine team who had played along with Maradona in midfield).

Weekends didn't go to waste either. In the company of referee Abser Sattar, I had the pleasure of seeing league matches of different divisions in and around Heilbronn and Stuttgart. What was unique was that even teams in remote places have a sports hall, football hall, restaurant, gym.

The whole football system in Germany is structured in a manner where all teams are responsible for developing talent. That is, all the teams must have their own age-group (which also participates in the age-group league) of 6-8, 8-10, 10-12, 12-14, 14-16 and 16-18 years. This system helps in overall growth. It is cumpulsory to have these age-group teams and those who shirk are often fined by the association.

But one good thing about this system—and the reason for its success—is that all the teams have sponsors. With all players above 18 years of age able to play in the Bundesliga, I had the opportunity to watch some Bundesliga matches, Bundespokal (Bundes Cup) and youth matches. The standard at each level was unbelievably high, with Fairplay encouraged right from the beginning.



The author with Sammer (left), who played for the DDR 22 times, and Buchwald, one of the stalwarts of the West German team that won the World Cup 1990

The Bundesliga also attracts players from Africa and other continents. As a result of this exposure, Africa's soccer standard has gone up. FIFA, just the other day, even agreeing to a third team for future World Cup finals. Even teams from the Gulf regions go through camps in Germany. I sincerely believe this kind of continuous international exposure especially to nations having a very high standard, can help in improving the standard of weaker nations.

Referees meet once a month. An instructor (expert) from the Association takes the class by explaining in detail the proceedings on video and slides. There being three centres in Wurttemberg, Absar Sattar and I had the pleasure of attending one such class.

In Germany, each team has to register a referee (not in age group). If they don't they are fined. The referee of one district/province officiates match of another district/province. The posting of the referee is done 15-20 days in advance, while in the Bundesliga it is just 2-3 days before the matches.

I feel we can take a few tips too. ●



The Maharashtra team were the Inter-State Squash champions

CALCUTTA

Inter-State Squash

JAHANGIR PANDOLE did the star turn for Maharashtra in the final of the inter-state squash championship which concluded at the Calcutta Rackets Club recently. After old warhorse Raj Manchanda and Sandeep Singh gave Services a two-nil lead, Pandole checked the slide with a resounding 9-5, 9-7, 9-2 victory over Rajdeep Brar in the third match.

It was then left to national champion Adrian Ezra and former national title holder Meherwan Daruwala to beat Arjan Singh and Ravinder Malik, respectively, and win the championship for Maharashtra.

The Pandole versus Brar match turned out to be the main attraction of the final. The Rackets Club reverberated to the defeaning roar of the motley audience who had turned up to witness the final day's proceedings.

Every good point in the Brar-Pandole tie was lustily cheered. Pandole won the first game in 18 minutes, and ran up a good 6-1 lead in the second before Brar pulled up his socks to draw level at 7-7. But the Bombay lad produced two splendid winners to wrap up the game. The third game was just a cakewalk for Pandole, the 9-2 scoreline being enough evidence

Earlier on, Sandeep Singh drew first blood for Services needing just over half an hour to send a rash-stroking Rishad Pandole crashing to a 5-9, 0-9 and 6-9 defeat.

It was former champion Manchanda's turn next to outwit Darius Surti of Maharashtra. The ageing Services player was all grace as he disguised the drops well and the lobs simply had Surti out of place. For Manchanda, it was victory in 33 minutes

But coming to classic squash, it was undoubtedly the Adrian Ezra and Arjan Singh tie that delighted with some fine strokes. Adrian needed just six minutes to wrap up the first game 9-1. But the national champion lost his concentration in the second and Arjan fought back with a 10-8 win.

But Adrian would have nothing of that as he took the next two games at 9-3 and 9-5.

It was pretty easy for Daruwala against Malik. The gangling Daruwala despatched Malik 9-2, 9-5, 9-3 in about 28 minutes, to give Maharashtra the Sam Maneckshaw Trophy.

A Correspondent

Eastern India Equestrian

MAN and beast worked tandem at the Classic Eastern India equestrian championship which was held at the Tollygunge Club course recently.

The championships, which bring together some of the country's best riders as well as the novices, threw up some sparkling performances and some nailbiting finishes.

The Open jumping was one of the closest events on the final day. Jibraj Singh on Top Flite had to go for a jump-off to snatch the title away from West Bengal Police's Joginder Singh on Battleaxe in the event.

A.S. Grewal won the best performer rider's award astride Starling.

Soumitra Bose

TRIVANDRUM

National Junior Handball

THERE was mixed luck for Kerala in the 13th edition of the National Junior Handball Championship. In the final, played at the Jimmy George Indoor Stadium, the Kerala girls dethroned Punjab while the boys team went down fighting to Jammu-Kashmir.

Last year's runner-up Jammu-Kashmir had to sweat hard for victory (18-13) in the boy's final against Kerala. They led 7-6 at the break, but soon the hosts levelled the score and went on to lead 11-9. At this stage, the game was interrupted for 15 minutes due to a power failure. When the game re-started, Jammu-Kashmir was altogether a different side scoring goals at will.

Dheeraj Nagpal (6 goals) and Suvinder Dagra excelled for the champions. Kerala's A. Banerjee netted 4 goals.

Earlier in the boys semi-finals, the eventual champions overcame stiff opposition from Punjab, 19-17, while Kerala upset holders Andhra Pradesh 24-22 (10-10 HT).

Kerala, who were clearly the superior side, outscored holders Punjab 17-14 to claim the girls crown. The winners were leading 10-6 at half time. In the second session, Punjab fought back and reduced the margin to 13-14, but were unable to keep up the tempo. Kerala's Usha Nandini (8 goals) and aptain Sheeba Mathew were in excellent form. For Punjab, Gurpeet Kaur scored 7 goals

The Kerala girls team were the winners of the junior handball national championships

In the girls semi-final, Kerala sneaked past Manipur 12-11 (8-4 HT) while Punjab defeated Maharashtra 15-10.

About 600 players representing various States and Union Territories took part in the championship which lasted a week. K. Pankajakshan, State Labour Minister distributed the prizes.

Anataly Karpov Chess

NR ANILKUMAR of Thrisoor retained his title in the XIV All Kerala Anatoly Chess tournament held at the House of Soviet Culture.

In the eighth and final round, N.R Anilkumar defeated state junior champion Jyothilal of Trivandrum. But he was tied with former state champion Abdul Majeed (Calicut) and O.T. Anilkumar (Calicut) at 6½ pts. On better progressive score, N.R.

M BALAN





N.R. Anil Kumar: winner of the Karpov chess tournament

Anilkumar emerged the champion. All of them shared the cash prize equally.

District Collector Nalini Netto gave away the prizes.

Sajeev Kumar T.K.

BOMBAY

Gulf Autocross



Kaizad Patel was the winner in the Open Class motorcycle event organised by Sportscraft. In the car's event, Pradeep Nair was the winner.



Agam Vasani, the individual champion in the state aquatics championships, receiving the award from Mr Vijaya Raghavan, President, Karnataka Swimming Association

MANGALORE

State Aquatics

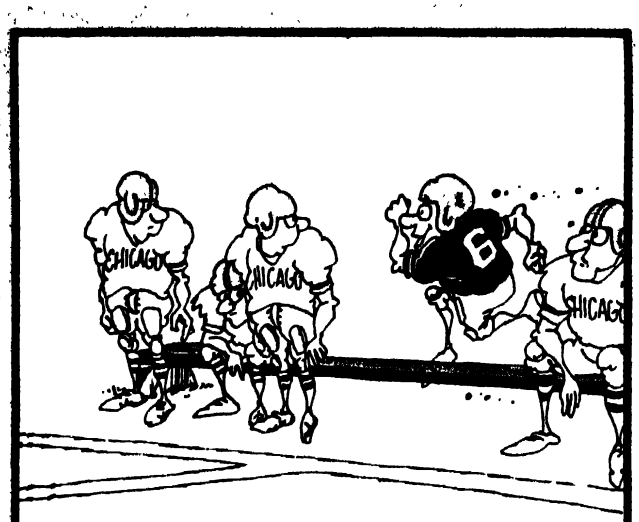
THE Karnataka state level junior and sub-junior aquatic championships was held at the Corporation Swimming pool in Mangalore recently. As many as three hundred swimmers in five group categories participated in over 90 events conducted by Mangalore Aquatic Club under the auspices of the Karnataka Swimming Association.

V.T. Anasuya of Aqua Marine Swimming Club, Bangalore and Agam Vasani of Mangalore Aquatic Club emerged individual champions in Group I with a tally of 84 and 77 points and a gold medal tally of 12 and 11 respectively.

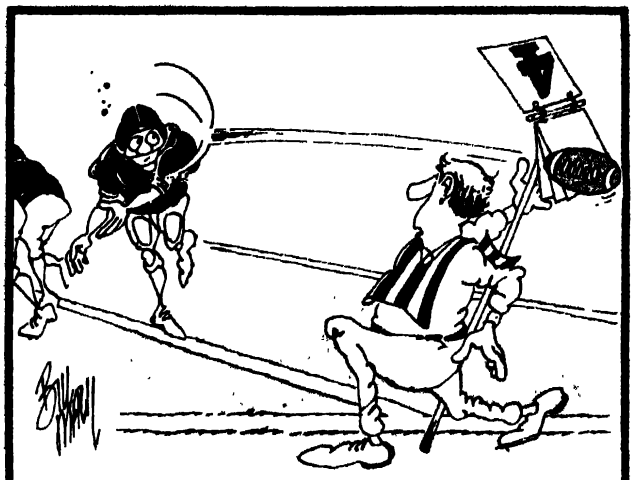
Basavanagudi Aquatic Club with a tally of 683 points were overall champions followed by Aqua Marine Club with 655 points.

Michael R. Patrao

SPORTS HALL OF SHAME — BY NASH & ZULLO



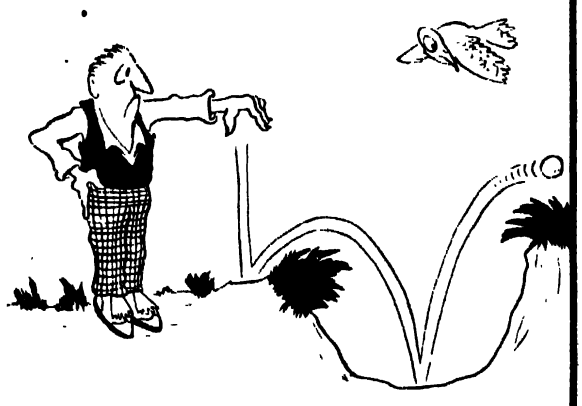
AL EXENDINE, A GREAT RECEIVER FOR CARLISLE INDIAN SCHOOL, RAN ONE OF THE SNEAKIEST PASS ROUTES IN FOOTBALL HISTORY DURING A 1907 GAME AGAINST THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO. THE DOUBLE-TEAMED RIGHT END RAN OUT OF BOUNDS, STREAKED DOWN THE SIDELINES BEHIND THE CHICAGO BENCH, AND THEN SHOWED UP IN THE END ZONE WHERE HIS QUARTERBACK FOUND HIM FOR A 50-YARD TD STRIKE!



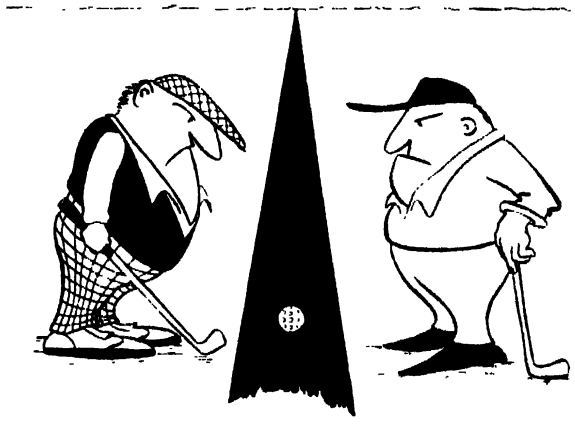
QUARTERBACK **KENNY STABLER** HAD SOME GREAT MOMENTS OF GLORY DURING HIS NFL CAREER. BUT THE "SNAKE" WOULD LIKE TO FORGET ONE NOT-SO-GLORIOUS MOMENT HE HAD WHEN HE PLAYED FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA. IN A 1965 GAME AGAINST TENNESSEE, THE CLUTCH QB HAD SCRAMBLED INTO FIELD GOAL RANGE WITH JUST SECONDS TO GO AND THE SCORE KNOTTED AT 7-7. KNOWING HE HAD NO TIMEOUTS LEFT, STABLER QUICKLY THREW THE BALL OUT OF BOUNDS ON THE NEXT PLAY TO STOP THE CLOCK— BUT IT WAS FOURTH DOWN! THE GAME ENDED IN A TIE.

THE FUNNY SIDE OF GOLF

RULE 20-2 · DROPPING AND RE-DROPPING.
A DROPPED BALL SHALL BE RE-DROPPED WITHOUT PENALTY IF IT ROLLS OUT OF A HAZARD



SECTION II · DEFINITIONS OUT OF BOUNDS:
WHEN OUT OF BOUNDS IS DEFINED BY A LINE ON THE GROUND, THE LINE ITSELF IS OUT OF BOUNDS



When The Going Gets Tough....

"PHEW, the year just whizzed past, and I did precious little, "Did you tell yourself this on the last day of the year? Well you are not the only one, that's for sure. The reasons for your saying this are the facts that your bank balance does not have a substantial amount on the credit side and in office you are still hanging on to the same rung that you've hung on for the past couple of years. To top it all you've done nothing outstanding to catch the eye of your boss (and a promotion).



A resolution you make for the coming year is that you are going to slog it out and show the world what you're really capable of.

Okay fellas, here's to your promotion and may all your financial dreams come true. Hey, but just a minute. Have you thought of the stress factors that you are going to encounter? Have you thought of the increasing pressure at work and home that you've got to deal with?

Given below are some tips and some 'practical' stress solution.

1. **Blow It Out:** During periods of big-time stress, try breathing through your nose and comfortably expanding first your abdomen and then your rib-cage. At the same time tell yourself to relax. Breathe out again through your nose. It'll take only a few seconds to feel the difference.

2. **Loosen Those Muscles:** Got three minutes? Okay, let's get down to it. a) Sit and close your eyes. b) Inhale and hold your breath for about 6 seconds while tensing as many muscles as you

can. c) Exhale with a 'whoosh' and just let your body go limp. Then breathe rythmically for half a minute, d) Repeat twice.

3. **Laugh It Off:** It's always better to laugh at life and it's intricacies Research has shown that laughing prompts the brain to release endorphines, the body's natural pain relievers.

4. **Heading For The Loo?** You have read about the tranquilising effects of a hot bath, but you've never had the time. This time do it, 'cos hot water baths are the oldest known tranquilisers. Spend 15 minutes in the tub, or under the shower, sing your favourite song and then given yourself a real good scrubbing At the end of it you'll be glowing with life once again.

5. **Don't Reach Out For The Drink:** Immediately after you return home, don't head for the liquor cabinet. Try a glass of chilled fruit juice instead. Follow it up with 10 minutes of absolute quiet with your eyes closed and let your mind go blank. Explain to those you live with . that you need this time to acclimatise yourself, and then you would re-enter the world to deal with those leaking pipes, shooting prices and of course those overdue bills.

6. **Walk It Off:** Once in a day take a brisk walk for about ten minutes. You cannot feel more better. You feel your energy flowing back and you'll be surprised to find that you have left your



worries at some turn of the road.

7. **Talk It Out:** Not with your boss but with yourself. It's not a sign that you are crazy, but could prevent you from ending up that way. A private dialogue with your ego is a helpful way to calm those nerves. At the end of it, you might stumble upon the solution that has eluded you for so long.

8. **Head For The Gym:** Regular exercise is probably the single most efficient way to throw off tension. The more stressed you are the more mellow you will feel after your exercise.

9. **Don't Awfulise:** If you think that your son's spilling his soft drink on the car seat is a major disaster, picture yourself in Kuwait during the war. And strike off phrases like 'Oh, what a disaster' from your vocabulary. You've got to live with the mess anyway, so might as well start wiping it off.

10. **Boogie Woogie To The Music:** Music helps you loosen those taut nerves that you feel would snap any moment. Tap to your favourite numbers and cool your heels.

So folks when you work your way up the corporate ladder, these time proven remedies could prevent you from turning into a zombie.

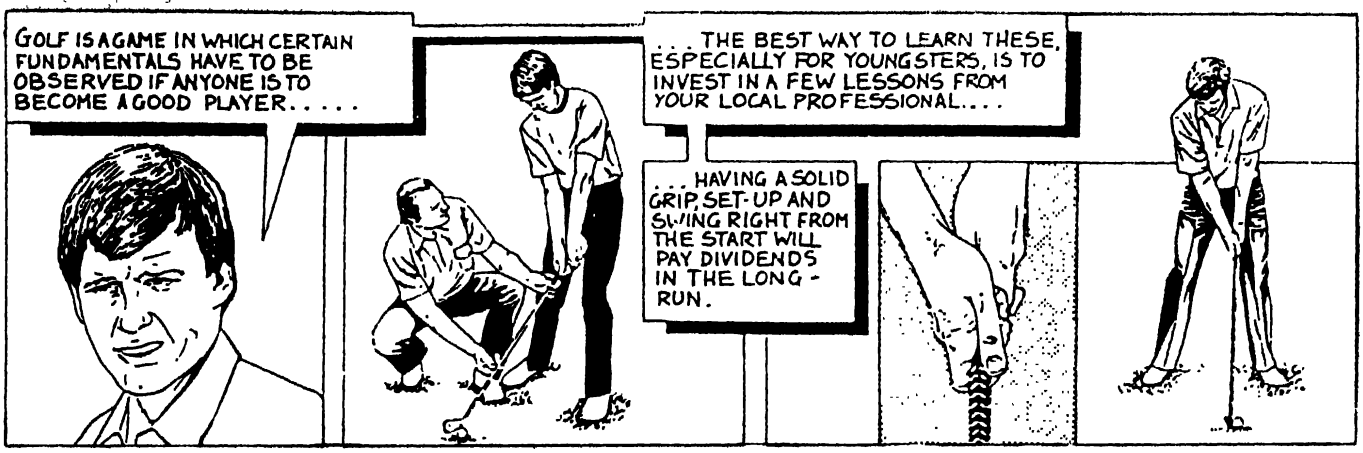
Remember, when the going gets tough, the tough get going.

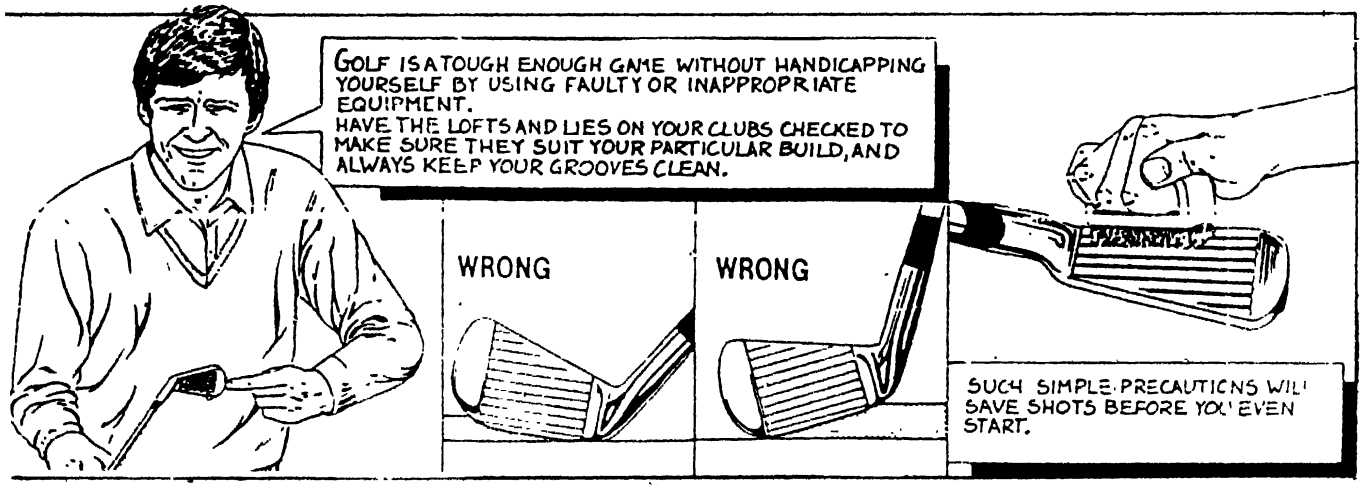
FALDO

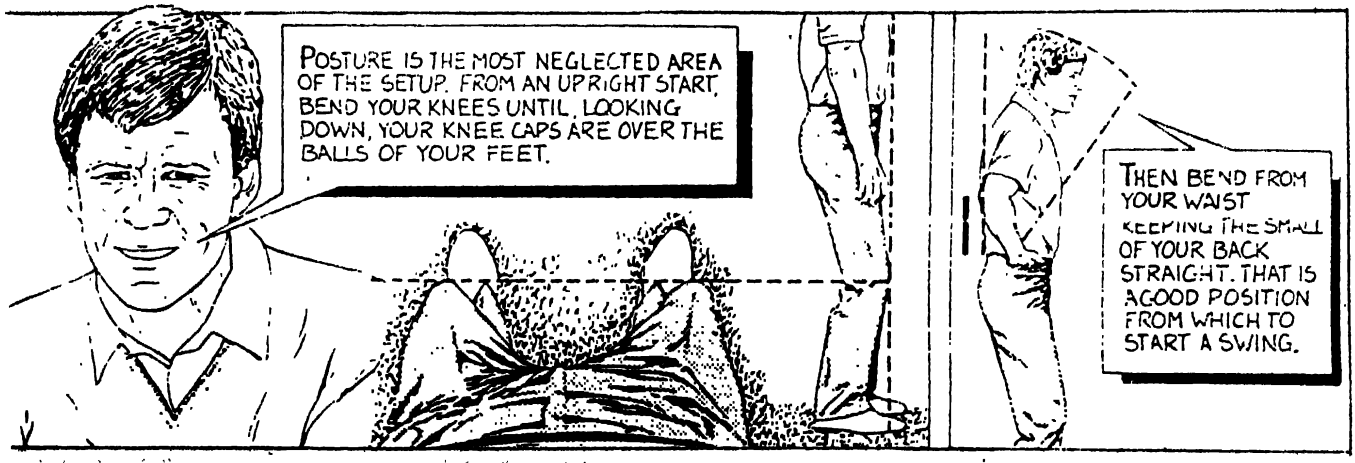
Beginning this week, we will carry golf lessons by the No. 1 golfer in the world, Nick Faldo



Early Lessons







QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Who captained Australia in the first ever one-day international cricket match at Melbourne in January 1971?
2. Who was the first player to exceed 2500 runs in one-day internationals without scoring a century?
3. Everton Weekes scored centuries in five consecutive Test matches and narrowly missed the sixth. For how many runs was he out in that match?
4. What does the abbreviation "A.C.B.L." stand for?

ANSWERS

1. Bill Lawry.
2. Sunil Gavaskar.
3. He was run out for 90 in the sixth.
4. American Contract Bridge League

CHESS

Another old favourite this week. Steinitz the first world champion had a very difficult style. He passionately believed in the value of defence. Often he would take hot pawns and painfully defend himself just to prove his principles.

He was also a magnificent attacking player when he let his heart rule his head. First nicknamed the "Austrian Morphy" because of his fluid easy attacks he mainly used his tactical ability to frustrate the opposition. His best effort came at the end of a career and lifetime dedicated to preaching that the king did not demand undivided attention.

White: Steinitz Vs Black: Von Bardeleben Hastings 1895. **1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bc4 Bc5 4 c3 Nf6 5 d4 ed4 6 cd4 Bb4+ 7 Nc3 d5?** The Moller Attack in the Italian Game. Black should go?-Nxe4 with a unclear mess.

8 ed5 N×d5 9 0-0 Be6 10 Bg5 Be7 11 B×d5 B×d5 12 N×d5 Q×d5 13 B×e7 N×e7 14Re1 f6 15 Qe2 Qd7 16 Rac1. White has gained a clear initiative by forcing the black king to stay in the centre. He could continue with 16 Qe4 and trebling on the king file. Now 16-Kf7 should eqalise.

16-c6 17 d5! cd5 18 Nd4 Kf7 19 Ne6 Rhc8. The white knight is like a bone stuck in black's throat. Black tries to ease the pressure by exploiting the bank rank motif.

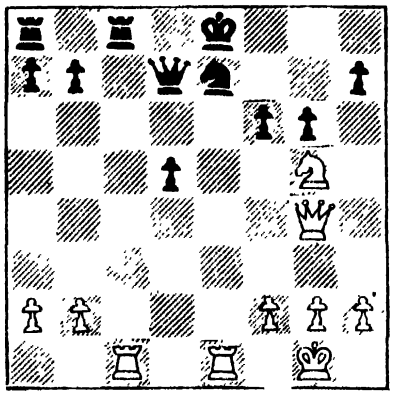
20 Qg4 g6 21 Ng5+ Ke8 (see Diagram) the combination that follows is dictated by the compelling need each player has to capture with check.

22 R×e7+!! Kf8. White now has a forced win. His task would be easier if black threw in the towel with 22-Q×e7 allowing 23 R×c8+. Also 22-K×e7 23 Re1+ Kd6 24 Qb4+ Kc7 (24-Rc5 26Re6+ wins) 25 Ne6+ Kb8 26 Qf4+ Rc7 27 N×c7 Q×c7 28 Re8 met is not very difficult by comparison.

23 Rg7+ Kg8 24 Rg7+! Kh8. Obviously 24-Kf8 25 Nh7+ loses the queen with check. **25 Rh7+ Kg8 26 Rg7 Kh8.** Here black resigned and Steinitz demonstrated the mate to the stunned spectators.

27 Qh4+ K×q7 28Qh7+ Kf8 29 Qh8+ Ke7 30 Qg7+ Ke8 31 Qg6+ Ke7 32 Qf7+ Kd8 33 Qf8+ Qe8 34 Nf7+ Kd7 35 Qd6. a very long forcing sequence, that white would have to see on his 20th move.

Devangshu Dutta



BRIDGE

Who is the best player in the world today? This would bring forth at least ten different names from the top hundred journalists. However, they would be unanimous that the most promising, if that word can be used for him any longer, player is Britain's Andy Robson, who is in his mid-twenties. After winning the world junior title a couple of years ago, he struck up a partnership with Tony Forrestor. Winning two prestigious international Pairs events, the Sunday Times and the Staten Bank, earlier this year in star-studded fields. On this hand from the Staten Bank event he had to cross swords with Brazil's Gabriel Chagas and Marcelo Branco who won the World Open Pairs at Geneva later in the year:-

NORTH(dummy)
♠ A 10 6 2
♡ -
◇ K 8 4 3
♣ A 9 8 7 3

WEST
♠ 8
♡ Q 8 7 5
◇ A Q J 10 9 6 2
♣ J

EAST
♠ K Q J 9 7 4
♡ J 10
◇ 5
♣ Q 10 4 2

SOUTH
♠ 5 3
♡ A K 9 6 4 3 2
◇ 7
♣ K 6 5

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Chagas	Forrestor	Branco	Robson
4◇	Pass	Pass	4♡
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Robson, South, won the opening spade lead, crossed to hand in clubs and played three rounds of trumps, winning the third round, Chagas, West, cashed his other trump winner and was at the cross-roads. Having no black card left, he could see that he had to develop a diamond winner for dummy but the problem was that if he cashed the diamond ace before playing back another, he would be rectifying the count for a squeeze on his poor partner in the black suits when declarer runs his trumps. So, Chagas made the brilliant return of the diamond queen without cashing the ace! This gave away his diamond winner but seemingly gives his partner two tricks in the black suite for no squeeze works as the count had not been rectified. But reasoning along the same lines as Chagas, Robson, on winning the diamond king, found an equally brill ant counter.....he immediately ducked a diamond to West, ditching a club from hand, thereby rectifying the count. Ruffing the next diamond, he simply ran his trumps to catch East in the black suit squeeze after all!

Shantanu Ghosh

KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND

THIS week we are breaking away from the regular instructional mode to profile a very talented youngster. Saibal Chatterjee—Bappa to his friends—earned the rare honour of becoming India's only Junior Black Belt in Kyokushinkaikan Karate early this year.

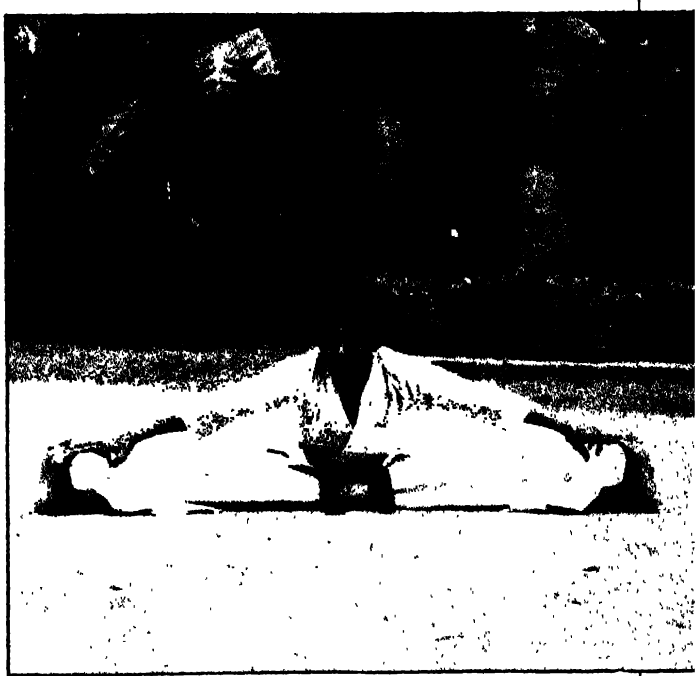
Barely 13 when he made the grade, Saibal has been devoted to the sport ever since he was six. And now, when compared to full-fledged black belts (senior), lacks only the power and fighting instinct. His technique and the application of combinations is almost on par. Since students are only allowed to start *kumite* (sparring) after the age of 15, the power can be developed later while the fighting instincts will come automatically with experience.

Watch out for this youngster!

The 3rd All India Full Contact Karate Tournament for the Oyama Cup will be held on 19/1/91 at the Netaji Indoor Stadium, Calcutta. With two categories—below 61 and open—being contested, 14 States have already confirmed their participation, with more expected to confirm. Also expected are the Grand Master of Kyokushinkaikan karate, Mas Oyama and the Japan team which will perform demonstrations.



Considering his tender age, Saibal only uses his heel for breaking techniques



Diligent training is Saibal's forte

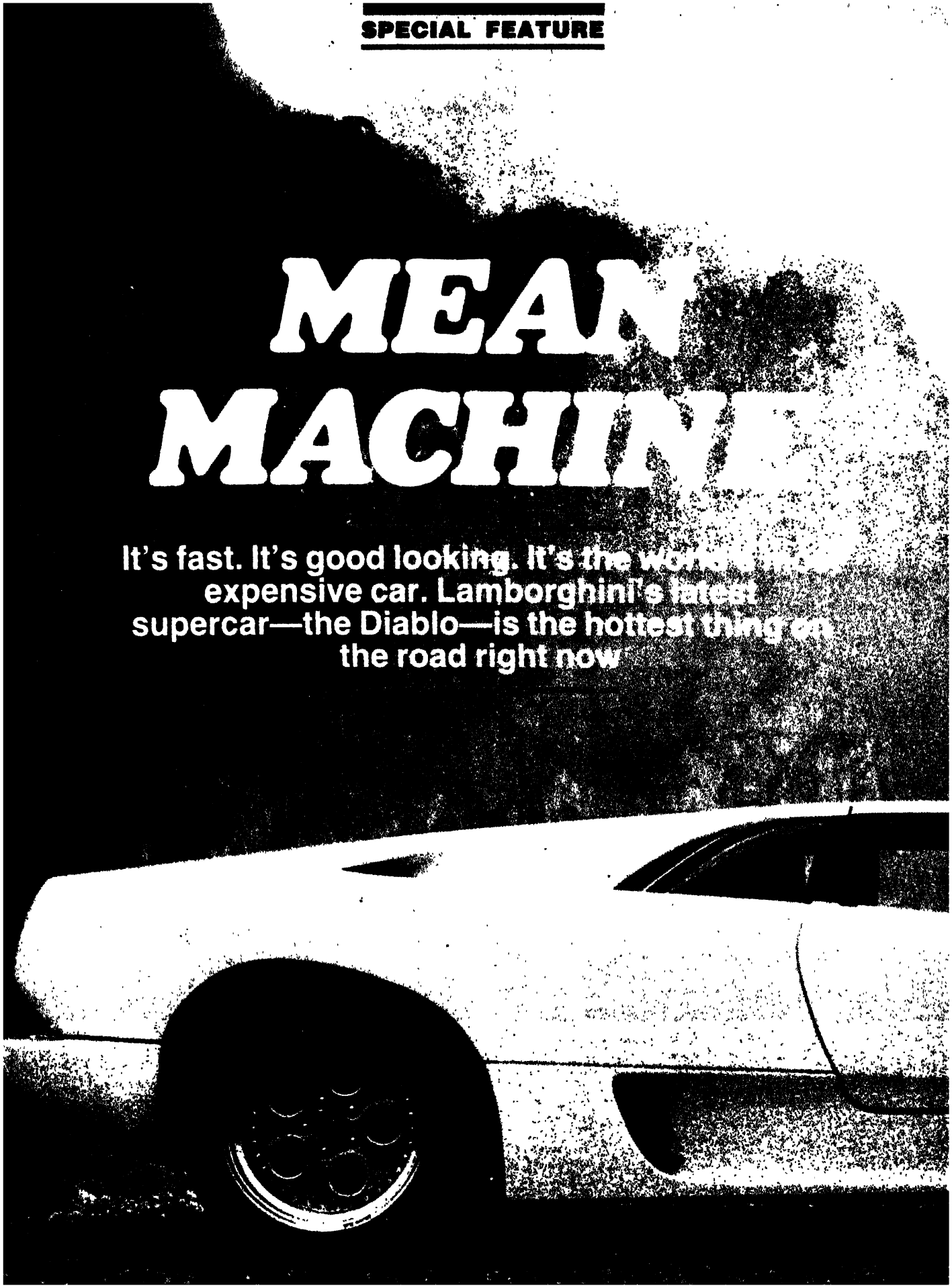


Saibal (right) can match even senior black belts on technique

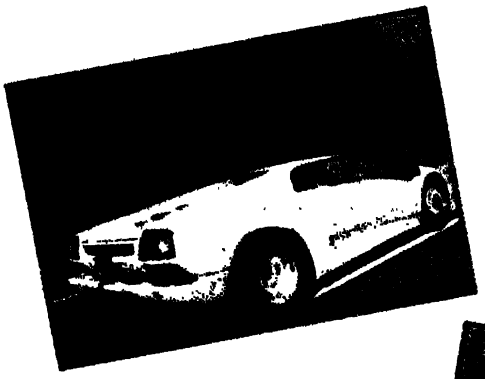
SPECIAL FEATURE

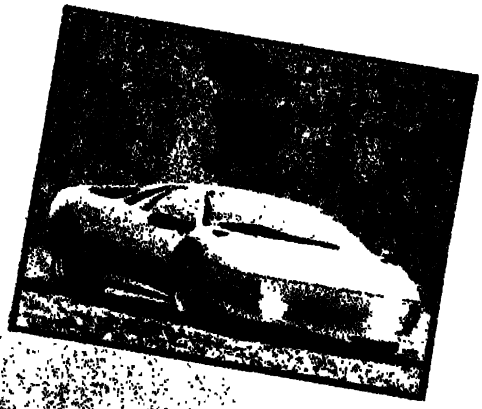
MEAN MACHINE

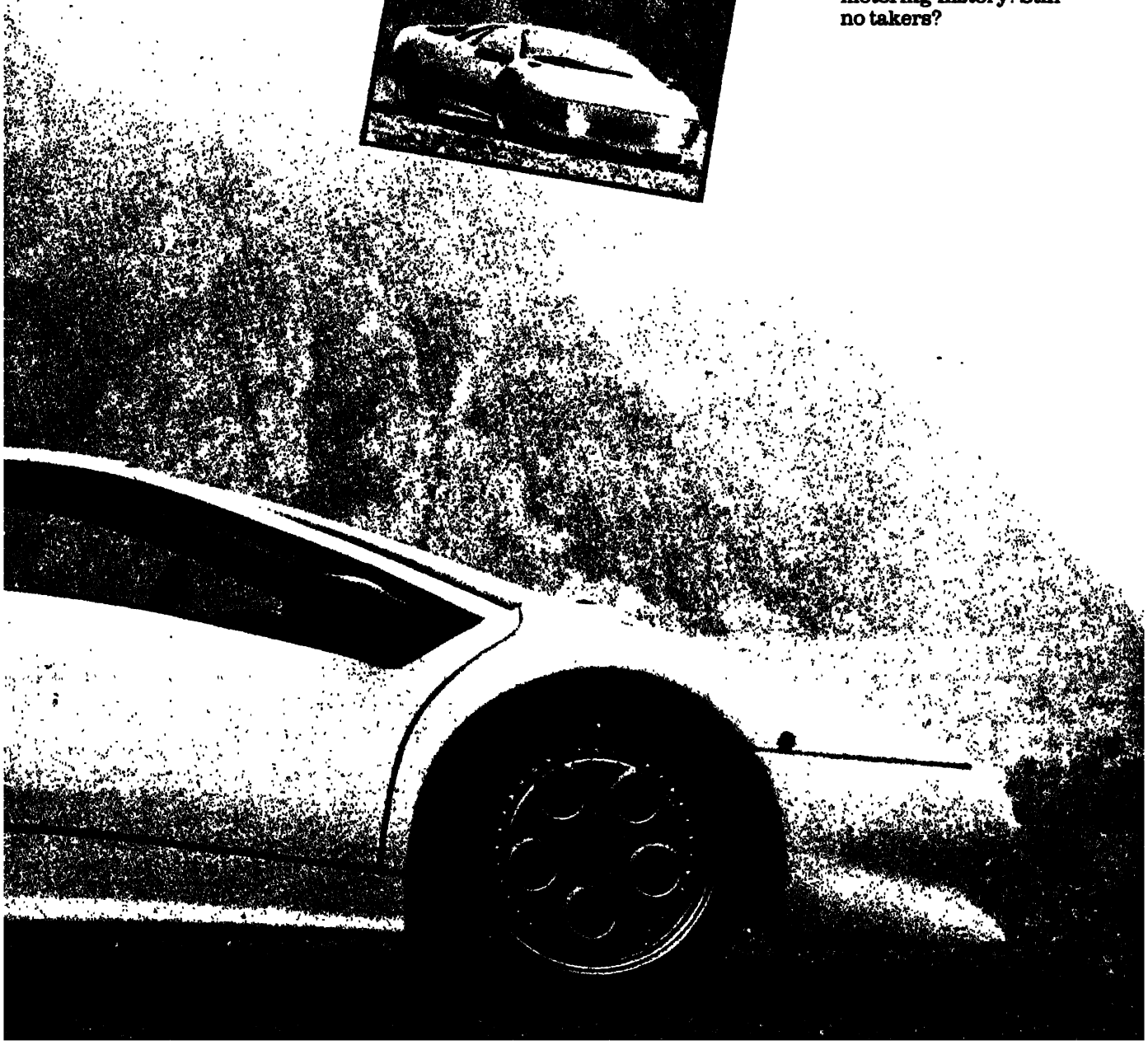
It's fast. It's good looking. It's the world's most expensive car. Lamborghini's latest supercar—the Diablo—is the hottest thing on the road right now



WHAT is made of a futuristic fibre 80% lighter than steel, does 105 kmph in first gear itself, and cost Rs 90,00,000 (approx)? No guesses? Okay, here are some more hints. It cradles a supercharged V12 which blasts the standing quarter-mile in a mere 12 seconds, looks like something out of *Star Trek* and is advanced enough to make the glitzy Countach part of motoring history. Still no takers?



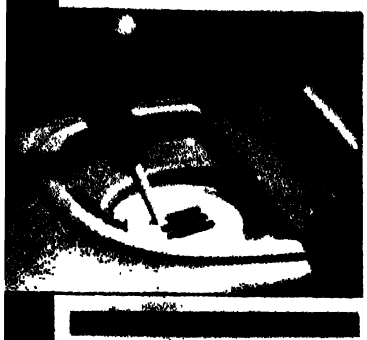






Don't get fooled by the simplicity of design. The V12 is quite diabolical

This beauty stops the clock for the 0-100 kmph in just 4.1 seconds. And you don't even have to look at the gearshift!



Okay, here's the answer. Meet the latest masterpiece to roll out of Lamborghini's factory...the Diablo. Easily the costliest car in the world, it's also the fastest street legal machine around. No fancy frills. Just gutbusting muscle, wrapped around a frame that's streamlined enough to make your pulse race.

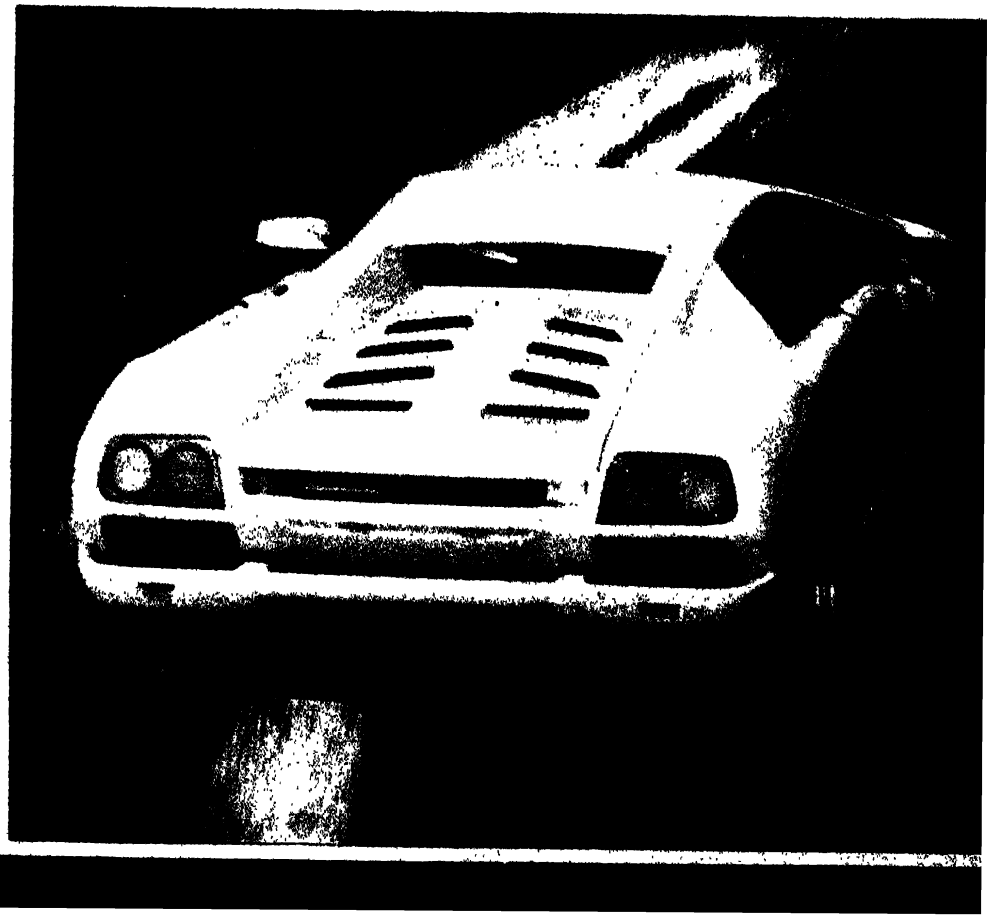
Anything that's good enough to replace the Countach has gotta be good. No, damn good. And the Diablo certainly delivers. Although 160 kgs heavier at the kerb than the 1490 kg Countach—that's in spite of a body moulded from Autoclave, a futuristic composite of carbon fibre and fibreglass that's 80% lighter than steel and 40% lighter than aluminium—it still looks as lean. As menacing.

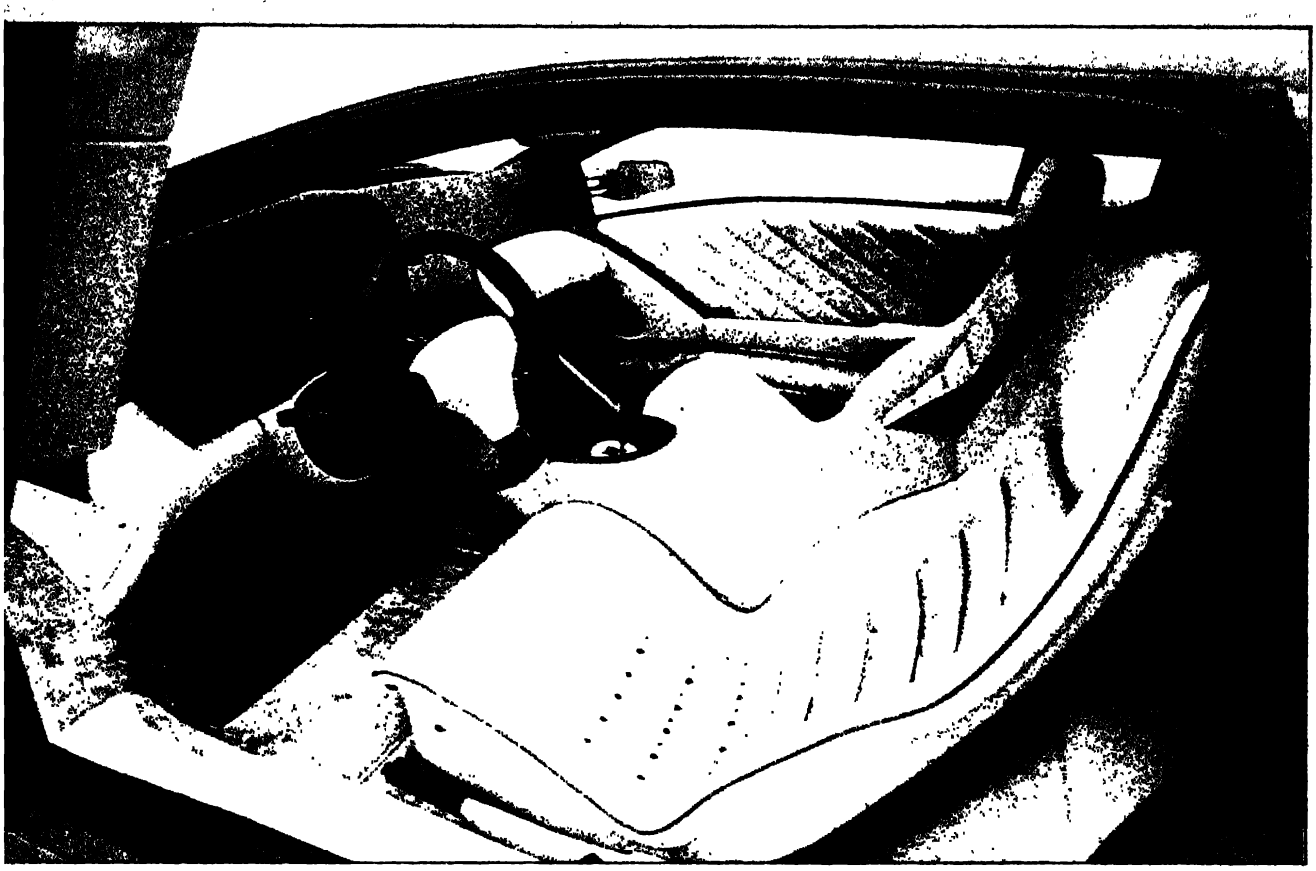
And the increase in weight is all for your benefit. Lamborghini's marketing team felt anyone who drove this supercar could also do with power windows, automatic air-conditioning and a state-of-the-art Alpine music system that warrants 12 kg woofers! As if the deep-throated rumble of that V12 isn't music enough to the ears.

If life inside the cockpit has become more comfortable, things are fairly hopping under the hood. Power's up. 362 kW at 7000 rpm, as compared to the Countach's 339. So's torque. 580 Nm at 5200 rpm as compared to the Countach's 510. Small wonder, considering the V12's displacing 5.7 litres now. Lamborghini's even put in their own sequential multi-point electronic ignition in place of the Bosch K-Jetronic unit that worked the Countach.

The net result is a powerhouse that delivers such a vast spread of torque that you can spend less time wrestling your way through the five-speed gearbox. And more time admiring whatever fleeting view the narrow front affords. But that doesn't mean sacrificing performance. Dare to inhabit the redline of

With a powerhouse of a V12 kicking the Diablo to speeds well over 300 kmph, this is the only way most people are going to see this mean machine





7600 rpm and you'll hit 105 kmph in first itself. 158 in second. 214 in third. 272 in fourth. And a as-close-to-F1-as-you'll-get 325 in top.

Are you drooling by now? Wait, there's more. This beauty stops the clock for the 0-100 km in just 4.1 seconds. And you don't even have to look at the gearshift! As for the standing kilometre, Ferrari thought they had a hot thing going when their F40 blasted the track at 21 seconds. Diablo required 0.3 seconds less!

Oh, you can use this car for pottering around town too. The V12 purrs along quite contentedly at 1500 rpm in fifth, making for a pretty civilised drive. But push down on the gas pedal and you're asking for a

Single-moulded soft-leather seats and an adjustable steering make for a pretty comfortable ride

hot ride. As the tacho climbs over the 6000 rpm line, the civilised purr changes into a deep-throated rumble that finally becomes a guttural growl as the brutal power of this high-performance engine transfers to the Pirelli types.

Now for the all-important question. How does one stop this brute? It's all very well to tempt liftoff, but how about a safe docking? Lamborghini's engineers certainly didn't spare any expense when they put in a set of heavy-duty discs, equipped to bring over 1700 kg of hurtling machine to a dead stop from speeds over 300

As the tacho climbs over the 6000 rpm line, the civilised purr changes into a deep-throated rumble that finally becomes a guttural growl

kmph. But you'd do well to let them warm up before you try any high-speed pyrotechnics.



Lamborghini have retained their futuristic scissor-door design that personified the Countach

All in all, a pretty nifty package. Fast. Safe. And good lookin'. So what if all you get is about 3.5 km to the litre. If you're rich enough to buy this car, minor details like consumption don't hassle you.

Pradeep Paul, Los Angeles

FITNESS

Year-End Blues

OH no, it's that time of the year when we wake up after one drink too many...one morning too often! Yup, this year-end season's murder on the bodies. All that partying. All that entertaining All that high-cal food. All that booze All those late, late nights.

Are we speaking your language? If we are, then slowly—very surreptitiously—sneak a peek at your tum. There's a little more than there was last month, right? No, it's not the shirt's that shrunk. It's your waistline that's extended.

And now is the time to do something about it. *Before it goes out of control.*

Ready? Then, let's get started. Find that old pair of sneakers, pull on a pair of sweats or shorts and hit the road. You've got to get in some intense cardiovascular work if you're going to burn off all that fat.

Start off slowly, doing a light stretching workout to get the muscles warmed up Then, once you've got the old ticker pumping, start jogging. If you aren't too keen on subjecting your knees to the pounding of a jog, walk. But power walk. Don't just amble along as though you're on a sightseeing stroll. Get the stride opened out, swing the arms vigorously, and concentrate on exerting yourself as you walk.

Not the outdoor type, are you? No problem Grab the skipping rope, switch on some beaty music, and get started.





Keep jumping rope till you've worked up a sweat. Don't give up if you're short of breath—you're bound to be, considering all the damage you've been doing to your body over the last month. But hang in there, and you'll soon find yourself keeping it up for longer.

Of course, the best thing to do is sign on for an aerobics class. With all the jumping, twisting, turning and stretching thrown in, it's the best way to burn fat.

Of course, in addition to the cardiovascular work, you'll also have to throw in some hard-core abdominal work. Like sit-ups, side-bends, trunk twists.. what have you. We've discussed all these exercises so many times in this column, that there's no need to go into them in detail again now. Just make sure you do enough to remind the abdominal muscles of the shape they were in.

Once you've got yourself back into some acceptable shape, we'll start working on the body in earnest. ●



freewheeling

ONE Monday afternoon, a fifteen-year-old tennis player dropped into the office. He looked worried and anxious. He said, 'Sir, how can you publish a picture of Syed Fazaluddin? I have beaten him so many times and yet my picture has never been published?'

I was the only one in the office then and by an amazing coincidence, I had worked on those pages, (Sportsworld, 31st October, Page 75). The background was like this: there was a tennis camp conducted in New Delhi and a report had come in. There were no pictures with the report. So I had gone to our Photo Library and checked up the file on young 'Indian tennis players'. There was only one picture available and that was of Fazaluddin. The report on the camp mentioned that Fazaluddin 'exhibited good skills.'

Hence, his picture was used, little realising how much of consternation and envy this would create among his peers.

Tennis is a sport that is attracting a lot of youngsters in India. But it is their deep awareness of publicity and the media that is a little shocking. If you overhear some of their conversations, as I have done, in the Calcutta Gymkhana, you cannot, but be amazed.

'You know, I hope to get a sponsorship from Bata.'

'You have to be good at Public Relations these days.'

'Are you getting your kit sponsored?'

'Guess what! I managed to persuade the people at *Sunday Mail*. A profile of me is appearing next week.'

'Accha, tell me, how can I get a sponsorship from Dunlop?'

The remarkable thing about these statements is that they are spoken by players who are 14 or 15 years of age. At such an early age, they are keenly aware of the adult world and the pursuit of the game is done not merely in the search of excellence but more for fame and money.

Tennis is an expensive sport these days; there is no doubt about it. You need money to pay for the balls, the court, the coaches, the travel etc. But most of them have not yet won any age-level tournaments. And yet, before reaching a certain level they are busy canvassing for financial support, for publicity, for money and that seems a wrong attitude.

Months later, when they came to know that I work for a sports magazine, they were around me like a swarm of bees. They said, 'Sir, please do a profile of me?' and 'Sir, you must write something about me.'

Whereas before, they did not know that I existed, now it was full of 'Sir's' and smiles and waves. Amazing!

Goading these youngsters on are parents who appear at courtside every day. What a strange sight it is in India to see parents encouraging children in a sporting activity. After all, for so long, sport has been discouraged as a worthless pursuit...

At Calcutta's South Club in the evenings, you can see Nayeemuddin, former international, sitting on a wooden bench and watching his son Fazaluddin. There is a harsh look on his face and now and then a flash of anger when his son plays a poor shot. One wondered whether it was only excellence that the father was after.

At the Calcutta Gymkhana, a father approaches a coach and says, 'How can my son improve his game?'

And the coach gives a surprising answer: 'Listen, take it easy. Your son is playing well. But please let him enjoy his childhood.'

The son in question was eight years of age. You can see these fathers keenly watching their son's game and you know it is sheer greed that is motivating them. It is no longer excellence as an end in itself but to make money out of excellence. Tennis is big money now and they all want their sons to be like Leander Paes.

Meanwhile, the boy who had come to the office had a despairing look about him. He had been accompanied by his father, a short, middle-aged man. I explained to the son the background of how Fazaluddin's picture was published. He looked relieved. He smiled a little and then he asked with anxiety, 'But if I do well, will a picture of mine be published?' He was assured that if he won any event, his picture would be published. He got up, smiled, shook my hand and walked off, his father in tow...

Innocence, one realised, was rapidly becoming an out-dated concept these days.

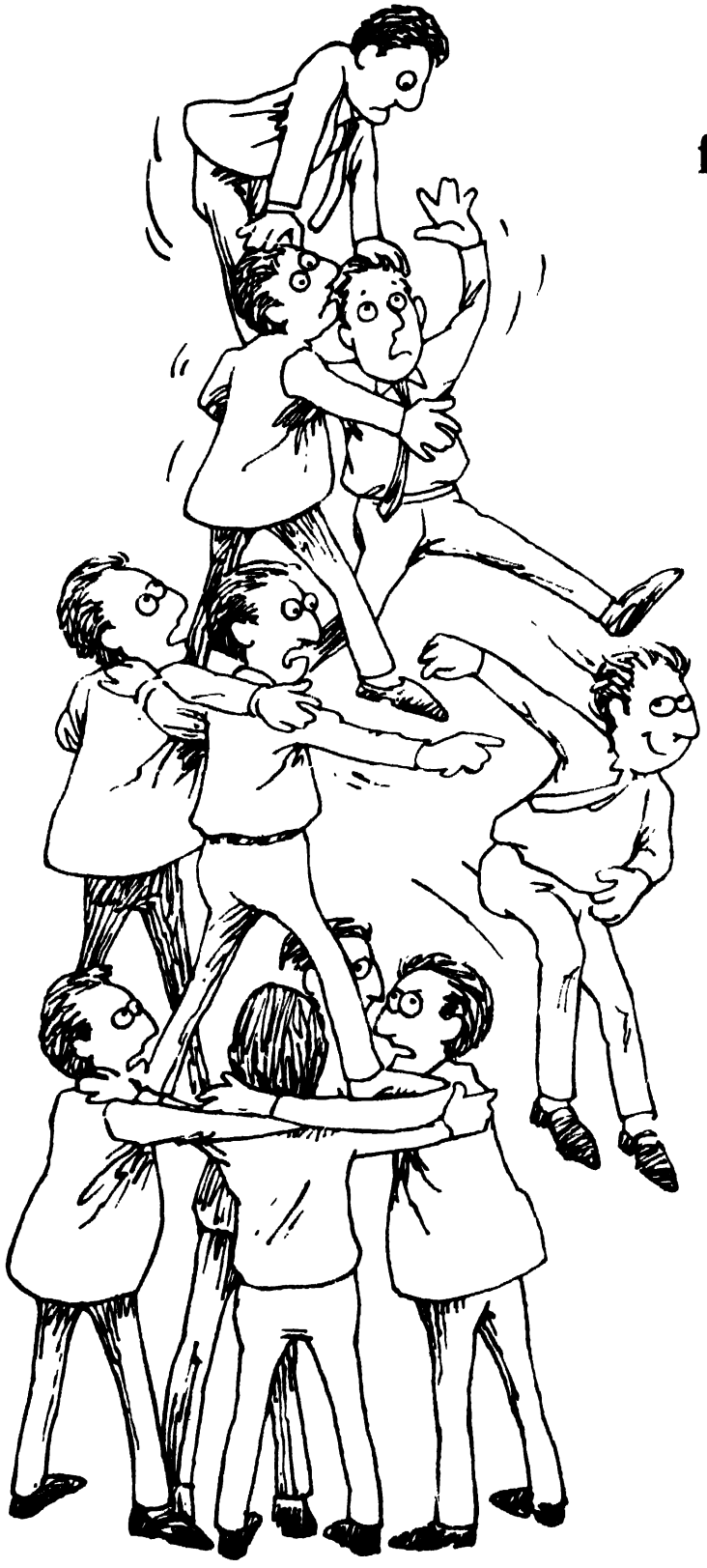
Shevlin Sebastian

Mark Ferreira (left) and Zeeshan Ali inspired the modern generation of Indian tennis players



SANTOSH GHOSH

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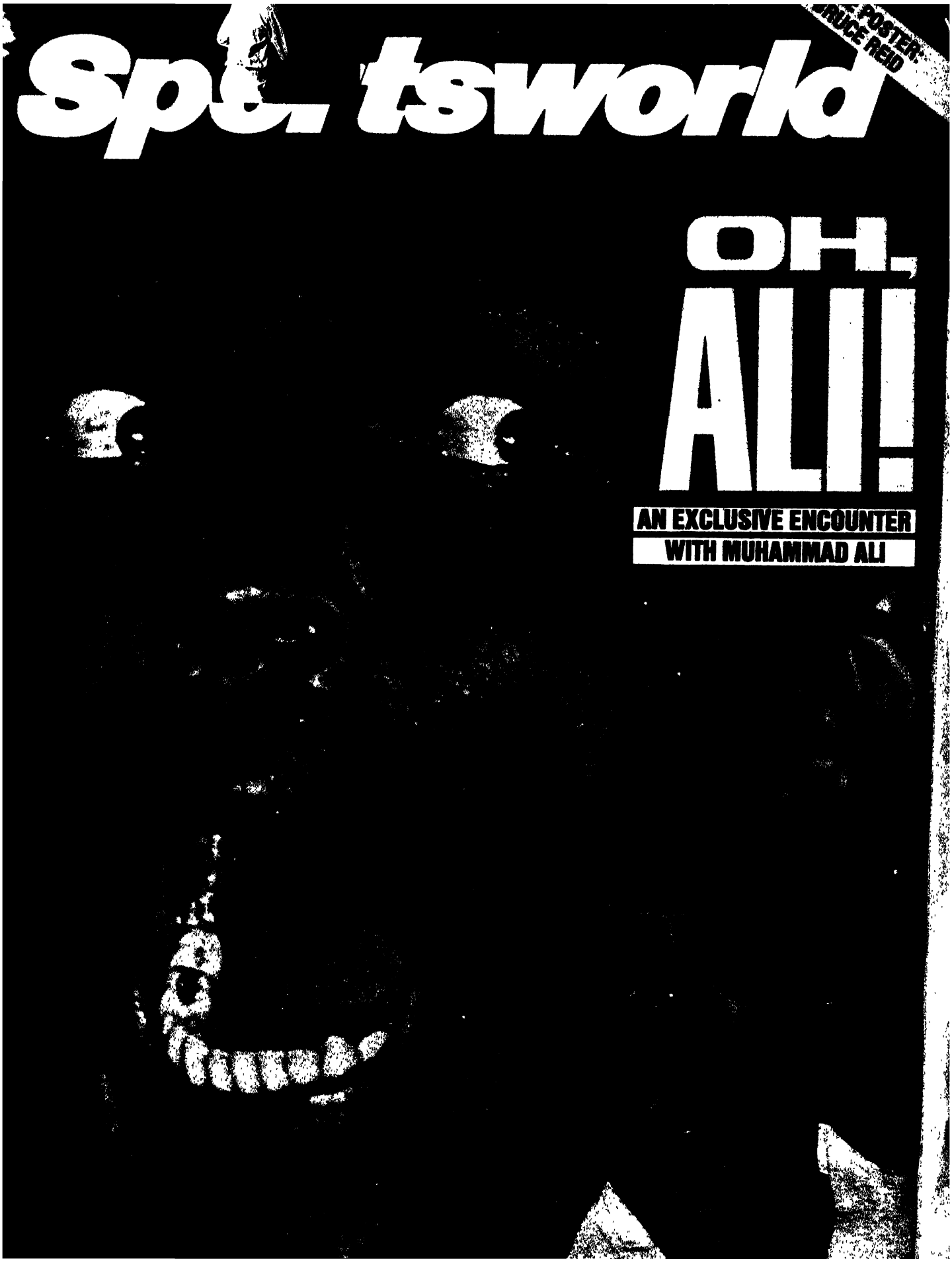
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POSTER
BRUCE REID

OH, ALI!

AN EXCLUSIVE ENCOUNTER WITH MUHAMMAD ALI





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Reference : (1) Windholz, M., Merck Index, 10th ed. p. 760, 1983. (2) Settel, E., Drugs & Cosmetic Industry, p. 121, 34, 197[illegible] (3) Driscoll, W.R., Drugs & Cosmetic Industry, p. 116, 42, 1975. (4) Krantz, J.C. et al, Pharm Principles of Medical Practice p. 956, 1965. (5) Wade, A., Martindale: Ext Pharmaco p. 502, 32, 1982.



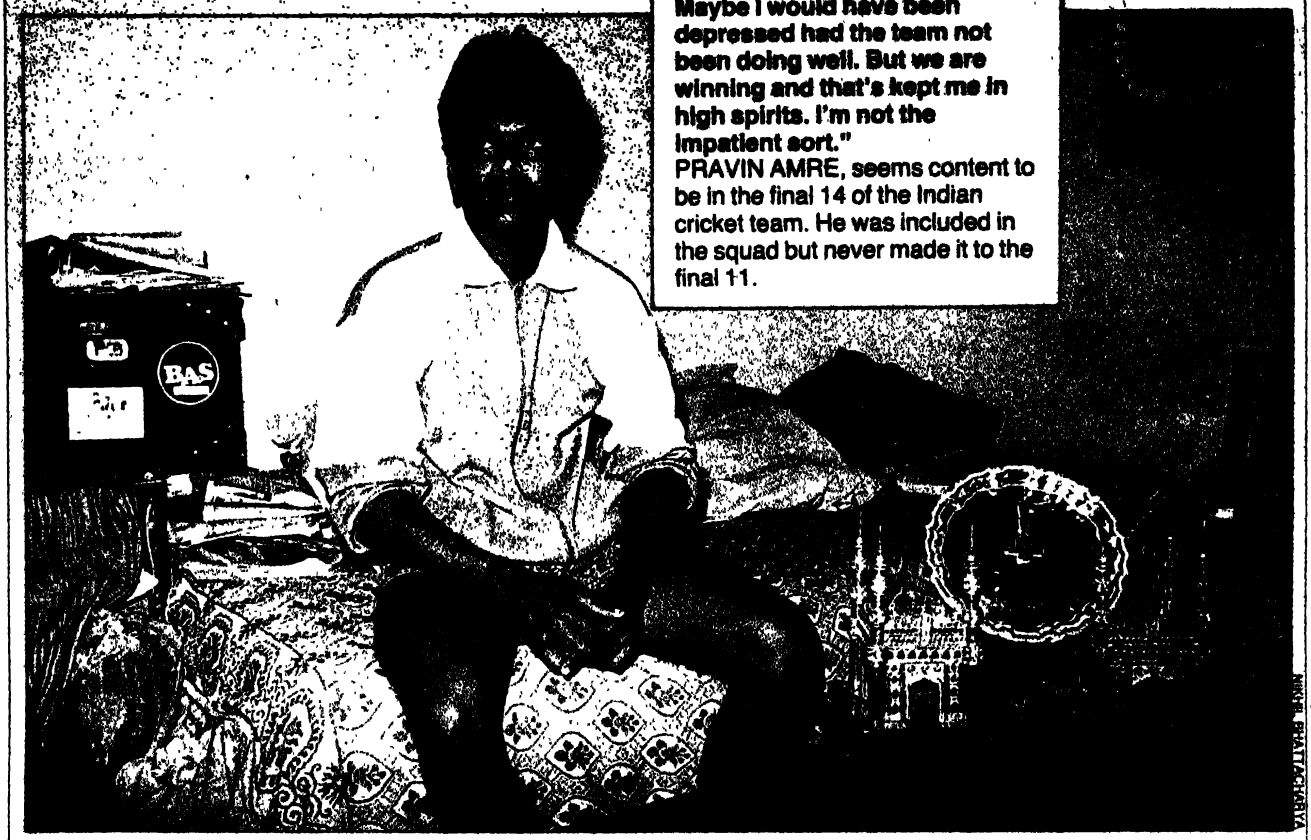
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"It is been a great experience. Maybe I would have been depressed had the team not been doing well. But we are winning and that's kept me in high spirits. I'm not the impatient sort."
PRAVIN AMRE, seems content to be in the final 14 of the Indian cricket team. He was included in the squad but never made it to the final 11.

"I've become mentally strong with Balazs, (his coach). He puts into my head that I can beat anybody if I'm strong in mind. Next year, the pressure is going to be even greater, but I think I can handle it. I dream of becoming No. 1 and I don't care how long it takes."
GORAN IVANISEVIC, sets his sights for the coming year.

"He's planning on opening a chain of fast food restaurants. Only trouble is, he still hasn't decided if he'll serve the public."
ONE WAG on the overweight George Foreman

"Man, his day is over. The kids even know that. All them Mike Tyson Nintendo games is on the bottom of everybody's toy box now."
FOREMAN on Mike Tyson.

"The year is finished at last, and that's one good thing. I missed a lot of easy shots. It's hard to get motivated after such a tough year."
EDBERG, is happy that 1990 is at last over.



"You put a little kid in a candy store and he's never had candy and he's not used to being in there, having all that, he doesn't know how to act. I mean Leon Spinks did it the hard way, by getting into trouble, doing this and doing that. But Douglas did it the easy way."
TYSON on 'Buster Douglas'.

"I'm mentally ready and I don't have any physical problems. I have an urge to play and show people the fantastic things I can do on the court. I have discovered that I can still contribute a lot to the game. And I do miss the battle out there."
BJORN BORG (34) on his comeback.

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And you thought you were a tennis freak...check out this head gear at the Australian Open!

Sportsworld

15 Jan - 1991 Volume 12 Issue 8
An Ananda Bazar Publication. Rs.7.00



6 He floated like a butterfly. He stung like a bee. Muhammad Ali is, arguably, the greatest heavyweight boxer ever. In Calcutta recently to film part of a movie on his life, Ali spoke to *Sportsworld*, all the while charming all and sundry with his gentle charisma.

20 With Pakistan dropping out of the Asia Cup, hosts India were expected to walk through the tournament. But that wasn't exactly what happened. A complete report of the three-nation tournament.

76 'Hot Legs!' A quiz on famous sportspersons' legs with a prize money of Rs. 500, for the first all correct entry.

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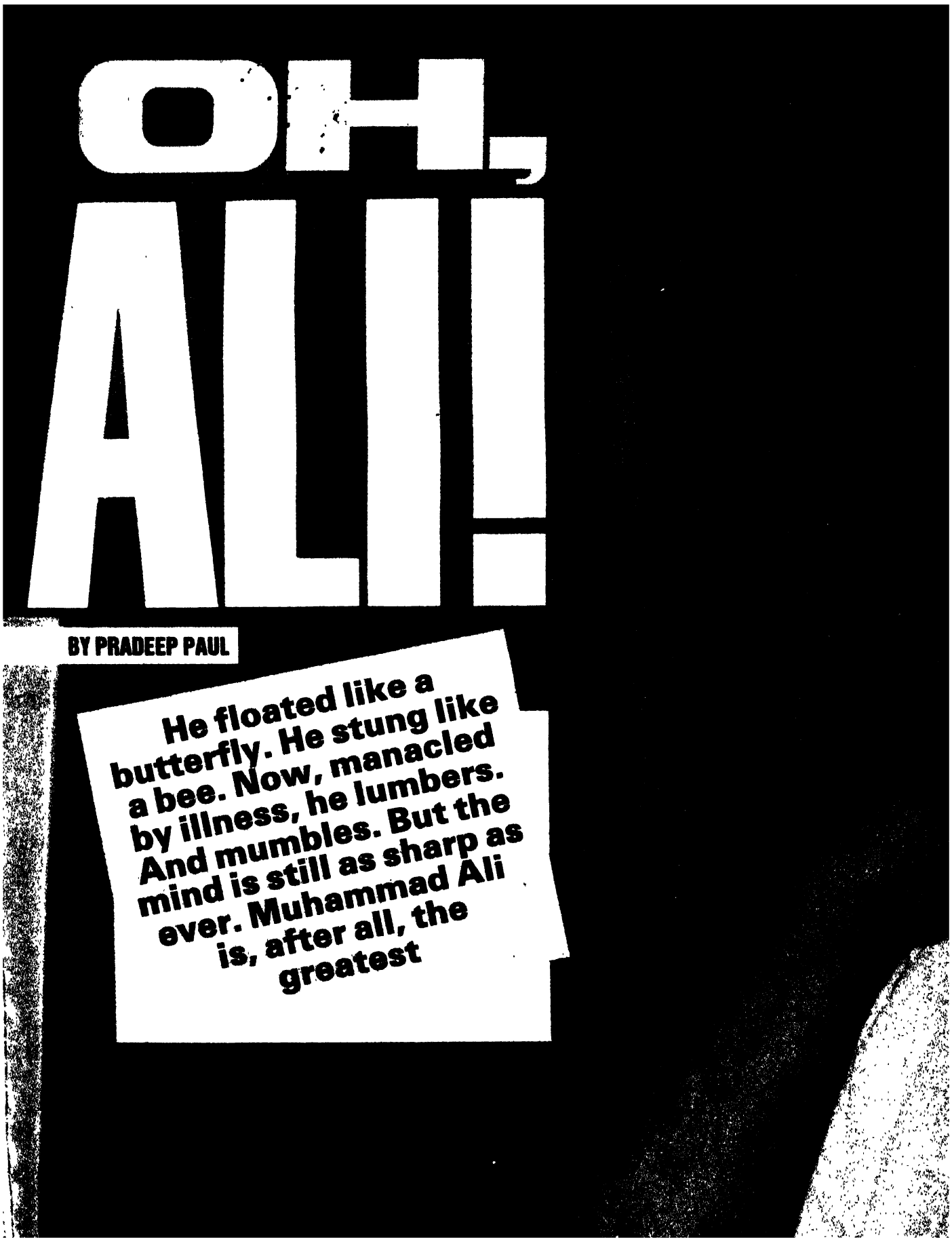
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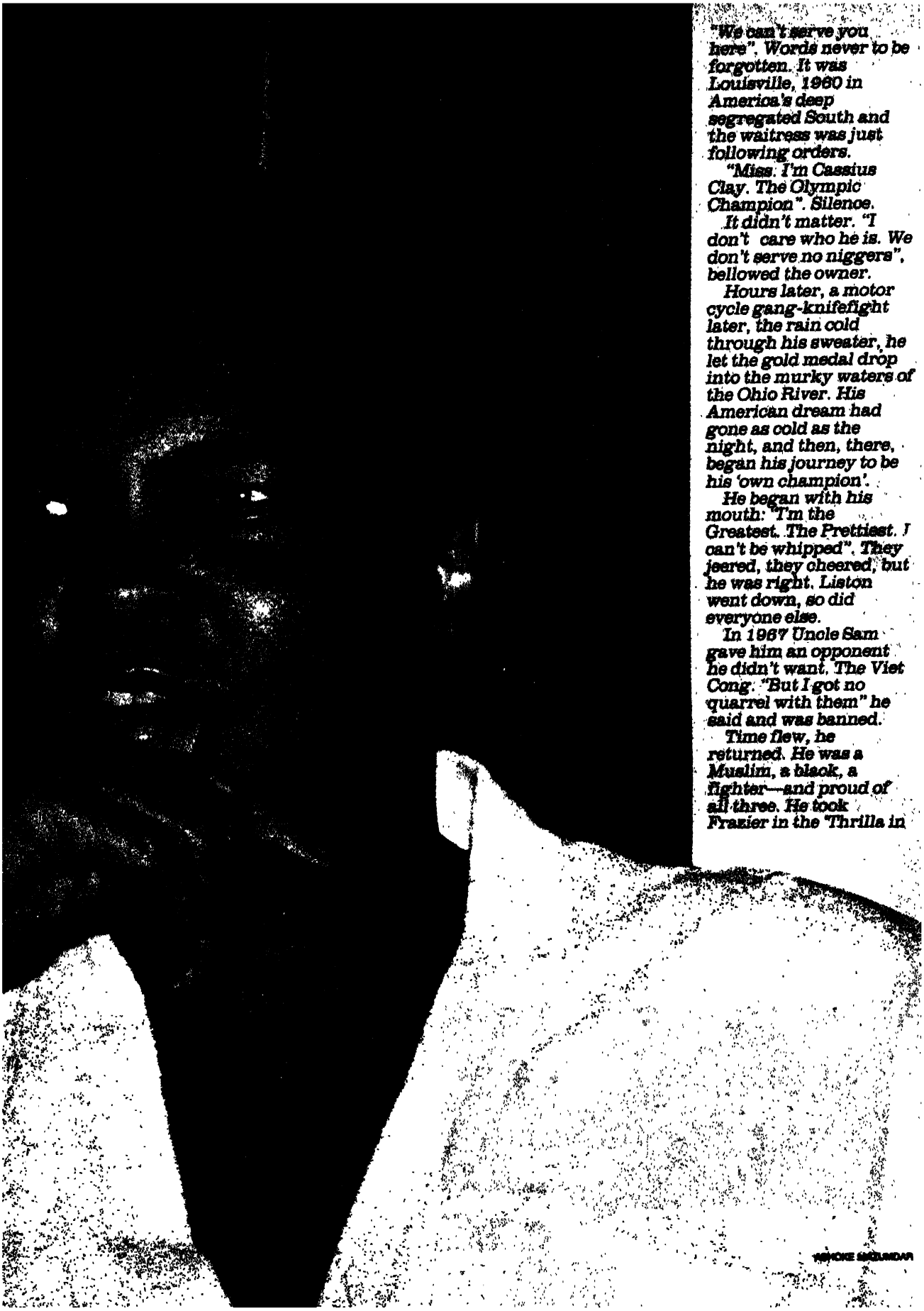
Air surcharge for Srinagar, ex Delhi and Tripura 20 paise North Eastern States—25 paise

OH, ALI!

BY PRADEEP PAUL

He floated like a butterfly. He stung like a bee. Now, manacled by illness, he lumbers. And mumbles. But the mind is still as sharp as ever. Muhammad Ali is, after all, the greatest





"We can't serve you here". Words never to be forgotten. It was Louisville, 1960 in America's deep segregated South and the waitress was just following orders.

"Miss. I'm Cassius Clay. The Olympic Champion". Silence.

It didn't matter. "I don't care who he is. We don't serve no niggers", bellowed the owner.

Hours later, a motor cycle gang-knifefight later, the rain cold through his sweater, he let the gold medal drop into the murky waters of the Ohio River. His American dream had gone as cold as the night, and then, there, began his journey to be his 'own champion'.

He began with his mouth: "I'm the Greatest. The Prettiest. I can't be whipped". They jeered, they cheered, but he was right. Liston went down, so did everyone else.

In 1967 Uncle Sam gave him an opponent he didn't want. The Viet Cong. "But I got no quarrel with them" he said and was banned.

Time flew, he returned. He was a Muslim, a black, a fighter—and proud of all three. He took Frazier in the "Thrilla in

Manila'. He shocked Foreman in the 'Rumble in the Jungle', that was Zaire. Spinks beat him. He beat Spinks. He was too old for Holmes and then too sick.

But there was only one Ali. There was only one Greatest.

And here I stood. Outside his room. On the threshold of a fantasy, fear sweeping through me, awe burning through my brain, bowed in respect.

What, what on earth, would I say to him. Muhammad Ali!



Ali and his wife, on their earlier trip to India

Everything dissipated as soon as we walked in. For the simple reason that Ali wasn't there. We were in the room occupied by the coordinator of Ali's trip to India. Drinks were offered. Accepted. And then the small talk took over. All the while I kept sneaking impatient glances at my watch. Where was Ali? When do we get to meet him?

It took some time. Patiently at first and then with rapt attention we listened to the man's story about how he got to know Ali. Sent by the Bangladesh government to convince Ali—who he didn't know from Adam—to star in a film about that country, he finally tracked the champ down at London's Hilton Hotel. Walked in and asked to meet the man. And was promptly taken aside by one of Ali's entourage.

"Wanna meet the champ," the guy drawled in his Yankee accent— "It'll cost you 5,000 dollars, man." When our friend countered with an aggressive "Do you know who I am?", the camp follower didn't blink an eyelid. "Hey, man, I don't know who you are, but I sure as hell know who Ali is'.

Undaunted, our friend left to try another tactic. He bought a tracksuit and parked his car just outside the Hilton at 4 a.m. the next morning. After all, Ali was in training for his next title defence and was bound to do some dawn roadwork. His patience paid off when, at about five, Ali came through the big doors and broke into a jog. He hurriedly drove his car some distance ahead, got out and started jogging towards Ali.

As their paths crossed, he called out "Muhammad". Ali stopped, and turned. Our friend then said "When I call God, he listens; when I call on Muhammad Ali, he says 5,000 dollars". Ali was intrigued. On hearing the story, he invited the stranger to dinner.

The friendship blossomed. Ali went to Bangladesh. Came to India. All with this man. And even this time, here to film part of a movie that will eventually be aired on international television, Ali is the



Lean, mean, fighting machine..Ali in fighting trim

ASHOKE MAZUMDAR



guest of the same person. Finally, we rose. Walked down the hotel corridor. Stopped outside Room 324 and knocked. The fear, the humility was back.

Ali was relaxing on his bed, reading the Koran presented to him that morning. He pulled on his bath-robe and led us to the living-room of his suite. Shook hands—yes, I touched the hand that knocked down Joe Frazier and George Foreman!—and sat down.

We told him we were big fans of his and followed boxing very closely. Ali yawned, rubbed his eyes, peered at us almost disbelievingly and said "Johnson. You know Jack Johnson?" Then, after a pause, "He was one of the best". It was a subtle test of our boxing knowledge. We passed.

And then he demonstrated that illness hasn't robbed him of any of his mental



A tired Ali yawns during our conversation..but the charm was ever present

faculties. In our effort to further impress him, we told him about a recent computer match-up of all-time great heavyweights that had him knocking out Jack Dempsey in the final. Ali blinked. Went through the entire yawn-rub his eyes-peer routine. And blew our brains with his recall. "Yeah, but there was an earlier one where Marciano beat me in the final", he told us.

That wasn't all. He further went on to explain that "computers are only what you make them. It's the man behind the computer



ASHOKE MAZUMDAR

that matters The computer only does what man feeds into it" Hence proving and admitting there was no absolute way of saying who would have won a Ali-Dempsey or a Ali-Marciano world heavyweight championship bout.

At this stage, Ali's friend—the coordinator—decided to impress us with his familiarity with the champ Borrowing a line from the cigar-chewin' Clint Eastwood, looking at Ali all the time he drawled "This room ain't big enough for the two of us." And then went into an act of lunging toward Ali to take him on, but not before prudently making sure some of his associates were restraining him

Ali obviously has seen this act before Leaning back in his chair, he—ham that he always has been —he looks unperturbed. And, pursing his lips, blows in his pal's direction! The famed sense of humour was still sharp.

We frantically tried to steer the conversation back to boxing. Buttonholing Ali's attention once again, we asked him if boxing was too dangerous. If the protective headgear worn by amateur boxers after his time really helps.

The man, who is the eye of the storm that surrounds boxing's safety as a sport, shook his head. "If you're going to get hit, then you're still going to get hit," he said, gently smacking his fist into his chin. Then he accepted that "what the headgear does do is protect you from all the head butts".

Then came distraction again. A family had just

The affection for children has always been there

N. MAJUMDAR





A. DATTA

All clowns in the privacy of his hotel room and is literally mobbed outside (left)

walked into the room, and with them were two little girls. Ali immediately tuned off the conversation.

Turning toward the kids he motioned them over to him. But they were scared. Here was this huge black man clad in a white bath-robe...a total stranger at that. They didn't go near him. The irony was amazing. Here was the greatest, a man mobbed at every step he takes, calling someone to sit on his lap, and being *turned down*.

Eventually, the elder of the girls—barely five years old—relented. Agreeing to her parents' coaxing, she bravely stepped forward to meet Ali. Those once devasting hands were as gentle as a butterfly as he cuddled her His effort to kiss her cheek however had her running back to mummy again.

While all this was happening, I was reminded of something I had read just that morning. Leafing through *'The Greatest'* in a last-minute effort to familiarise myself more with the man, I read about one of the reasons why Ali was determined not to be drafted into the Army to fight in Vietnam. He was walking the short distance from his hotel to the gym while preparing for the Earnie



Terrell fight when he came across a bunch of kids attacking three or four others with sticks and stones. Wading into the mayhem, Ali got them to stop only when they recognised him, and on asking for an explanation, was told "We Americans, they Viet Cong."

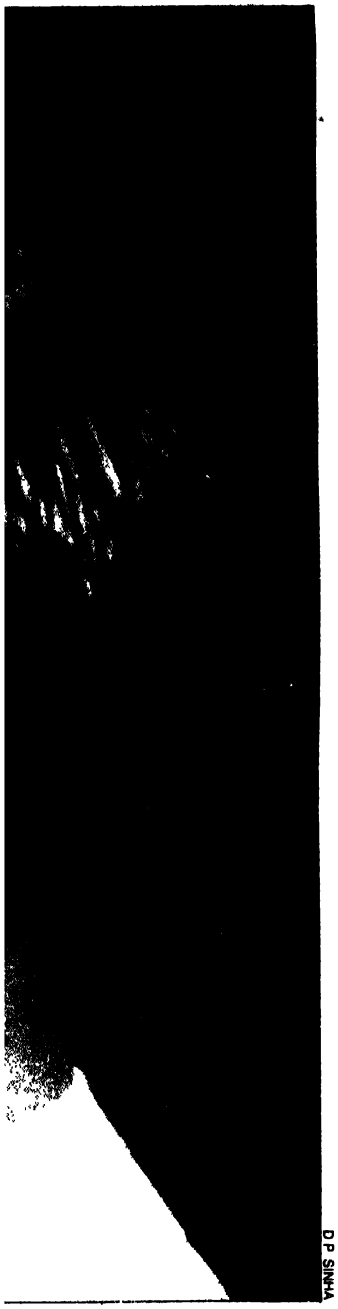
Ali immediately grabbed a little girl, bruised and sobbing, carried her a small distance away and tried to pacify her by smothering her with kisses. In her rage, she reacted like any girl would..by pushing Ali away and wiping her cheeks dry. He immediately retaliated by plastering her cheeks with more kisses, saying "Nobody wipes off the champ's kisses". It was only a matter of time before a shy smile broke through the tears.

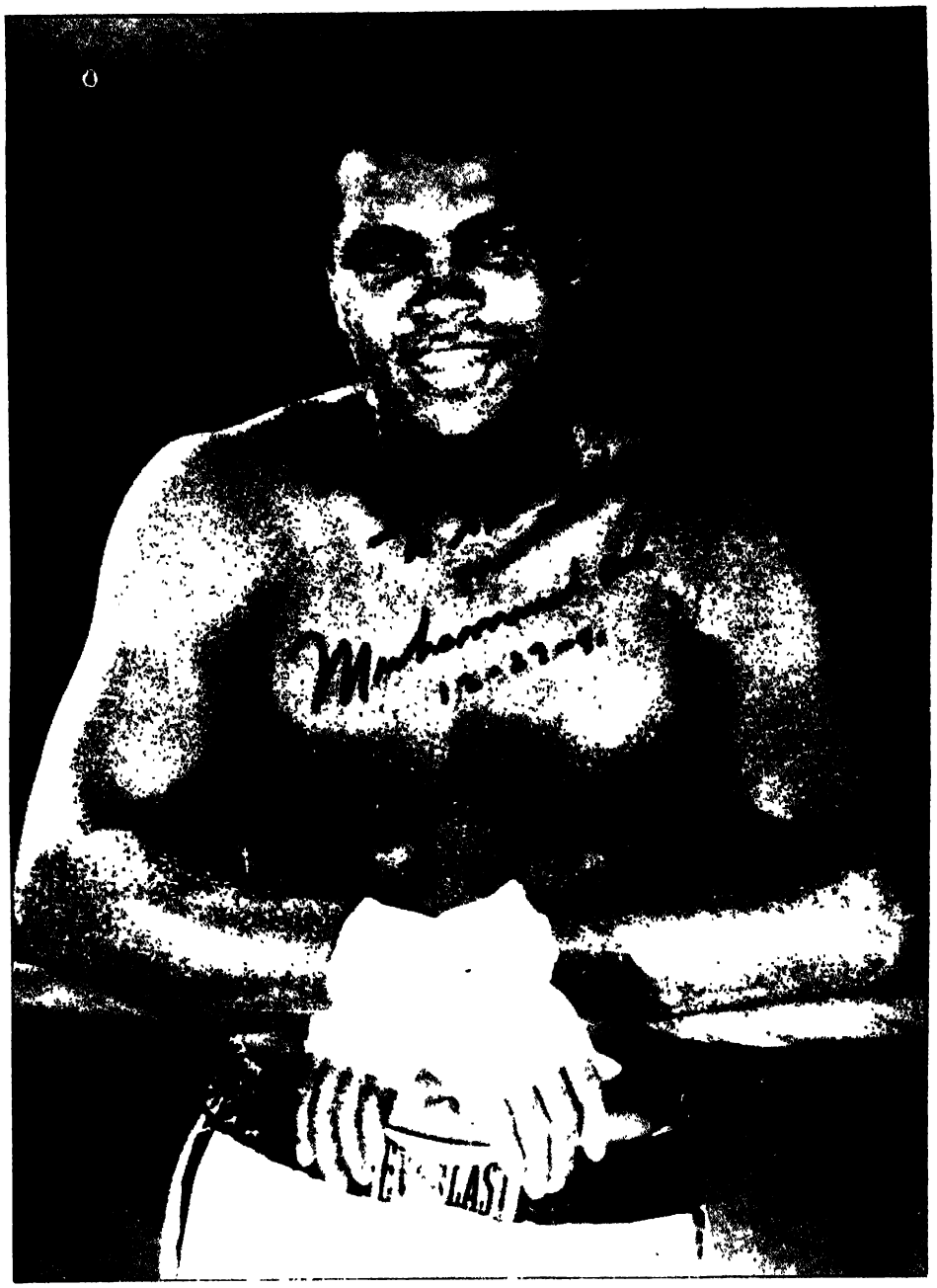
It was almost like an action-replay here.

We tried yet again to drag Ali's concentration back to boxing. What did he think about the ageing, overweight George Foreman's comeback? He concentrated, smiled,

The champ handles children with great care. Can this be the same man who was so merciless in the ring?

and said "I think he's very smart. Win or lose, he's going to make 10 million dollars". Another bout of eye-rubbing, yawning, and obviously mental





D.P. SINHA

arithmetic, and then he continued "After tax, that's still seven million...cash. Hell, for that kind of money, even I'll come back."

Now, that's a thought. But even more pertinent was the revelation that Ali, in spite of the affliction that has slowed him down physically, is still in sync with the times.

Everyday matters like taxes still figure in his perception of prize-money.

And then it was time for us to leave It had been a long, tiring day and Ali was exhausted. But he still gamely agreed to pose for a few photographs with us. Hauling his massive frame out of the armchair, Ali stood next

A souvenir...part of the session was reserved for autographs from The Greatest

to us, towering over us, but ever so gentle. And as the photographer adjusted his camera, Ali posed with his fists up in classic fighting stance. The lips curled back over his teeth in a habit acquired from years of boxing with a gum shield.

At this stage, one of my colleagues also decided to get in on the act. Striking a pose similar to Ali's, he cheekily stuck his fist under the champ's chin. Ali smiled, and ever-so--softly drawled "Be cool". And, even more softly added "Fool" ●

MUHAMMAD ALI

THE GREATEST THEN & NOW



THE end really wasn't that pretty. Putting his head on Leon Spinks' shoulder at one point and closing his eyes, he was so terribly tired. Women wept openly, grown men covered their faces and nearly did.

There was worse to come. In Las Vegas, 1980 he sat on his stool, alone, dazed, beaten, outclassed by Larry Holmes. Trainer Angelo Dundee refused to let him go out for the 11th round. Randall Brown cried and screamed: let him fight! Both men loved him, both, in different ways, knew the 20-year-old Ali show was over. Ali knew too.

Ali made one enormous error, so common among the athletic breed. He did not know when to quit. Somewhere in the corner of his agile brain was a misconception that The Greatest would not lose. He was wrong.

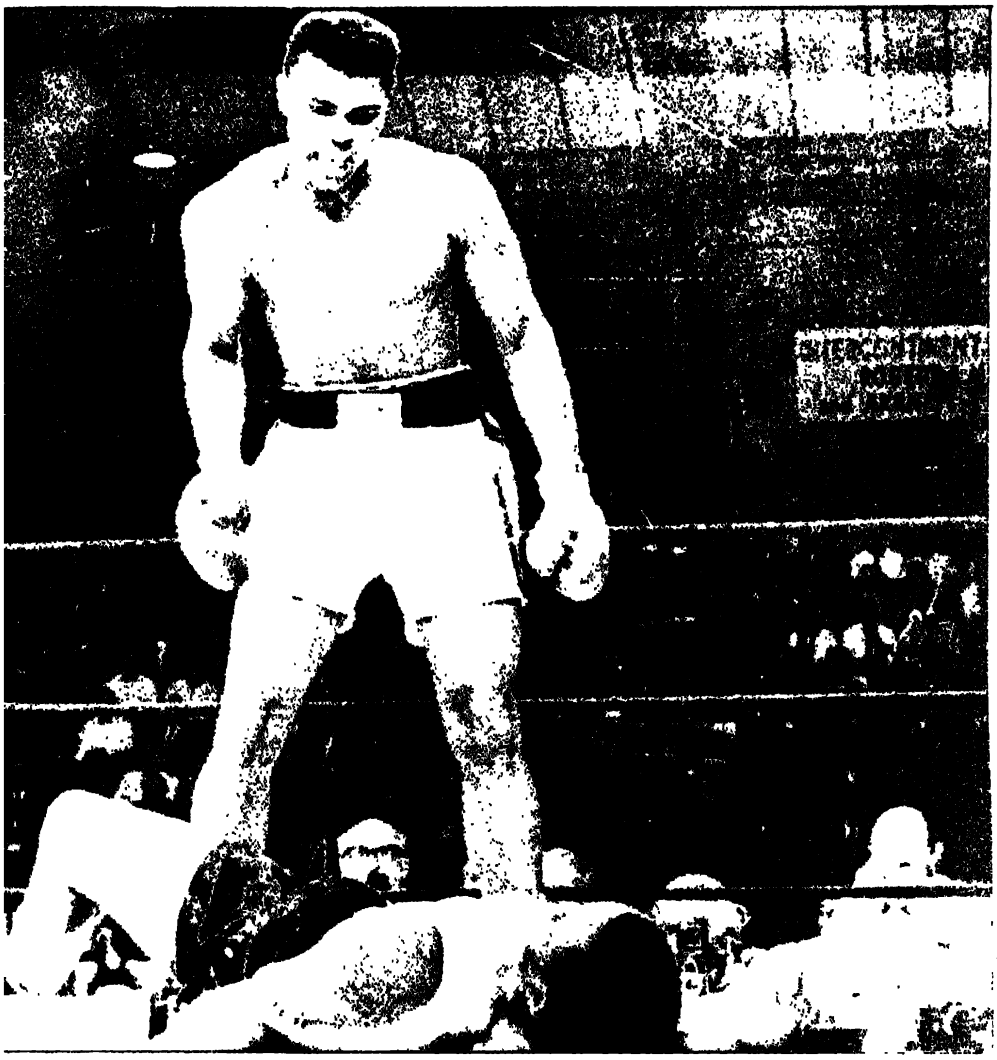
Through his early days, Ali's mouth was as fast as his jab, his wit as wonderful as his dancing legs, his manner as saucy as his ring craft. Phew, what a fighter, what a showman, what a success! The later years were unkind: the wit remained but spewed forth in unintelligible spurts. The jabs, the dance, the weave were like slow motion replays of an early fight film. Yet here we find a measure of his greatness.

For the public, the most recent, freshest memory was of Ali in decline. A parody of the boxer he was. For the young, it should have been worse—they had no recollection of his good days to understand his greatness. Yet strange things happened. At heavyweight title fights in recent years Ali would be invited as a guest. Flanked by bodyguards he would slowly lumber down the aisle and the fellows in the cheap seats at the back would begin the chant, *"Ali. Ali"*. As he neared the ring, the more expensive seats, the guests, the celebrities would join the chant. *"Ali, Ali"*. Ali would carefully clamber into the ring, and the announcer would say "the three time heavyweight..." and would get no further. He was drowned out. There was only one sound, an explosion of noise: *"Ali.*



1960

MOTHER CHECKS THE OLYMPIC GOLD MEDAL



1965

LISTON IS DOWN, THE WORLD BELONGS TO ALI

Ali suffers from Parkinson's Syndrome which is related to Parkinson's disease. It is a progressive neurological degeneration that causes muscles to be unresponsive, making for slow stooped movement, trembling and slurred speech. The Ali that I met last week was exactly that.

The *Sunday Times*, London were among the first to investigate Ali's condition in 1980. A London neurologist who studied films made by Ali in 1970, 1978 and 1979 found a deterioration in Ali's speech since 1970, where he moved from being fluent to unintelligible. The neurologist stated that, "this speech disturbance is most likely to reflect

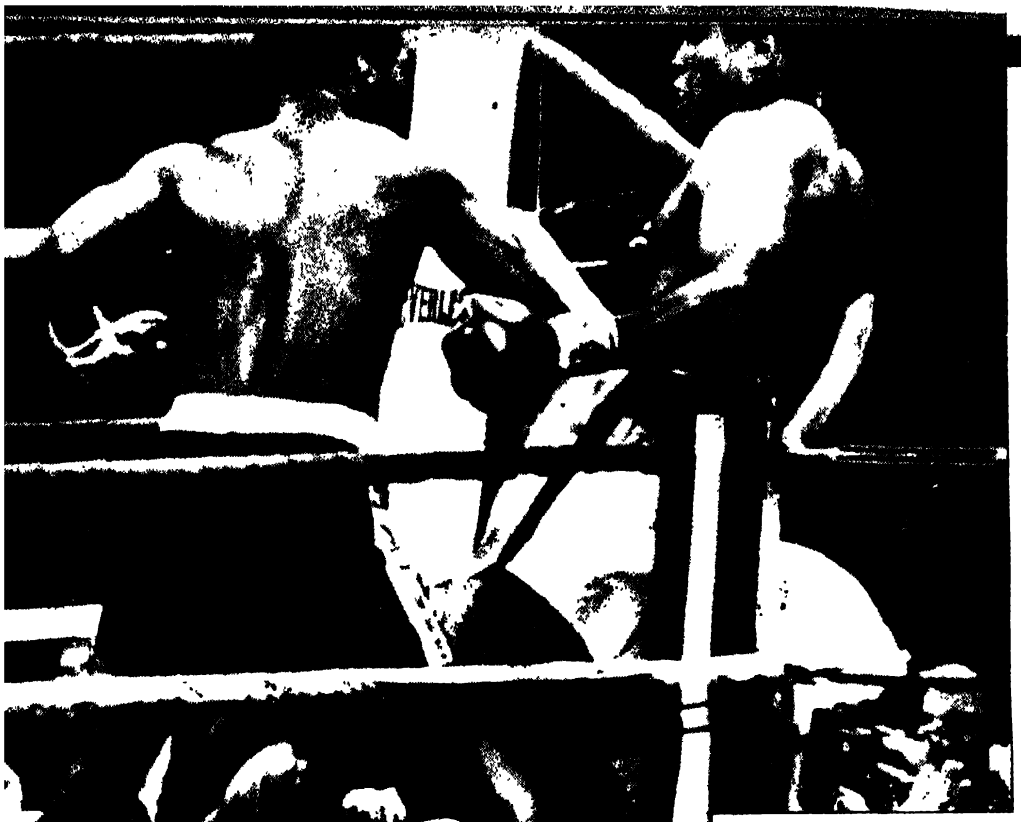
Ali". The universal hero. Forever.

Yet once the fighters themselves were introduced, and Ali forgotten, few would see the right hand holding the left hand to stop it from shaking. What cruel God would bestow such an illness on such a man.



1967

REFEREE STOPS WEPNER, ALI GOES TO LIE DOWN



1978

LEON SPINKS: THE BEGINNING OF THE END

times--when we met him, the room was a definition of chaos. People, noise, flashlights. Yet not a flicker of annoyance or discomfiture showed on his face.

Religion has much to do with this—from the master of legalized violence, he has become a champion of peace. A spiritual man, committed to his faith. A





the cumulative effects of microscopic brain damage sustained in his career".

There is no known treatment for Parkinson's Syndrome but there have been instances of brain surgery on young patients being successful In fact, in 1987, a Mexican doctor Dr Ignacio Madrazd met Ali to convice him that he could perform such an operation. It entailed taking cells from the adrenal gland which produces dopamine (which is deficient in such patients) and putting them in the brain.

Ali refused. And of his illness would say many brave things. "It's an infirmity that I acknowledge freely and accept peacefully and my goal is work well in spite of it". And he has He is everywhere, once in Washington, then in Iraq, here in Calcutta. And he maintains a wonderful dignified patience at all

1981

THE LAST NIGHT: BERBICK WINS THE DECISION

1990

SLOW BUT STEADY HE SIGNS HIS NAME FOR US



ASHOKE MAZUMDAR

humble man who said, "God gave me this physical impairment to remind me that I am not the Greatest. He is".

But was Ali really humble, was he really the Greatest? You never could really tell about the first because he was such a flip guy. A clown but a highly articulate and erudite one. He liked to get under people's skins, saying



things like "If you're as great as I am it's hard to be humble". Insufferably arrogant, but you had to laugh when you read that because dammit, it was true. Like he himself commented once, "God made me, they say, the most recognisable man in the world". Bingo, he was right again. And just imagine that—to be better known than anyone on this entire planet.

Why? Because he was the Greatest. Even though Ali acknowledged that "I only paid lip service to being the Greatest, but Joe (Louis) actually was", there is no argument here. Louis was exceptional but Ali was, well, ALI. Not just the greatest boxer but the greatest athlete.

When people meet Ali now, they leave with images of what his illness has done to him. Sadness. Not me. As he sat slumped in his chair in a towelled hotel bathrobe, the room spun for an instant and Ali had become younger, sitting in a silk robe, fists taped and from outside the door came echoes of a chant: *Ali bomaye. Ali kill.* The room spun again and and he was talking softly and slowly in front of me. You still listened enraptured to him. The aura had not vanished. He will always be The Greatest. Then and now.

Rohit Brijnath

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1 • What is a 'falling leaf'?

2 • Who became the first millionaire in lawn tennis history?

3 • Which English captain equalled the world record in the long jump and also won an F.A. Cup Finalist's medal?

4 • Who is the only batsman to have scored a Test century before lunch on his Test debut?

5 • Whom did Bjorn Borg play against in his first match in Wimbledon?

6 • What is Namgyal Wangdi better known as?

7 • What is Bhupinder Singh Mohinder Singh Bahadur, the Maharajah of Patiala famous for?

8 • When was the first running commentary for a cricket match broadcast?

9 • What is special about Bob Hayes' record win in the men's 100 metres at the Tokyo Olympics (1964)?

10 • Where would you find these words: 'Fear is negative. Desire is positive'.

11 • Name the English newspaper in which the famous 'in memoriam' announcement, marking the beginning of the Ashes was first published.

12 • What is the permissible wind assistance in an athletics meet?

13 • Which great Olympian's tribal name is 'Avodele'?

14 • Which great world heavyweight champion fought a title fight barely two hours after his marriage?

15 • The 1960 Olympic marathon race is attributed with three firsts. What are they?

RATING TEST

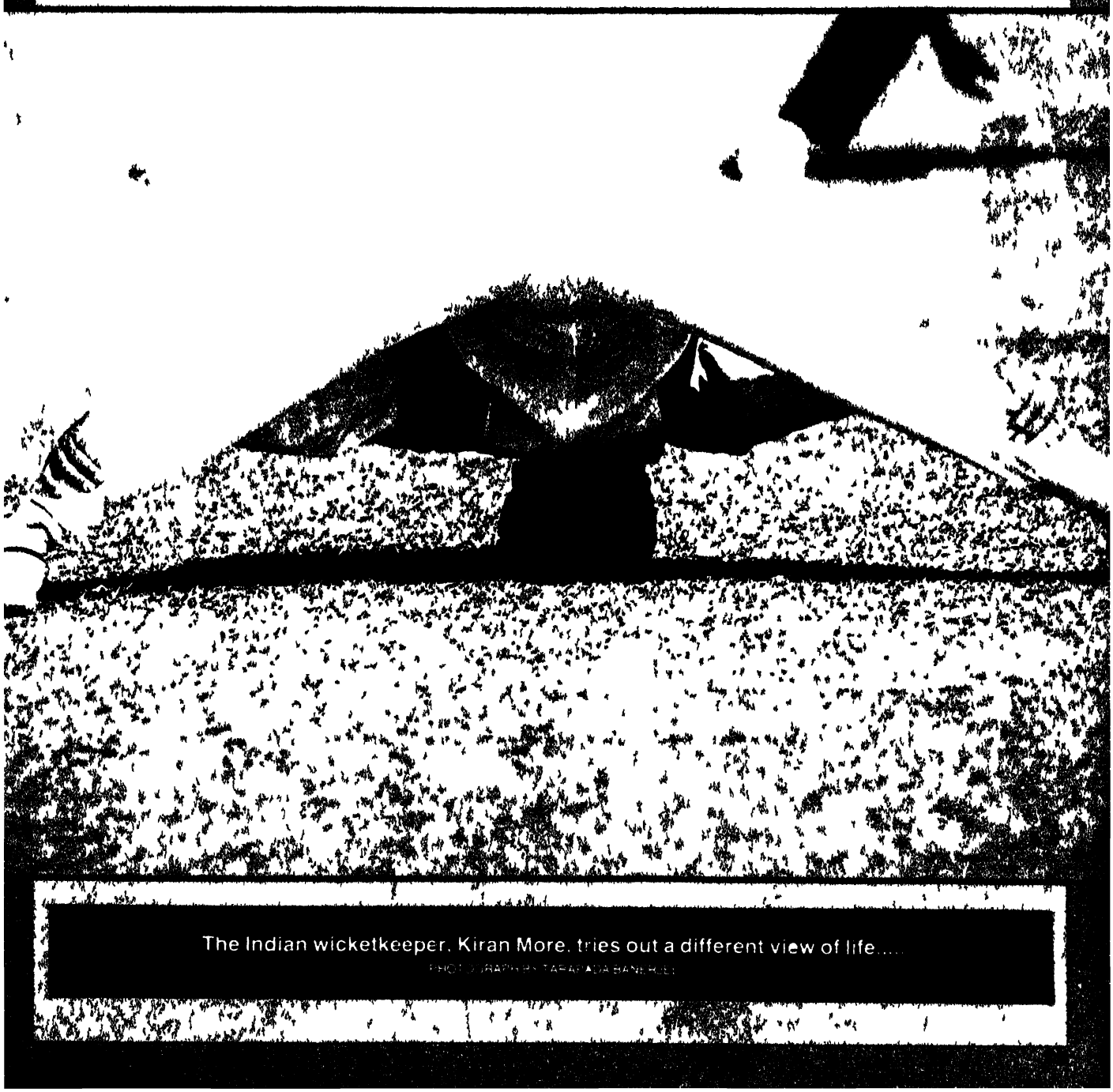
ABOVE 15: Wish you were part of our quiz team.
BETWEEN 10 AND 13: Not too bad.
BELOW 10: Sportsworld reading recommended.
All answers sent in by the contributor.

ANSWERS

1. A type of freekick in football, in which Didi(Brazil) specialised in.
2. Rod Laver.
3. C.B. Fry
4. K.S. Ranjitsinhji, for England versus Australia in 1806
5. Premjit Lal.
6. Tenzing Norgay.
7. He donated the Ranji Trophy when it was inaugurated for the first time in 1934-35.
8. 1927. In the Essex versus New Zealand match at Layton.
9. It was the first time in Olympic history when the photo-finish timing device was accepted as the official source to verify performances.
10. In Richard Hadlee's 'motivation card', which he carries around in his bag, almost wherever he goes.
11. Sporting Times.
12. 2 metres per second.
13. Daley Thompson.
14. Joe Louis
15. It was the first marathon (a) To be run at night, (b) To start and end outside the stadium, and (c) To be won by a black African.

THIS QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY:
SHIKHA CHATTERJEE,
11, DWARIK GANGULY STREET,
P.O. KALIGHAT.
CALCUTTA 700 026

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK



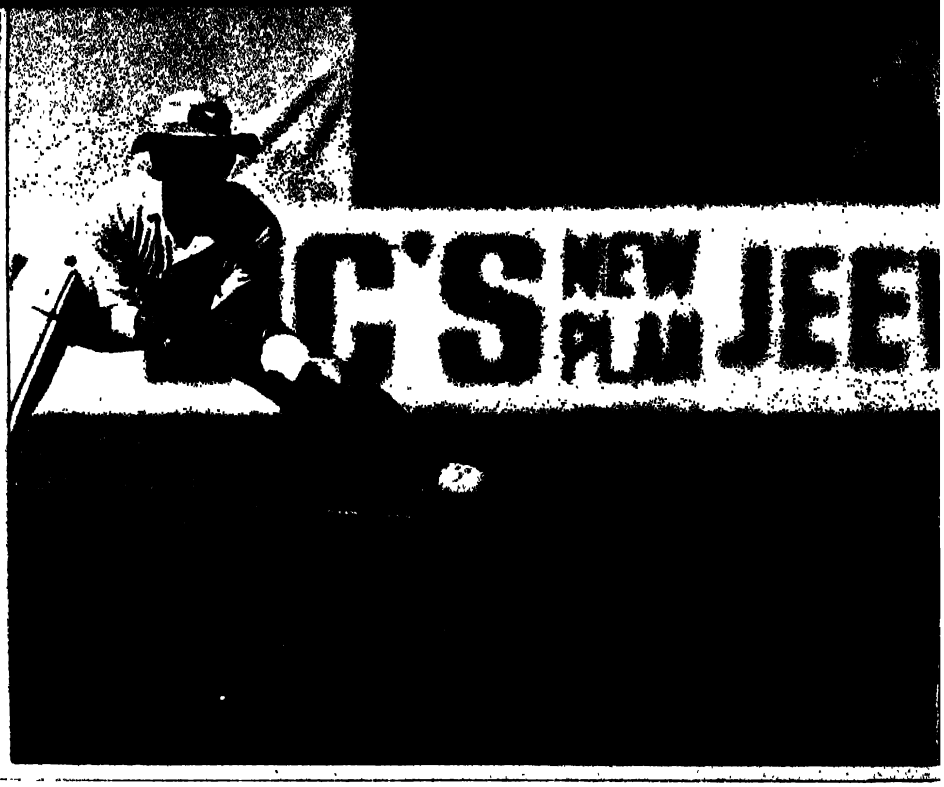
The Indian wicketkeeper, Kiran More, tries out a different view of life....

PHOTOGRAPH: TARA ALI BANERJEE

ASIA CUP : A PIC

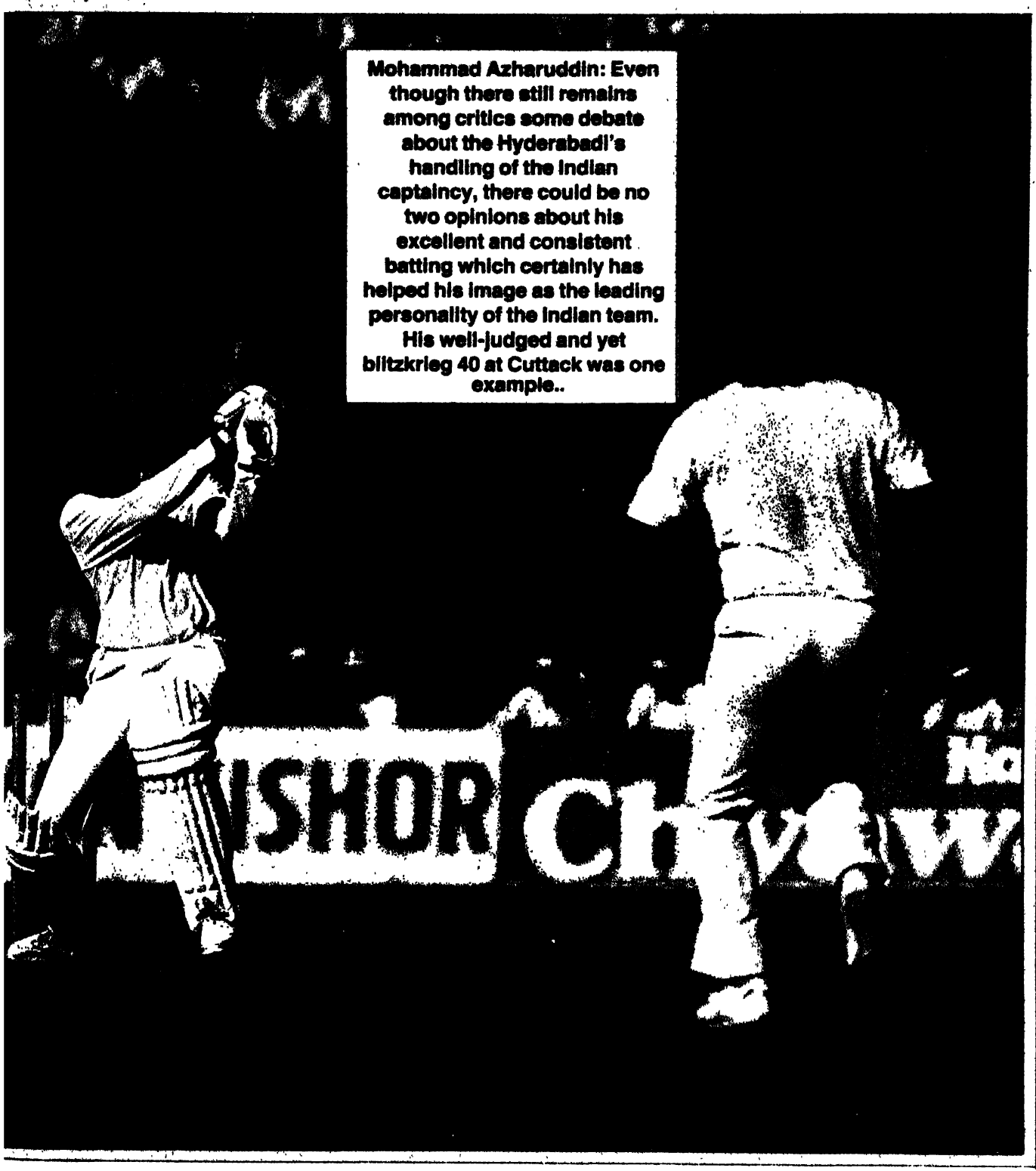


TARAPADA BANERJEE

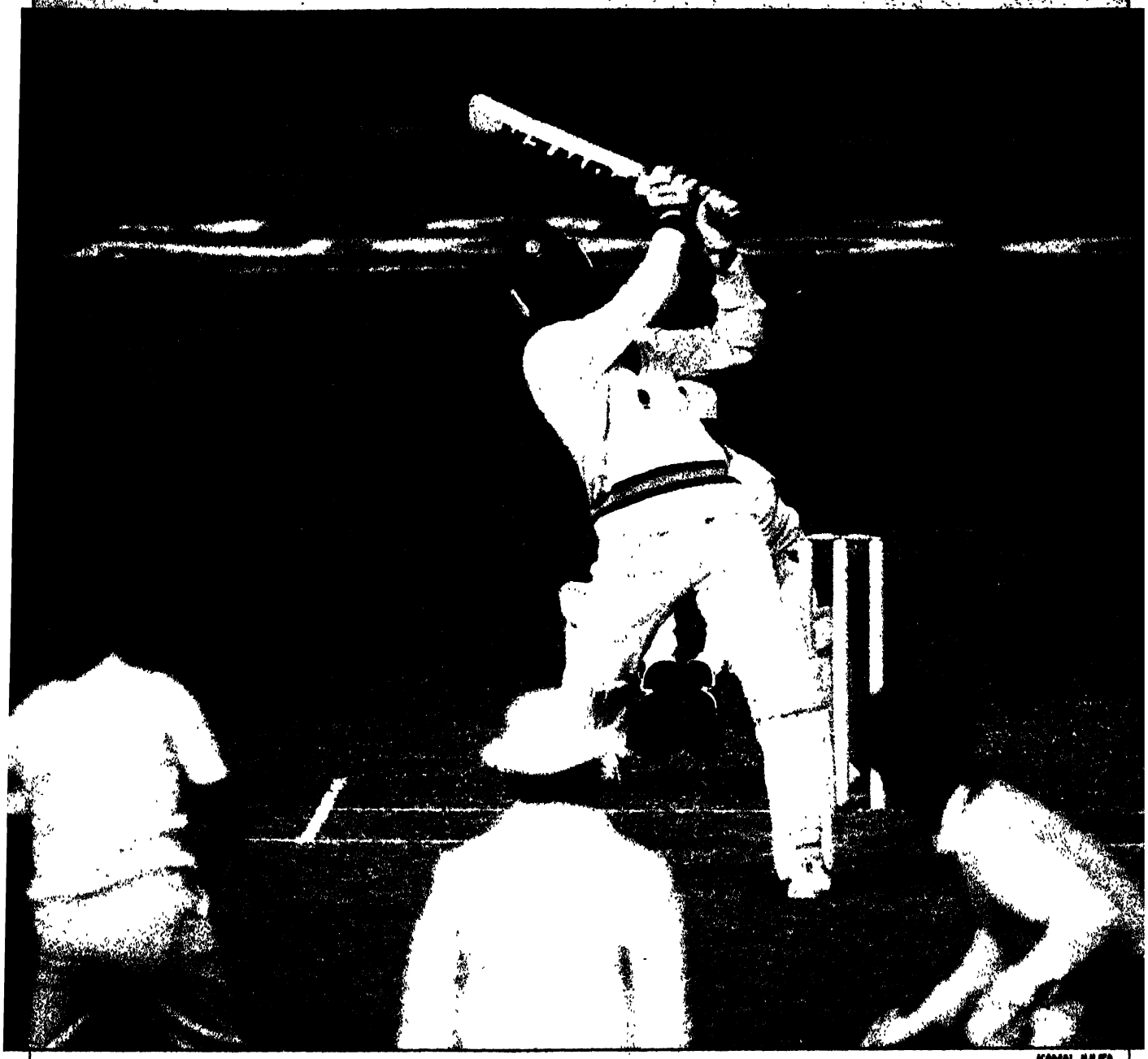


Saradindu Mukherjee: The newcomer would require a lot of self-belief and patience to tide over the uncertainties, the ups and downs that seem destined to shadow him as a spinner till he hits big time glory. In Chandigarh, when he made his India debut they said he bowled well. And that's all. No wickets. And just when impatient critics had started talking about the futility of inducting him into the Indian team, Mukherjee improved further in Cuttack, took a wicket and gave away only 3 runs per over.

TURE GALLERY



Mohammad Azharuddin: Even though there still remains among critics some debate about the Hyderabadi's handling of the Indian captaincy, there could be no two opinions about his excellent and consistent batting which certainly has helped his image as the leading personality of the Indian team. His well-judged and yet blitzkrieg 40 at Cuttack was one example..



KAMAL JUJRA

Navjyot Sidhu: Going great guns! The no-holds barred batsman is now really thriving in his role as an Indian opener. And the surest indication of his current aggressive mood came in Chandigarh where against Bangladesh, he blasted everything before him to get a scintillating century...

ASIA CUP:THE SCORECARDS

SRI LANKA:

C. Senanayeke b Wassan	27
H. Tilekratne c Raju b Wassan	26
A. Gurusinghe b Wassan	34
Arvinda D'Silva c More b Saradindu	11
A. Ranatunga c and b Prabhakar	53
R. Mahanama run out	0
S. Jayasuriya lbw Kapil	23
R. Ratnayeke b Kapil	0
C. Ramanayeke b Kapil	0
D. Anurasiri run out	8
J. Warnaveera not out	0
Extras (b-8, lb-19, w-4, nb-1)	32
Total	214

Fall of wickets: 1-51, 2-62, 3-86, 4-159, 5-162, 6-190, 7-191, 8-191, 9-210.

BOWLING: Kapil 9.2-1-48-3; Prabhakar 10-2-39-1; S. Mukherjee 10-0-30-1; Wassan 10-0-28-3; V. Raju 10-0-42-0.

INDIA:

Ravi Shastri run out	4
N.S. Sidhu c R. Mahanama b D. Anursari	25
S. Manjrekar run out	26
Md. Azharuddin st. H. Tilekratne b S. Jayasuriya	40
S. Tendulkar lbw A. Ranatunga	4
Kapil Dev b R. Ratnayeke	32
M. Prabhakar c A. D'Silva b Warnaveera	4
K. More b A. Ranatunga	27
V. Raju run out	0
Atul Wassan b Ratnayeke	1
Saradindu Mukherjee not out	2
Extras (lb-6, w-2, nb-5)	13
Total	178

Fall of wickets: 1-24, 2-37, 3-81, 4-95, 5-111, 6-123, 7-165, 8-166, 9-173.

BOWLING:R. Ratnayeke 6.5-1-24-3; C. Ramanayeke 5-0-12-0; D. Anurasiri 10-0-44-1; A. Ranatunga 10-0-36-1; S. Jayasuriya 6-0-22-1; J. Warnaveera 8-0-34-1.

Ranatunga receiving the Man of the Series trophy





Captain Azharuddin:The era of Azharuddin has come to stay

(Final)

SRI LANKA:

Charith Senanayeke run out 25
Hashan Tilakeratne c More b Wassan 15
Asanka Gurusinhe run out 39
Aravinda de Silva c and b Mukherjee 26
Arjuna Ranatunga run out 49
Roshan Mahanama c More b Kapil 5
Sanath Jayasurya a Manjrekar b Kapil 10
Rumesh Ratnayake lbw b Kapil 0
Graeme Labrooy c Prabhakar b Kapil 10
Champaka Ramanayake not out 9
Jayananda Warmaweera not out 0
Extra (b1, lb13, w7) 21
Total (for nine wkts in 45 overs) 204
Fall of wickets: 1-48, 2-50, 3-93, 4-151, 5-176, 6-177, 7-182, 8-182, 9-202.
Bowling: Kapil 9-0-31-4; Prabhakar 9-1-36-9; Mukherjee 9-0-39-1; Wassan 7-0-35-1; Raju 8-0-34-0; Shastri 3-0-15-0.

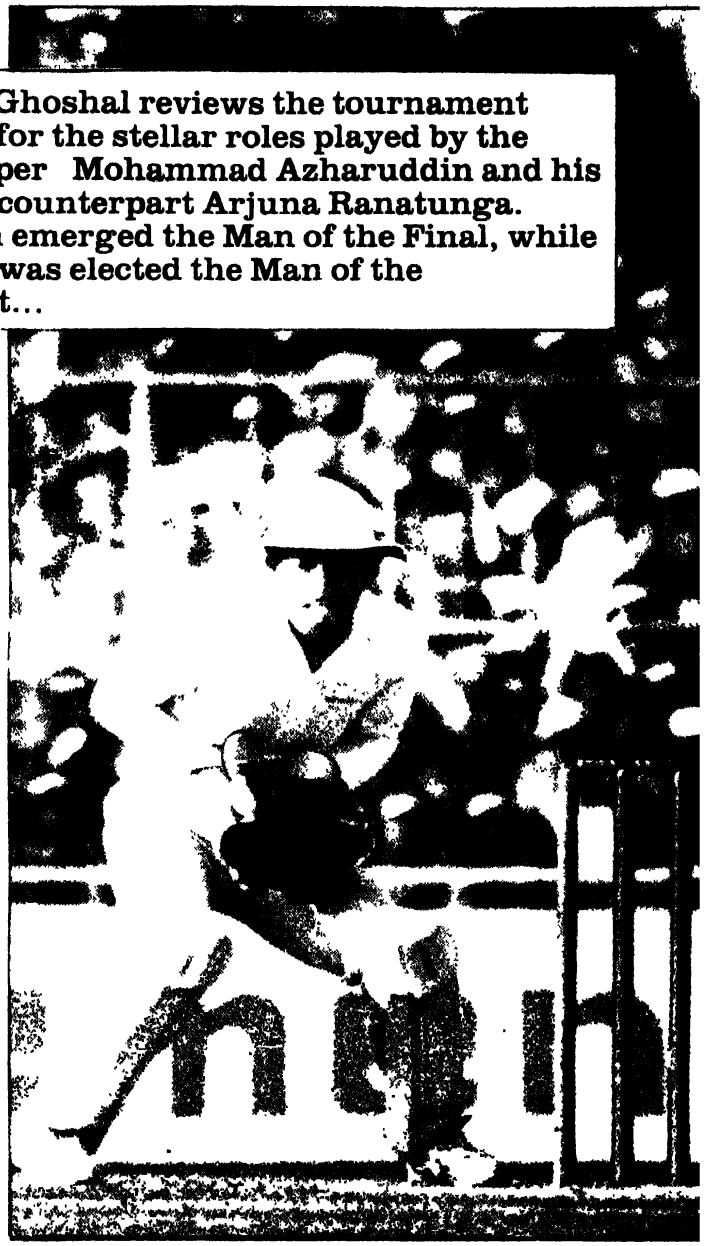
INDIA:

Ravi Shastri c Tilakeratne b Labrooy 6
Navjot Sidhu c and b Ranatunga 15
Sanjay Manjrekar not out 75
Sachin Tendulkar lbw b Ratnayake 53
Mohammed Azharuddin not out 54
Extras (lb1, w1) 2
Total (for three wkts in 42.1 overs) 205
Fall of wickets: 1-14, 2-30, 3-121.
Bowling: Labrooy 8.1-1-29-1; Ramanayake 7-2-32-0; Ratnayake 8-0-34-1; Ranatunga 2-0-12-1; Warnaweera 6-0-41-0; Gurusinhe 6-0-26-0; Jayasuria 5-0-30-0.

Bangladesh vs Sri Lanka: Sri Lanka 249 for 4 in 45 overs

Bangladesh: 178 for 9 in 45 overs

Suprakash Ghoshal reviews the tournament memorable for the stellar roles played by the Indian skipper Mohammad Azharuddin and his Sri Lankan counterpart Arjuna Ranatunga. Azharuddin emerged the Man of the Final, while Ranatunga was elected the Man of the Tournament...



Azharuddin: Skipper's innings

HAIL TO T

Though Mohammad Azharuddin's captaincy for India has never been a subject of bitter controversy, there have been occasional rumblings of discontent whenever India has failed to impress

But, perhaps, now it seems that the era of Azharuddin has come to stay And should, because, in all fairness to the man and his cricketing abilities, and especially his attitude, this is one man who leads from the front —by example.

He is effective in his quiet efficiency, he is unobtrusive and yet reasonably assertive in imposing his authority And above all his batting as well as fielding has remained remarkably unaffected by the burden of decision making. Unlike many of his former and present colleagues

No doubt, that's a remarkable achievement And perhaps, nowhere else did it come in sharper focus than the just-concluded Asia Cup where Azharuddin excelled and—as a result India did too.

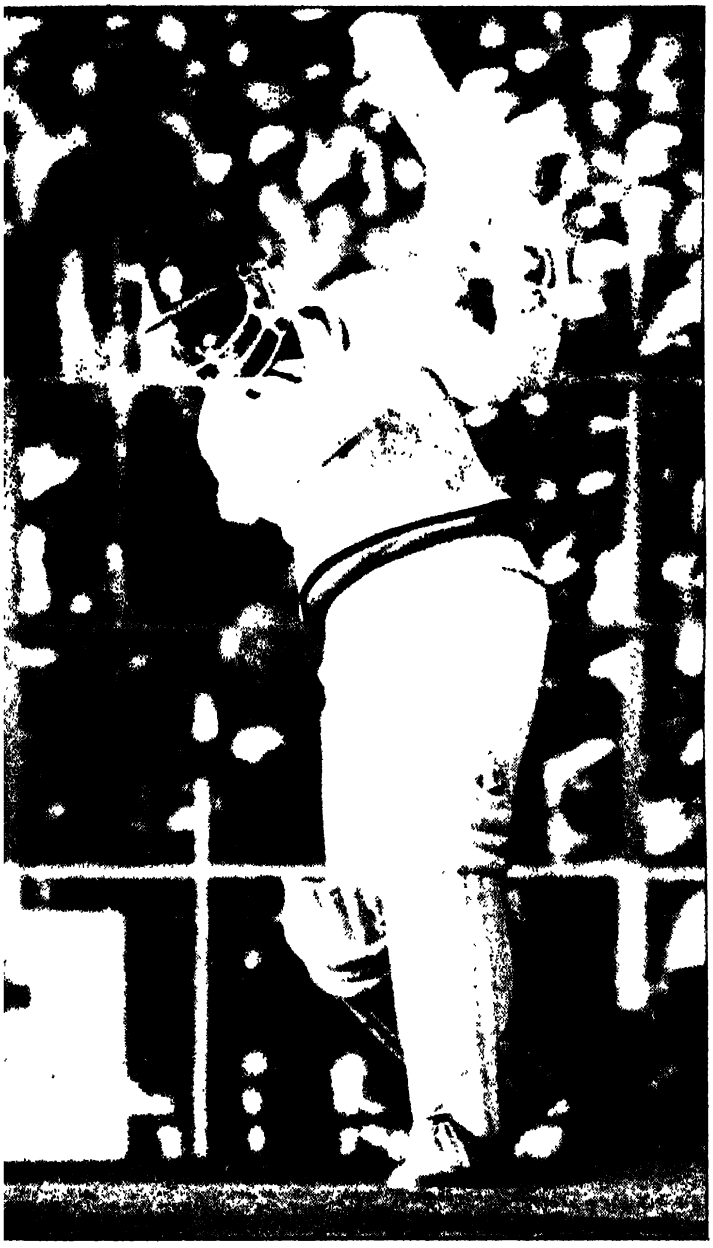
The biggest plus point for the 'young' Hyderabadi, who still does not relish being called a man, (he prefers 'boy') is that his batting after a long, disquieting spell of indifference— is now back on its original track of glory The confidence has returned, the splendour shines again And together they have contributed richly in enhancing his image and personality as skipper.

Perhaps, India required such a thing to happen for its cricketing future, which at one time looked jeopardised for its captaincy crisis.

Yes, crisis it indeed was that shiny afternoon in Eden Gardens too. Sri Lanka was really doing well, palpably capitalising on the new-found confidence generated by the convincing Cuttack victory

Both captains had gone out in the middle, shivering in the cold morning mist, anticipating trouble For they both knew the toss of the coin would be crucial. For the notoriety of the treacherous nature of the Eden Gardens on a winter morning was no local gossip. It is well-known that the cold morning haze that settles down on the wicket, along with the moisture of the dew, can have only trouble in its womb.

The ball swings so unpredictably, the pacers can have a field day; the slightly moist



HE CHIEF

...Now it seems the era of Azharuddin has come to stay...He is effective in his quiet efficiency, he is unobtrusive and yet reasonably assertive in imposing his authority. And above all, his batting as well as fielding has remained remarkably unaffected by the burden of decision-making...

wicket can make the spinners viciously vindictive.

So, when Azharuddin won the toss, the knowledgeable thought half the battle was won. India still have in its ranks the great Kapil Dev, who for all the criticism levelled against him for his lack of wickets, is still a lurking danger for any aspiring side. And he did prove so eventually.

Then there were the spinners, the newcomers Vankatapati Raju and the quick rising Saradindu Mukherjee, whose successes on

The permanent sensation Sachin Tendulkar whose entire attitude sends out unmistakable signals of defiance to any kind of hostility that he faces. At Eden Gardens, he was the first to give a hint of the shape of things in the offing....

the domestic front has already caused great expectations. And of course there was the unpredictable wicket with its own diabolical gameplan. No wonder the pundits thought half the battle was won

But Sri Lanka had other plans. As the early Sri Lankan batsmen began to settle down, and hit out on occasions, the runrate looked an impressive 4 per over a little too early to believe.

But all the same it was happening. Newcomer Wasson began to be punished, often humiliated through lofty sixers, as it began to look possible that Sri Lanka would race towards a tough challenging total.

At this juncture Azharuddin's decision to bring in Kapil Dev for his second spell (his first spell being moderately effective)



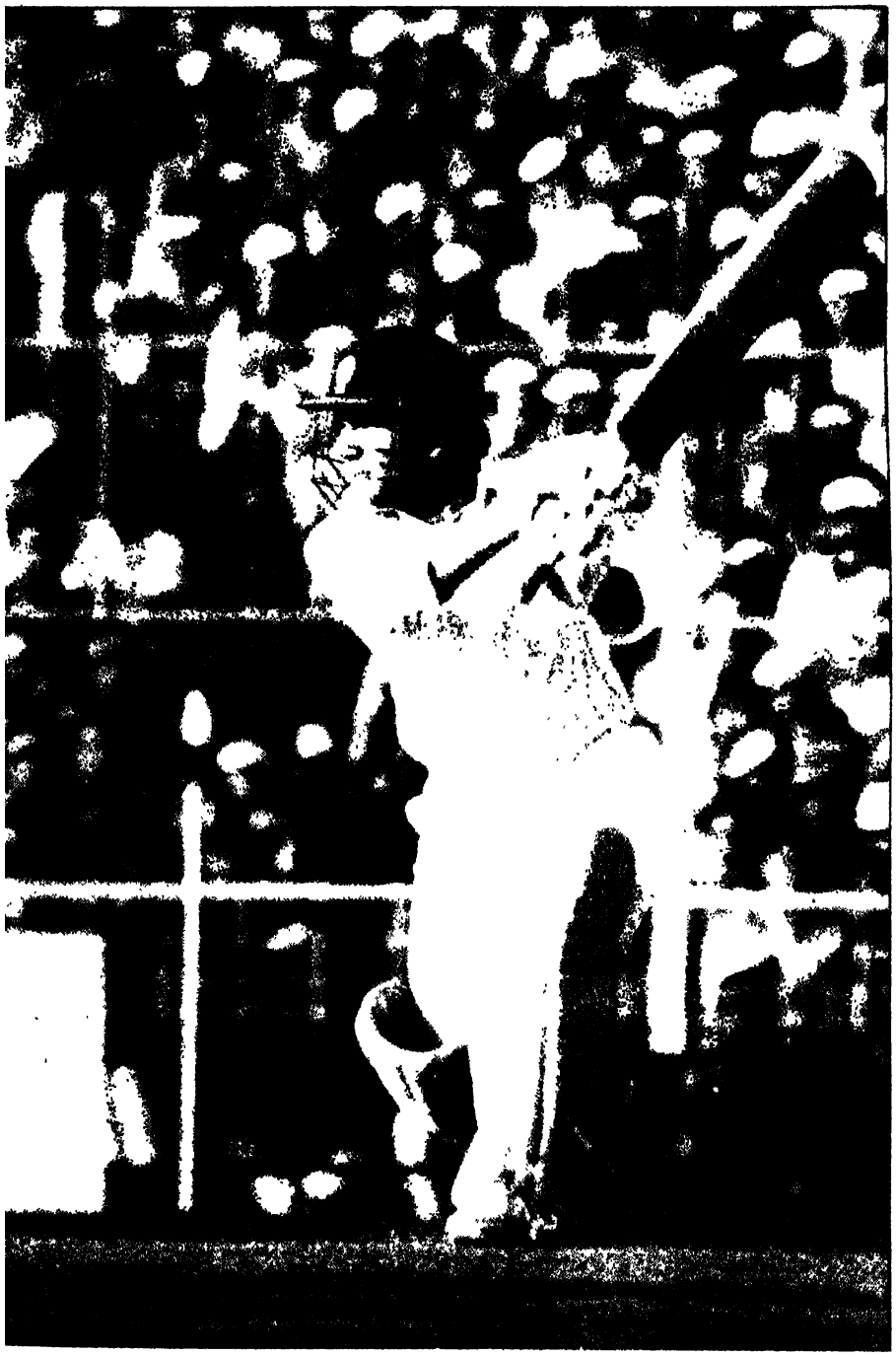
Sachin Tendulkar: going great guns

sparkled with genius.

Kapil struck with great venom, ripping through the entire Lankan middle order, to settle for a hattrick and one wicket more. Azharuddin got his reward.

Now the Sri Lankans struggled to coast towards the essential 200 mark.

Though the skipper totally owed the aborted Sri Lankan innings to his great maestro Kapil Dev, his mastery that eventually gave India the Asia Cup, was now about to come. The early impact that the Sri Lnkans managed, domineering over the Indian bowlers in their innings till Kapil Dev came, was now transformed into their bowling effort, which kept the Indians stagnated for disquietingly long, as the prospect of a victory began to fade like a mirage



But that was only till Azharuddin came. He put paid to the aggressive Lankan hopes, taking the sting off their ever tightening bowling, as on the other end his young partner Sachin Tendulkar got electrified by the fireworks of his skipper.

This was Azharuddin's hour. Even before the Indian team came to the final the skipper had been doing a great job, both as a performer as well as a decision-maker Now he was adding the final touches.

Azharuddin drove, pulled swiped, hooked and ran brilliantly between the wickets along with partners Tendulkar and Manjrekar, and quickly turned the tables on the hopeful Lankans, whose bowling was by then reduced to pulp.

This indeed was a captain's innings.

And there could be little doubt that the impetus provided by the skipper was infecting the young ones in the Indian camp. Sanjay Manjrekar, rather subdued after the initial hesitation of the Indian batsmen, soon found himself going great guns, scoring briskly and in the end making a rich haul of 75 off 97 balls

That's exactly what inpiration does to a talented, skilful performer.

It was only befitting the occasion that Azharuddin emerged the Man of the Final. In a series marked by the stellar roles played by the Indian and Sri Lankan captains, this was undoubtedly a happy ending Just as was the case with Arjuna Ranatunga, the Sri Lankan captain, who asked for no quarter, and gave none And indeed excelled in all the departments where he acts.

A great competitor, Ranatunga provided great excitement to the tournament both in his individual capacity as an all-rounder as well as a teaam man who provided great leadership to a talented side—once again by example. Leading from the front.

That promising morning at the Garden Ranatunga could not hide his frustrations, when being run out he had to give up a superlative





Manjrekar (foreground) and Azharuddin walk back to the pavilion victorious

innings at a time when the Sri Lankans were cruising at a smooth four runs per over Ranatunga knew that the rhythm that was struck had to be maintained to drive home the advantage gained early

Ranatunga launched his onslaught right from the first ball of his innings, making his intentions clear, while the Indian bowling, especially Atul Wasson continued to lack in thrust and penetration.

Atul Wasson, sadly, had to suffer the humiliation of conceding almost all the sixes that the Sri Lankans could achieve. Although he managed to achieve what looked like an early breakthrough taking the wicket of Tillekeratne, Wasson wavered time and again in his length and direction at a time when, considering Kapil Dev's lack of form, he was supposed to bear the brunt of the bowling.

And how magnificently Kapil showed his true element, silencing the mounting criticism that he had been facing about his lack of success. There has often been talk even about his ouster from the Indian team; even if it meant denying him the opportunity to overcome Hadlee in Test cricket.

Those shafts of condemnation had pained him so deeply that Kapil recently asked in an exclusive interview to *Sportsworld*, "Have I become such a burden to my country, that everyone now asks me to retire?"

The sadness, the hurt and perhaps the frustration that rang in his voice that quiet afternoon in Pune is difficult to forget. Maybe, the pain was slowly germinating rare energy in him, preparing him for this spectacular explosion. Maybe, the pain will now be assuaged, and the vitriol silenced for some time to come

But coming back to the wonderful combination that the old and the new in the Indian team struck up, the progress of Sanjay Manjrekar towards further maturity has been one of the more positive aspects of the Indian experience. His innings of the 75



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made one forget the indifferent performances that he had been putting up in the last matches, and definitely showed how inspiration works

In the Eden Gardens, Sanjay Manjrekar owed his delectable knock as much to himself as his celebrated partner—captain fantastic himself.

And of course, the permanent sensation Sachin Tendulkar whose entire attitude sends out unmistakable signals of defiance to any kind of hostility that he faces. At Eden Gardens, he was the first to give a hint of the shape of things in the offing. Probably, the unreasonable subjugation at Cuttack—which indeed looks like an aberration—was at the back of his mind, and Sachin reacted instantly as he reached the crease.

The Indian team rejoice after Kapil's hattrick

He greeted the Sri Lankan bowling with a sharp square cut that travelled like a bullet and injured Roshan Mahanama who had to leave the ground.

That was the first spark, and thereafter Tendulkar sought to accelerate the run rate through quick and clever singles and twos, teaming up with Sanjay Manjrekar, in whom he got an excellent partner.

This was exactly what looked like happening in Cuttack too when Indian complacency, for no reason at all, brought about the shock defeat. But there Sachin Tendulkar must have cursed himself for deviating from his essential aggressiveness, and paid the price for it.

In the end a word of caution for those who talk about experience and exposure as an excuse for participating in big time sport. Exposure is beneficial, experience is supposed to stand you in good stead. But then it all depends on your preparedness, your ability to imbibe the experience. Else, the devastation that you suffer may shatter your confidence. Bangladesh made that mistake Howevermuch their officials brag about their 'valuable international exposure', they paid their price

PHOTOGRAPHS: NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

A 'Swinging' Series

TONY LEWIS on the effect of a plodders' summer on a swinging winter for the Australians

ENGLAND'S poor batting against a moving ball in the Brisbane Test was in part a legacy of last summer's run-feast when the ball with its reduced seam, refused to swing or move off the pitches which were dry and lifeless.

Remember the sunny days when a big bat was swung down the line of the ball's flight and clobbered it for four or six; think of the plodders who stayed at the crease all day to amass scores hitherto beyond them.

Poor players got runs; good ones got lots of runs. Alan Butcher, a very good player who scored over 2,000 of them said "I've not known a season like it The ball just kept on coming straight all the way I thought the bowlers did work a few things out by the end They seemed to improve in August."

The TCCB was delighted to hear this, because the previous trend of poor bowlers getting plenty of wickets was arrested. Control of line and length became essential skills again and counties began to select two spinners

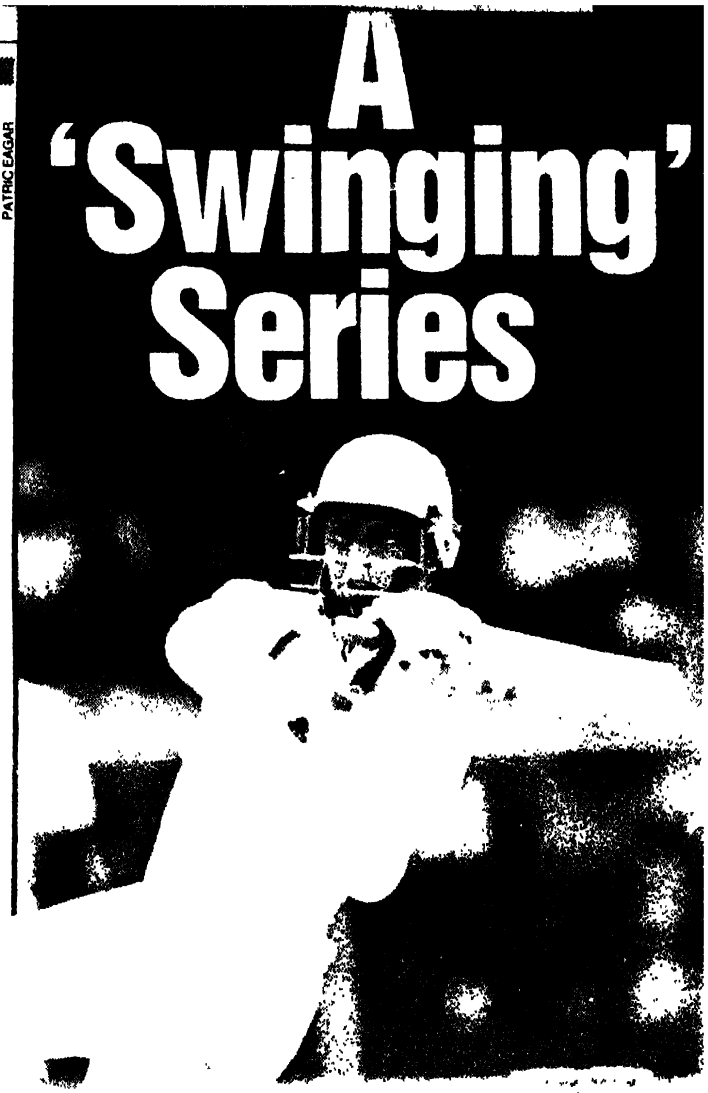
But what did it do to England? England's batsmen were flattered by the bowling of both New Zealand and India It was an unreal season. It is a different ball game now.

The television cameras in Brisbane gave a good view of the ball swinging and moving off the seam for the first two days; not always unplayable stuff (Atherton has the right to disagree), but requiring a sound technique to match the adage that the moving ball has to be played as late as possible.

In England last summer, because the line and bounce of the ball was so predictable that batsmen could move early into the stroke, often whacking the ball 'on the up'. At the Gabba, square-cutting balls which were still climbing in the bounce was one of the fatal indisciplines.

Call in Geoff Boycott to coach? Boycott talks a tough technical game and England look as if they need the out-spoken treatment.

When England were in the Caribbean young players like Hussain, Stewart and Atherton were keen to chat about



PATRIC EAGAR

Players like Nasser Hussain were keen to chat with Boycott about their game



Should Boycott be called in to coach England in the art of playing swing bowling?

their performances with Boycott, often with the help of some television video recording.

They are not so happy now and that is because Boycott in newspaper articles has rubbished both players and system. Mickey Stewart would argue that Boycott cannot scourge England in print one minute and be part of their training programme the next

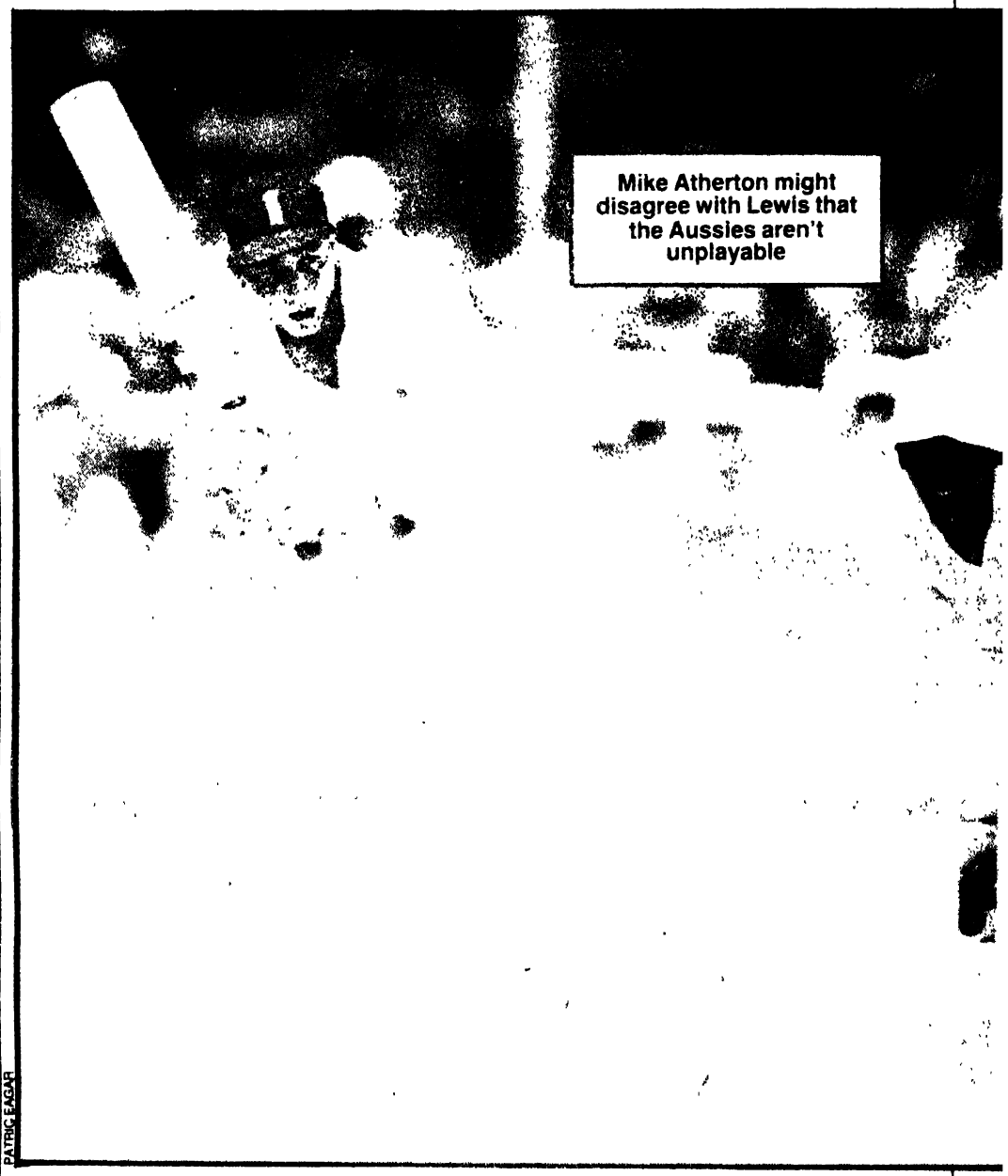
In any case, is it not too late in the day for coaching? Test players ought to know enough about playing methods themselves All that should be needed is an occasional technical observation from Micky Stewart or by one of the players.

Ideally, player should help player. That is what the best sides do, just as professional golfers give each other advice when asked. But the advice must be sought.

Interdependence strengthens team spirit. Would England have done better if last summer's pitches had been more responsive? More to the point, how should the members of the TCCB vote on the proposal to uncover pitches in the county game?

Natural surfaces, say the proposers, will make for more lively turf, batsmen will have to develop sounder techniques, become expert in the playing of the ball that moves and there should be more spinners bowling too

The Board's Cricket Committee does not agree. It argues that damp pitches do not always attract spinners but rather the faster bowlers who get sudden lift The cause of last season's run-feast they see as the endless sunshine. One Board argument has gone adrift, that conditions in county games should match those in Tests It happened that they did in England, but clearly batting on them last summer was no preparation at all for the surface in Brisbane Was Brisbane on the first two days good enough for a Test?



Mike Atherton might disagree with Lewis that the Aussies aren't unplayable

PATRICK EAGAR

(In England) the previous trend of poor bowlers getting plenty of wickets was arrested. Control of line and length became essential skills again and counties began to select two spinners

Changing next season to uncovered pitches would be to move too quickly Already there has been the error of tampering both with ball and pitch preparation at the same time so that the separate effect of each is uncertain

To take the covers off as well will turn the administration of the game into a crackpot doctor who keeps giving the patient a different pill. ●

THE HEIGHT OF DETERMINATION

To commence this analysis, it would be prudent to revert to last year: November 23, 1990. There was an eerie kind of unreality in the air. Maggie Thatcher had just tendered her resignation and a battered English team—led unexpectedly by Allan Lamb – had done little in the tour prelims to suggest that they would frighten Australia at the Gabba. But then the start of any Test tends to arouse optimistic feelings for the underdog.

These thoughts soon became pessimistic. And the solitary reason for this sudden change of opinion?

Bruce Anthony Reid.

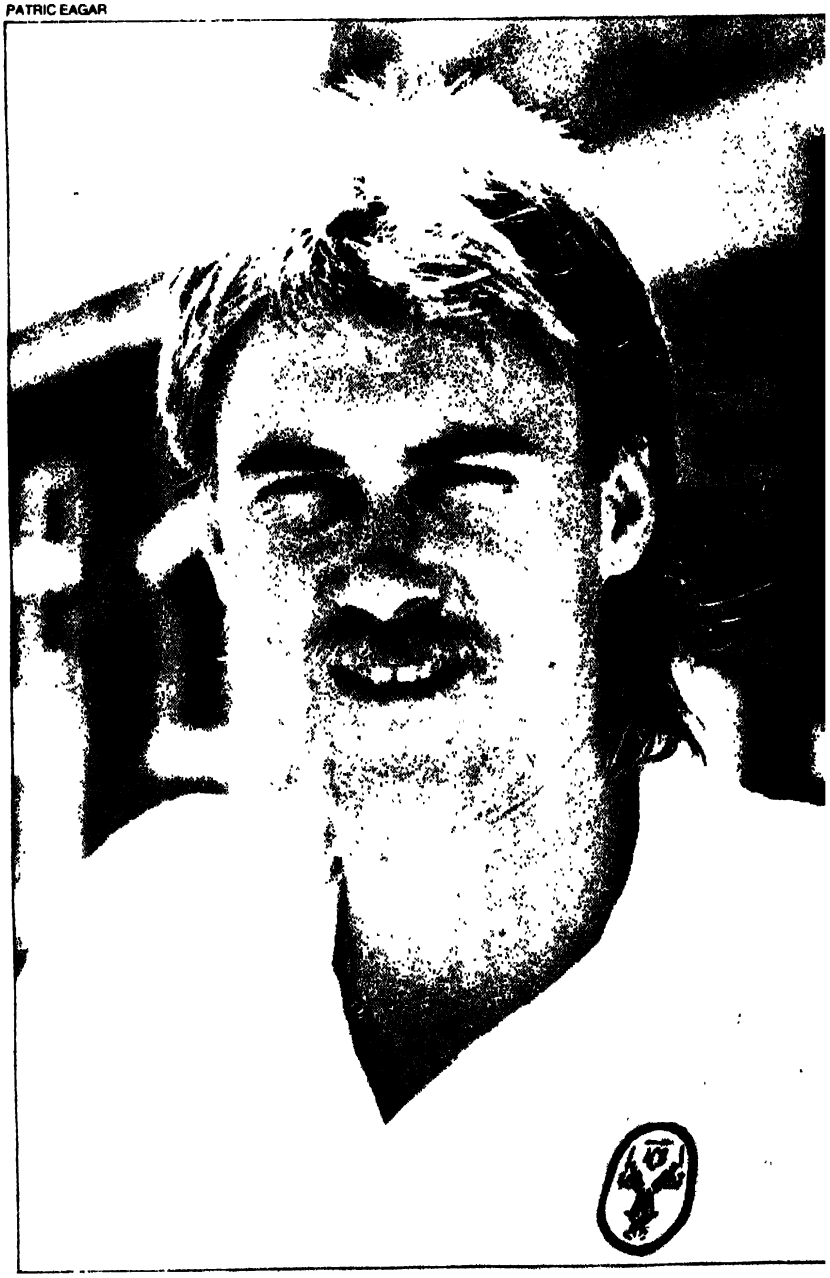
GANGLY, six feet eight inches tall, Reid has all the attributes of a very dangerous fast bowler. Impeccable line and length, exceptional rhythm, a mean bouncer and everything else...except an inswinger. But then, Allan Border isn't complaining.

Reid made his Test debut against India at the tender age of 22. His inclusion into the Aussie squad more a result of desperation than necessity. Other potential candidates were plagued by injuries and a few of them were dubbed as 'South African rebels'. Besides, despite his inexperience he was Australia's most successful bowler in the series, taking 11 wickets (29.54) with a best of 4-100 at Melbourne.

The Indian batsmen found his deliveries, which were laced with an awkward bounce and movement away from the bat—not necessarily their speciality – hard to cope with. Add to that a trajectory that began at a height of about 7½ to 8 feet and you've acquired yourself a major problem.

The Reid success story was written chapter by chapter after that. With experience came the tag of potentially the most lethal fast bowler in the Aussie continent. But then suddenly,

PATRIC EAGAR



Bruce Reid has shocked both the critics and himself with his splendid comeback performance

providence tore out a page from his book. The bowling machine broke down: 1988, the third Test against Pakistan in Lahore. Reid collapsed to a protruding spinal disc in his lower back which was rubbing against a nerve. Doctors diagnosed it as critical, suggested an operation and passed their sentence: no bowling...ever.

This simple farmer from Western Australia thought otherwise. That significant chapter would be rewritten. Reid was given permission to bowl after the removal of two discs and the grafting together of two vertebrae in the lower back with bone taken from the hip after a complicated operation.

Let us now go back to that fateful day of November 23, 1990. The English were about to begin their campaign, for what they believed, was the Battle for the Ashes. Winning the toss and being put in to bat, England started on a cautious note. The Aussies had made a bold---but nevertheless—well calculated change in their squad. Bruce Reid was making a comeback. After two years of loneliness and inactivity.

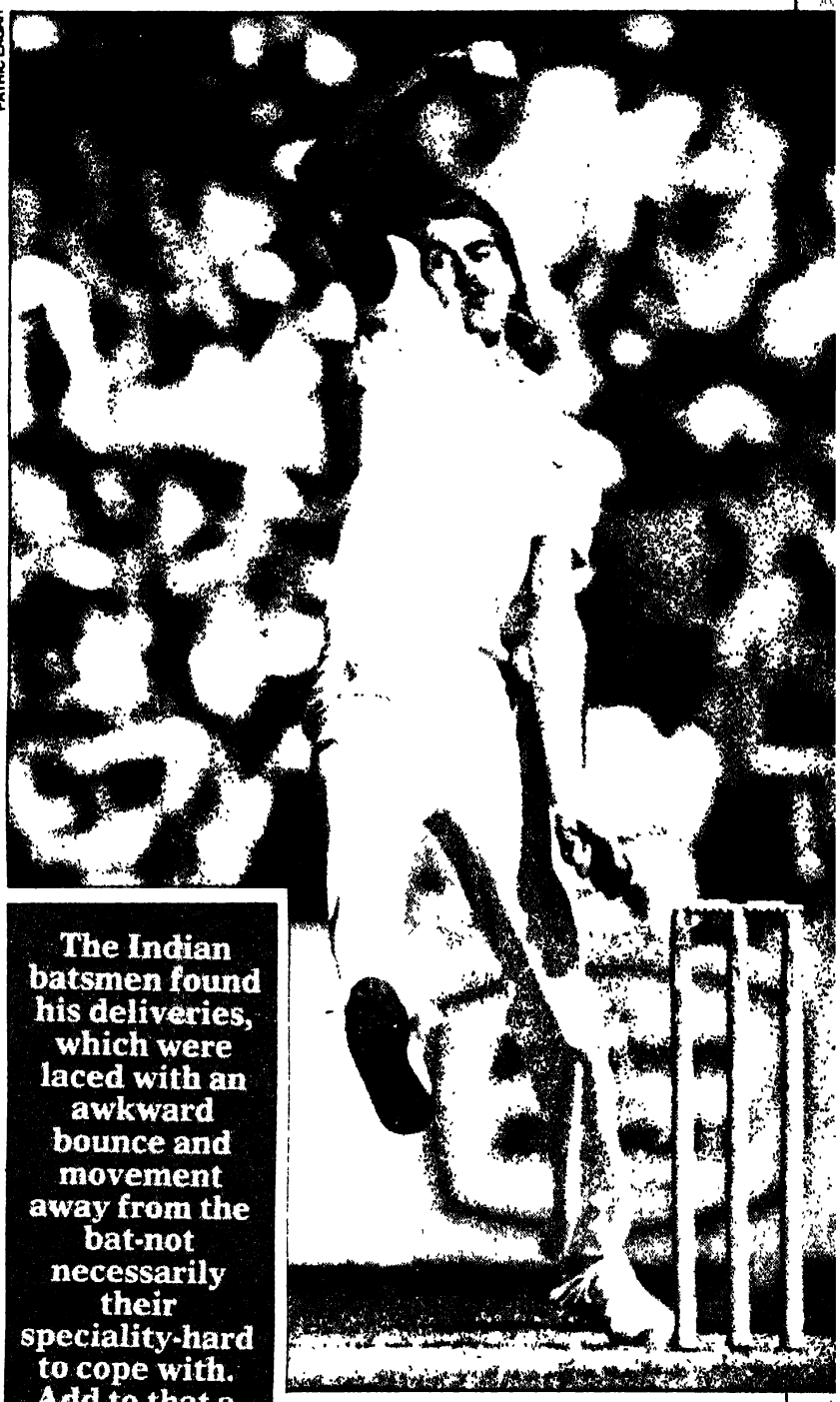
The scores were even till tea. The marchpast started soon after that, conducted by Reid. The English batsmen were unable to cope with his deliveries and more importantly, his newly acquired determination. Graham Gooch, the hero of last summer stalked gloomily around the pavilion environs in his Akubra hat. His failed hand marked with 36 stitches in a sling. He looked helpless.

On the field, Bruce Reid, his back held up by metallic attachments to his spine, was dictating terms in the middle. Having made a comeback in place of an erratic Chris Matthews, a revived Craig McDermott who missed selection despite having a successful Sheffield Shield season and an experienced Carl Rackemann who was sitting and earning the salary of a twelvth man, Reid's forlorn sickbed dreams had come to bear fruit within a space of 16 balls. Three wickets and England were shattered by the man, recently described as, 'all arms and legs...much like a blue movie without the naughty bits'.

The Reid success saga—for those who dismissed it as a flash in the pan—did not, however, end there. He bowled on aided by his new found strength and determination. If his five wickets at the Gabba was purely incidental, then how would cricketing *pundits* analyse his performance in the second Test at Melbourne, where he wrecked the top English batting order, finishing with 6 for 97 in the first innings and 7 for 51 in the second innings? The accolades haven't started pouring in as yet but the statisticians provided some consolation. They ranked his haul of 13 for 148 as the sixth best in Test history by an Australian and the best since Bob Massie took 16 wickets at Lord's in 1972.

Robin Chatterjee

PATRIC EAGAR



The Indian batsmen found his deliveries, which were laced with an awkward bounce and movement away from the bat-not necessarily their speciality-hard to cope with. Add to that a trajectory that began at a height of about 7½ to 8 feet and you've acquired yourself a major problem



NATIONAL SQUASH, CALCUTTA

TOO FEW AT THE TOP

THE wonder boy of Indian squash Adrian Ezra has done it again. To defend his title he flew down from Harvard University, USA and won the national title for the third time in a row. Only, this time he did it with a vengeance.

Ezra's speed is reminiscent of 'Lightning (Anil) Nayar' as he was called in the States. His dedication is total and his tricky, wristy shots wrong-foot the best. To add to that he has worked hard at his physical fitness. He also spent last year playing in the international circuit, putting himself in a class above the others in Indian squash.

The clash of the titans'—Indian style—between old adversaries Adrian Ezra and Meherwan Daruwala in the final had raised expectations



Adrian Ezra, national squash champion for the third time in a row flew down from the USA to defend his title

RESULTS

MEN'S
Adrian Ezra bt Meherwan Daruwala 9-3, 9-0, 9-0.
WOMEN'S
Bhuvaneshwari Kumari bt Honey Sherman 9-2, 9-2, 9-6
VETERAN'S
Raj Bajaj bt S. Shirgaonkar 4-9, 9-3, 9-7, 9-2.

of a keen tussle Drauwala had come through after a pulsating semi-final clash with Arjan Singh, the tall lanky serviceman from the Corps of Engineers. This was their third clash of the season and it had gone the full distance till Daruwala put paid to the young serviceman's hopes of his maiden entry into the national final. But not before Arjan Singh delighted the crowd with his firebrand power squash and those delightful nicks. Had he 'tined' less, it might have been a different tale.

Ezra was in no mood to give anything away to Delhi's Yogendra Singh (Tubby), in the semi-final of the National Squash Championship. Playing with a fierce determination he demolished Tubby for the loss of a single point, and cursed himself for that lapse.

And thus began the defence of his title. He started a litle nervously against the solid rock like consistency of Daruwala. Three unforced-errors and he started playing safer shots. Then there were long rallies from both the southpaws.

Daruwala played extra cautiously. And that was his undoing because Ezra moved him around much more, gradually taking the wind out of Daruwala. Suddenly it was all over - in a mere 27 minutes. What had promised to be a loud bang, ended in a whimper. Meherwan, who fought so gallantly to down Arjan Singh the previously day, was but a pale shadow of his usual fighting self. Or was it that Ezra was much too good for him?

Whatever it be, there are too few players in that bracket at the top. Perhaps the young emerging squash brigade from Bombay in the Pandole cousins, Paul Perreira and Rishad Bilimoria, or the more seasoned Delhi duo of A R Singh and Udai Singh will climb there. But, I see Arjan Singh



Bhuveneshwari Kumari, women's national champion for the 15th time

THE-DO-IT-YOURSELF-TOURNAMENT

NOT quite happy with the organisation of the premier event in squash—the Inter-State and the Nationals—one wag asked the other, 'I see no tournament director, no chief referee, no mike system in the glass backed courts, no order of play, no nothing. Say, who's running this tournament, and how?'

Replied the other wag, "Don't you know? This is the latest in tournament organising- the -do-it-yourself-tournament!"

breaking fresh ground with his aggressive unorthodox hard hitting style -a la Stuart Davenport, the tall New Zealander who was world No.3 The real silver lining is provided by the sub-juniors the Asthana twins, Vineet and Vinay- already playing solid, matured squash.

I wish we had such a silver lining in women's squash as well. But right now Bhuvaneshwari Kumari (Candy), is much too good for her competitors She met her old adversary Honey Sherman, who stretched her a bit, but the result was never in doubt Candy, the obvious winner, has won the nationals title for 15 years in a row some record that and I guess there will be some more

CONFUSION AND INTRIGUE

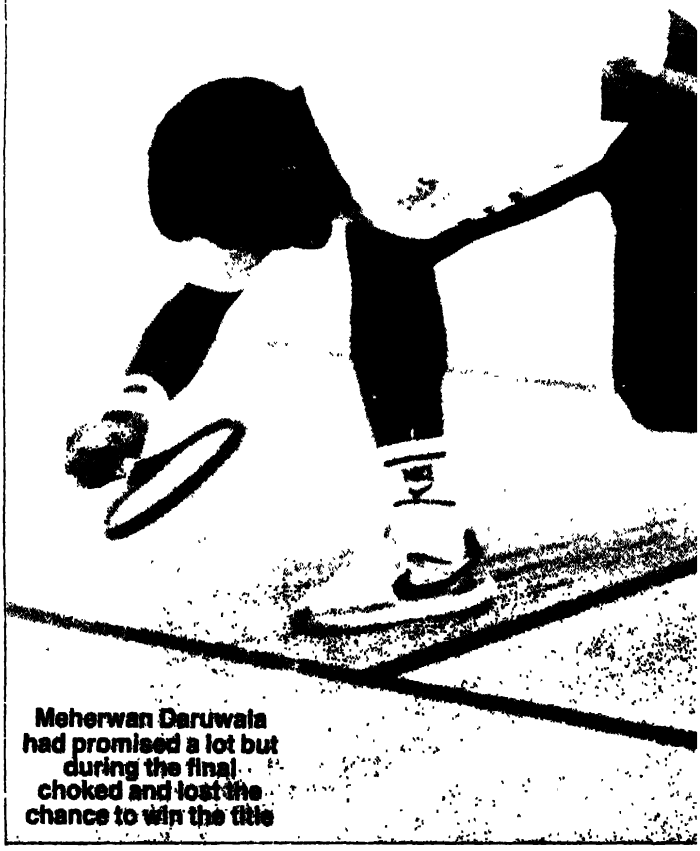
FOR a matter that was never considered by SRFI (Squash Racket Federation of India), leave alone taking a decision, a PTI press report on December 16, '90 stated that the SRFI had barred the defending champion Adrian Ezra from the National Squash Championship. This was most intriguing.

Adrian Ezra has a British passport and has recently moved to the United States for higher studies. His nationality as given in the International Squash Players' Association (ISPA) ranking list is British. However, Ezra holds a permit for residence in India.

The SRFI executive committee meeting scheduled to be held on December 18, '90 had no such point to be discussed on their agenda, but since the press report had appeared, they discussed it. No press release or press conference or statement to any reporter had been given by any SRFI official at anytime on that subject and the press report was immediately denied. Legal action was being contemplated for this unfounded report which showed the SRFI in a poor light.



Arjan Singh seems to be the only bright spot in Indian Squash



Meherwan Daruwala had promised a lot but during the final choked and lost the chance to win the title

PHOTOGRAPHS SANTOSH GHOSH



CRICKET INTERNATIONAL

Anybody's game

ANYTHING, it seems, can happen in the Gulf and we're not referring to the January 15, deadline set by Mr. Bush. It's cricket we're talking about. The fact that it's a tough job for an umpire to stand in at the Al Fateh tournament in Dubai.

In a recent match there, the umpire turned down an appeal and was immediately surrounded by protesting players. The match was being watched by a member of the cricket council who, by one of those strange coincidences that befalls the lot of man with unfailing regularity, worked for the same company as the members of the protesting team. This gentleman walked on to the field and raised his finger decisively. The umpire's decision was reversed and the batsman was out

There seems to be no appropriate way in which we can sum up this situation. Some things are better left unsaid.

BOXING INTERNATIONAL

Saudi passions



THINGS done out of goodwill just don't get you anywhere nowadays. The publisher of America's *Boxing Illustrated* magazine, Bert Sugar had offered the US Army 100,000 copies of the mag to help cheer up the boys in the desert.

Uncle Sam negated the deal by putting his offer on hold. The reason? The Saudis considered the magazine to be pornographic. The sight of men naked except for their shorts could inflame the most dangerous of passions, they explained. Arrangements were thereafter made to import the magazine so long as it didn't fall into Saudi hands. There have been many sound arguments against boxing, but pornographic!

Wonder what the Saudis think of synchronised swimming?



THE REFEREE SEES RED

Eleven times

SOCCER refs have been having a 'ball' lately. The referee is always right: at least when he pulls up a member from the opposition. We also congratulate Giuseppe Lorenzo for having been the fastest player to be sent off the field in recent times. Timing 10 secs. Is this a record?

Lorenzo came on as substitute in the 72nd minute against Parma as Bologna were about to take a corner. Before the kick could be taken, the linesman informed the ref that Lorenzo had clobbered someone on the way in. Off, he went!

We also applaud the brave actions of referee Pedro Castaneda. In officiating a match between Toledo Imperial and Gamonal, he sent off the whole Gamonal team!

Castaneda began by sending off one Toledo player and two from Gamonal for chucking mud at each other. Things hotted up when, after spectacular fouls on a defender and goalie, Toledo scored their third goal.

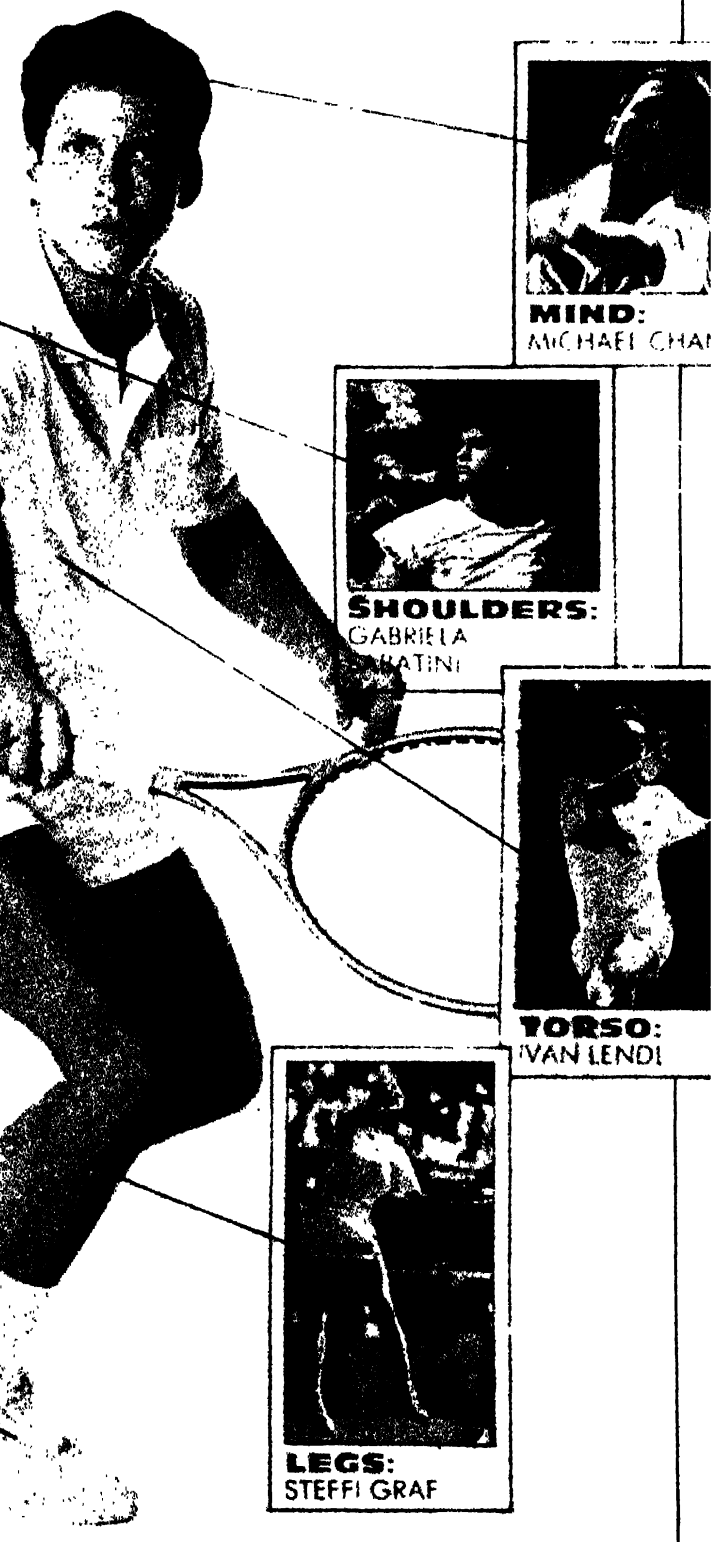
The ref was immediately surrounded by protesting Gamonal players: even Toledo agreed their goal was illegal. But the ref thought otherwise. He fished out his card and flashed it at all the Gamonal boys.

Castaneda later agreed that his action was a bit 'unusual' but added that he had no choice, "after I was insulted gravely."

He's quite a man.

THE PERFECT TENNIS BODY

BY MARC BLOOM



MIND:
MICHAEL CHA

SHOULDERS:
GABRIELA
SABATINI

TORSO:
IVAN LENDL



ARMS:
MARTINA
NAVRATILOVA



HANDS:
STEFAN EDBERG



FEET:
ZINA GARRISON

LEGS:
STEFFI GRAF

REMEMBER the shuttle run from high school phys-ed class? You had to sprint across the gym, come to an abrupt stop, grab an object, sprint back to the other side, put the object down, and repeat the whole thing until your legs buckled. You hated the exercise—and envied the well-cut jocks who excelled at it. They were taut and wiry, quick and springy, with the legs of a Rodin. Like Greco-Roman wrestlers minus the steroids. Boy, could they move.

But just try the shuttle run now. Go ahead—use your living room, backyard, whatever. See how far you get. If your heart races, your legs burn and you lose all sense of coordination, you're like many recreational tennis players who don't move well on the court.

The reason is simple. You lack the most important quality of the perfect tennis body—great legs.

The perfect tennis body is both rare and beautiful. It is well-proportioned from head to toe. Picture the arms of Martina Navratilova, the shoulders of Gabriela Sabatini, the torso of Ivan Lendl, the legs of Steffi Graf. Combine those attributes, and you would create a composite few players could ever hope to achieve.

The precise relationships between anatomy, physiology and performance remain something of a mystery in tennis, which has lagged behind other sports in profiling performers. Researchers in running, cycling, swimming and skiing have all tested elite athletes to correlate common characteristics of excellence. The results provide valuable information for everyday participants. Only in the past year has tennis, in the form of the USTA's Sport Science Committee, embarked on such extensive research.

It comes as no surprise that the two world No. 1s, Lendl and Graf, are cited most often by tennis authorities as having the sport's "best bodies." In fact, both Lendl and Graf, along with Navratilova, were named earlier this year to the Best Bodies of the Eighties list by body-building guru Joe Weider.



JEFF CROW/SPORTS FILE



There's a line from Chariots of Fire that has become a sports maxim: "You can't put in what God left out". Lendl's efforts, however, seem to refute that

"Steffi's got the best tennis body I've ever seen," says TV commentator Mary Carillo, who differentiates the gifted from the workhorse. Graf, she says, is blessed with natural speed, powerful legs, big hands. "God kissed her right on the lips," Carillo says.

There's a line from *Chariots of Fire* that has become a sports maxim: "You can't put in what god left out." Lendl's efforts, however, seem to refute that. His comprehensive fitness program has given him the armour to not only become No. 1, but to stay there. Carillo calls Lendl a "bluecollar" player, someone who has lifted his game through aggressive conditioning. "You can see it in his play, the endless hours spent on footwork," she says.

Footwork is indeed the key, according to Andre Agassi's coach, Nick Bollettieri. "Contrary to what most players think, it's not poor technique but physical problems that lead to a weak game,"says Bollettieri. "If a player worked on conditioning alone, he could improve his game by as much as 75 per cent."

Carillo agrees. "When you start to tire, your form breaks down and your serve suffers," she explains. "You're not moving as well to the ball. You think you're not hitting the ball well, but you're just not getting to the ball. It's sad to see club players have a really long rally, and three points later they're still gasping for air."

Of course, much of having the perfect tennis body is what you're born with, but you can improve what you do have.

"There are many different body types that can perform well in tennis," says Gary Wadler, M.D., a U.S. Open physician for the past 10 years. "You have a lithe Carling Bassett-Seguso on one hand, a strong Martina Navratilova on the other."

For instance, most players can develop what former Wimbledon and U.S. Open champion Stan Smith calls "greyhound legs." Leg portfolio, if you will, is more of a concept than a measurement. It is not based on any strict standard of



Among the many methods Miloslav Mecir uses to achieve leg strength is ballet training. He is deceptively quick

length, girth or even muscle definition. Legs differ. Bodies differ. Styles of play differ.

Tennis is a game of endless sprints in undetermined directions. Sprints demand leg power and quick muscle response. You might be faced with a 20-foot sprint, then a 10-foot sprint, then a 25-footer. You might have to chase down lobs and overheads. In other words, you have to hustle. And pity the poor body that isn't prepared.

SPEED hurts. That's why most runners jog. This and other steady-state activities rely on oxygen to help fuel the system. Sprinting, whether done on the track, football field or tennis court, is anaerobic. There is no oxygen involved. The intense burst causes muscle to contract too fast to allow oxygen to aid in the energy process. Lactic acid builds up, inhibiting the muscle's ability to produce energy.

But at least runners have some control over their pace. On the court, you don't. According to Wadler, tennis play is 85 to 90 percent anaerobic. "Jogging is not the answer," he says. "You must do sport-specific sprint work to develop the physiological system to generate energy without oxygen."

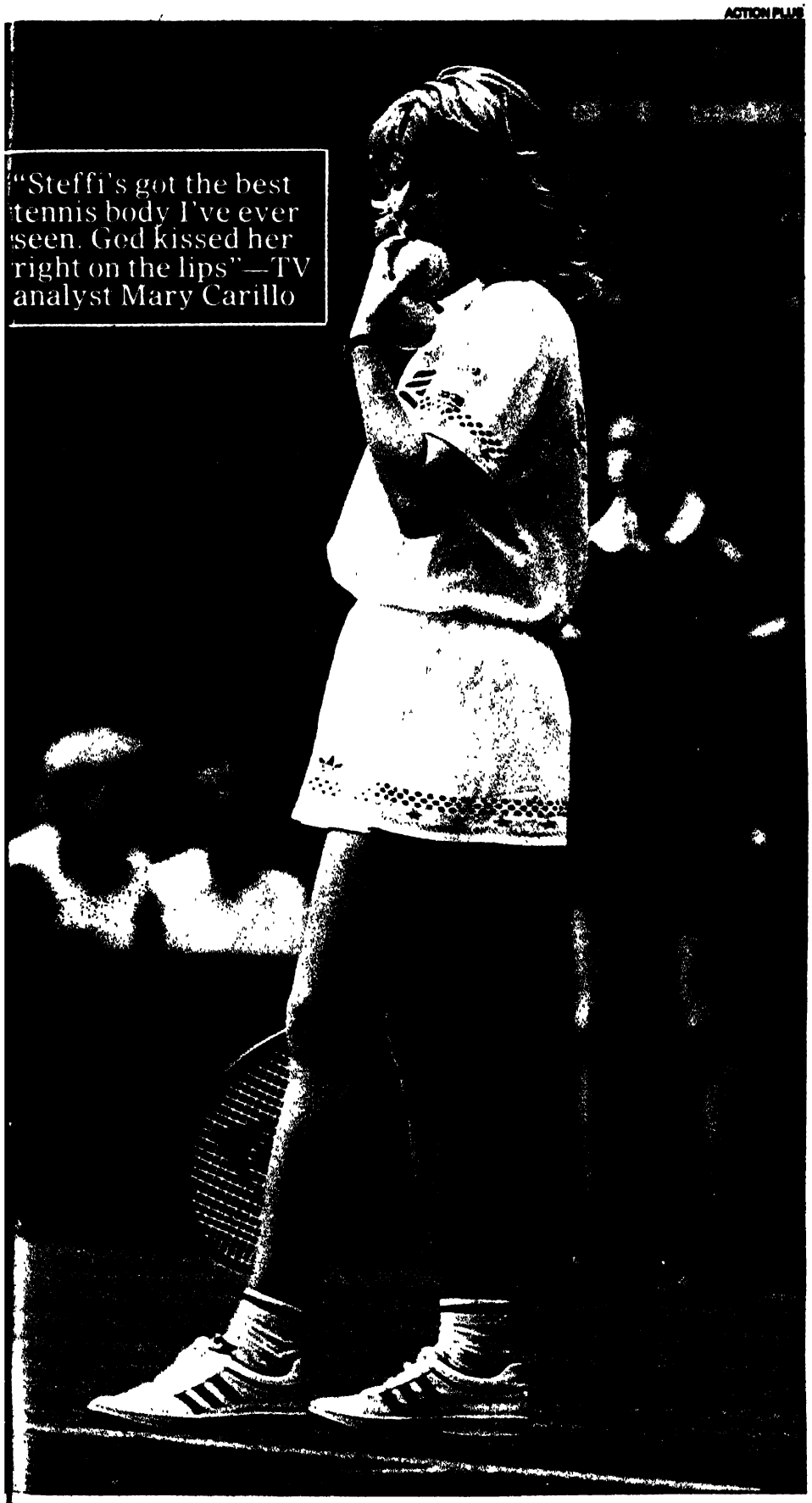
That's especially true in tennis, where the court measures only 39 feet long by 27 feet wide. And remember, you don't only move forward. You move sideways and backwards. You change direction. Such contained intensity, say physiologists and trainers, requires some simulation of the game in your conditioning program.

Great legs not only elevate your game, but they also prevent injury. Strong quadriceps (upper thigh muscles) help support the knees, which often take a beating on the court. For a quick self-test, stand up, tighten your legs, make a fist and lightly punch your quads. If your hand feels like it's making, contact with Mike Tyson's abs, you're in good shape. If your quads accept the blow with indentation, your knees may be in jeopardy.

Miloslav Mecir is one player whose quadricep development "has saved him from further wear and tear on the knees," according to ATP trainer Bill Norris. Among the many methods Mecir uses to achieve leg strength is ballet training. "The ballet moves have helped his agility on the court," says Norris. " Now he's deceptively quick."

It's practically impossible to refute the benefits of dance, but for core training, Norris advocates court drills, placing a ball at different "stations" and racing back and forth from one ball to the next. Remind you of anything you did in your youth?

For a variation on the theme, try the shadow drills favoured by Smith, who now serves as director of coaching for the U.S. National team. "I'm a big fan of quick stops and starts, a bend of the knee, and recovery back into position,"



Smith says. The shadow drill is, in effect, make-believe play. With racket in hand, dash cross-court, stop abruptly, reach for a forehand, reverse direction, race to the other side, stop, go for a backhand. "In a match," reasons Smith, "you can't take a golf cart between shots."

Another way to develop leg power is through plyometric drills, like hopping, jumping and bounding. These exercises are favoured by downhill ski racers, whose thighs must withstand the pressure of holding a tuck at 70 mph. Tim Mayotte has had success with these drills.

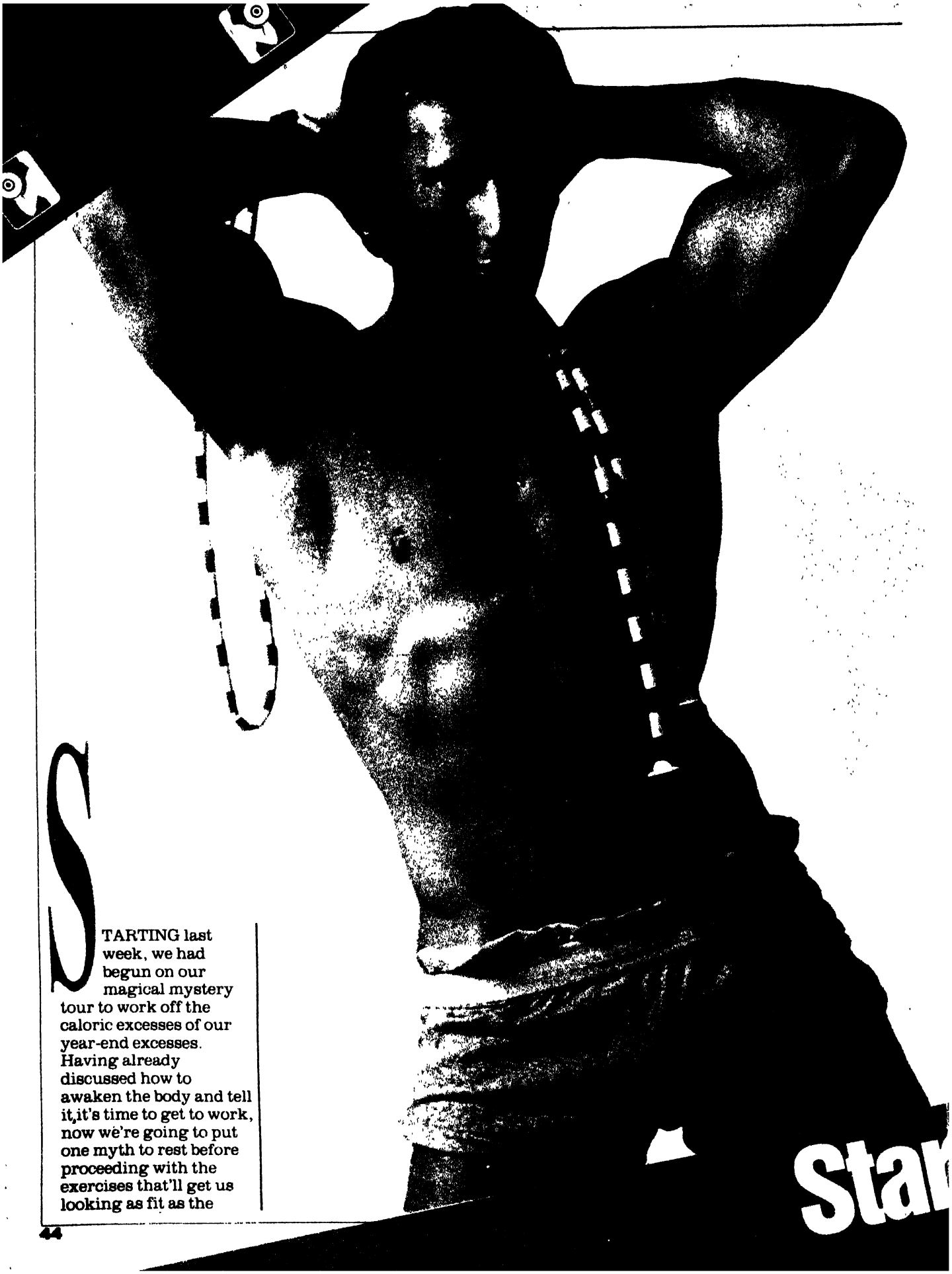
Still another exercise for the legs is running short sprints, like Pete Sampras does. Pat Etcheberry, the conditioning trainer at Nick Bollettieri's Tennis Academy in Bradenton, Florida, has Sampras run 18,40-yard sprints as part of his workout. "Pete could go out and run 6 miles, but then he'll be slow on the court," says Etcheberry. "You have to train for speed."

By developing the anaerobic system, you train muscles to react not only quickly and powerfully, but with endurance. In a single set you may need to unleash a hundred bursts of speed. The stronger you are, the less lactic acid builds up.

Shoulder strength is also essential for the perfect tennis body. But that doesn't mean you should start pumping up. Instead, strive for lean, sleek muscles, the kind that Etcheberry says is best derived from weight work. "Traditionally, weights give you bulk and that's the opposite of what you want for tennis," says Etcheberry. To avoid bulk, he suggests more repetitions of lesser weights with few rests between each set. Etcheberry also advocates working on the abdominal muscles as a means of strengthening the serve.

So what's a perfect tennis body to do? Well, the consensus seems to be that when all is said and done, nothing beats a great pair of legs. But it certainly doesn't hurt to have the entire package. ●

Courtesy: World Tennis



STARTING last week, we had begun on our magical mystery tour to work off the caloric excesses of our year-end excesses. Having already discussed how to awaken the body and tell it it's time to get to work, now we're going to put one myth to rest before proceeding with the exercises that'll get us looking as fit as the

Star

ving Won't Help; Exercise Will



folks pictured in these pages.

Most of us—the more overweight and unfit we are, the more likely we are—believe that the first thing to do when trying to trim off those extra kilos is stop eating. So much so that some of us even resort to starvation diets. Which is exactly what *not* to do.

As discussed before in these pages, the body won't shed size just because you're also turning on the body's natural defence mechanisms. You see, the moment the human system is denied nutrition, it begins to hoard whatever precious little it gets (that's the stuff you're allowing yourself on your diet) and slowing down the metabolism. And this effect carries on for some time when you do eventually go off your diet, making the normal intake of food put back everything that you lost.

The best—and most permanent—way to lose weight is to exercise. Do some form of aerobic activity, and you'll be asking the body to reach into its reserves. And the human body's only energy reserves are fat.

In fact, if you're willing to listen to reason, you'll find that most fat people around you actually eat less than the thinner ones to begin with. You're always so conscious of your obesity that you'll watch how much you serve yourself, how much you pour into your glass. And yet you're fatter!

If you don't believe us, read on: a study done in 1985 measured the caloric intake of over 6000 people and came up with an inverse relationships between calories consumed and bodyweight. Other studies have proved that thin school children ate anything between 800 and 1200 calories more than their fat counterparts. So, it's pretty obvious that intake of food has very little to do with the way you look.

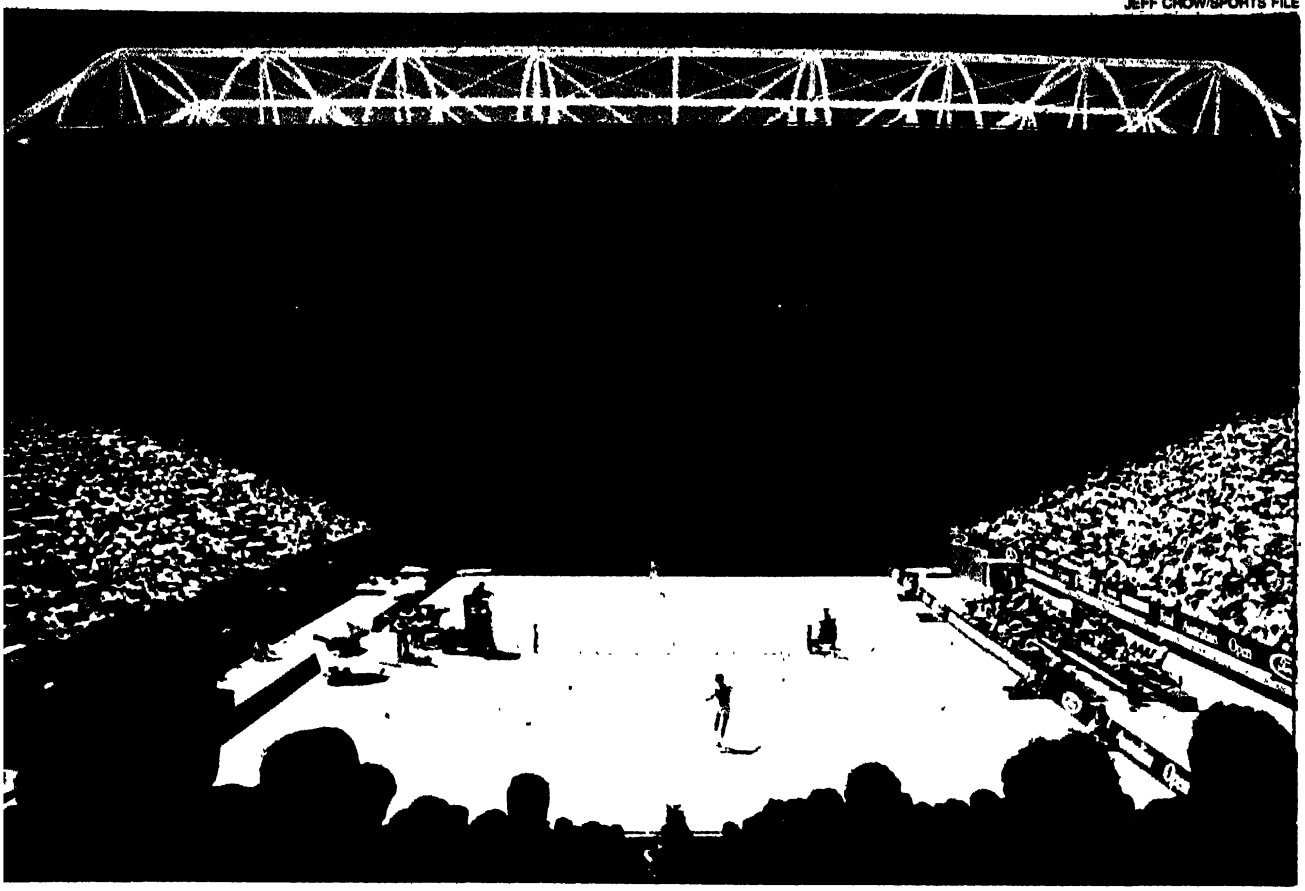
If you're willing to burn off in excess of what you put in, then you're going to lose weight. But if you don't burn off anything at all, you're always going to be on the plus side...no matter how little you eat.

So, hope you're somewhat convinced now. Don't get all cutup because we're trying to disprove what all the diets have been promising. All we're trying to say is: if you're interested in taking the fat off—and keeping it off—you've got to do more than just diet. You've got to get that ticker pumping; the muscles flexing; the sinews stretching; the sweat flowing. On top of all this, if you're still upto watching what you eat, so much the better!

Don't forget, all these highly-fit folks we picture in this column combine dietary control (that's the key word, not the diet bit) with high-intensity workouts.

Stay with us for the next couple of weeks and we'll gradually take you through a workout that'll have you fitting into the clothes you were wearing before all those parties happened. ●

JEFF CROW/SPORTS FILE



AUSTRALIAN OPEN

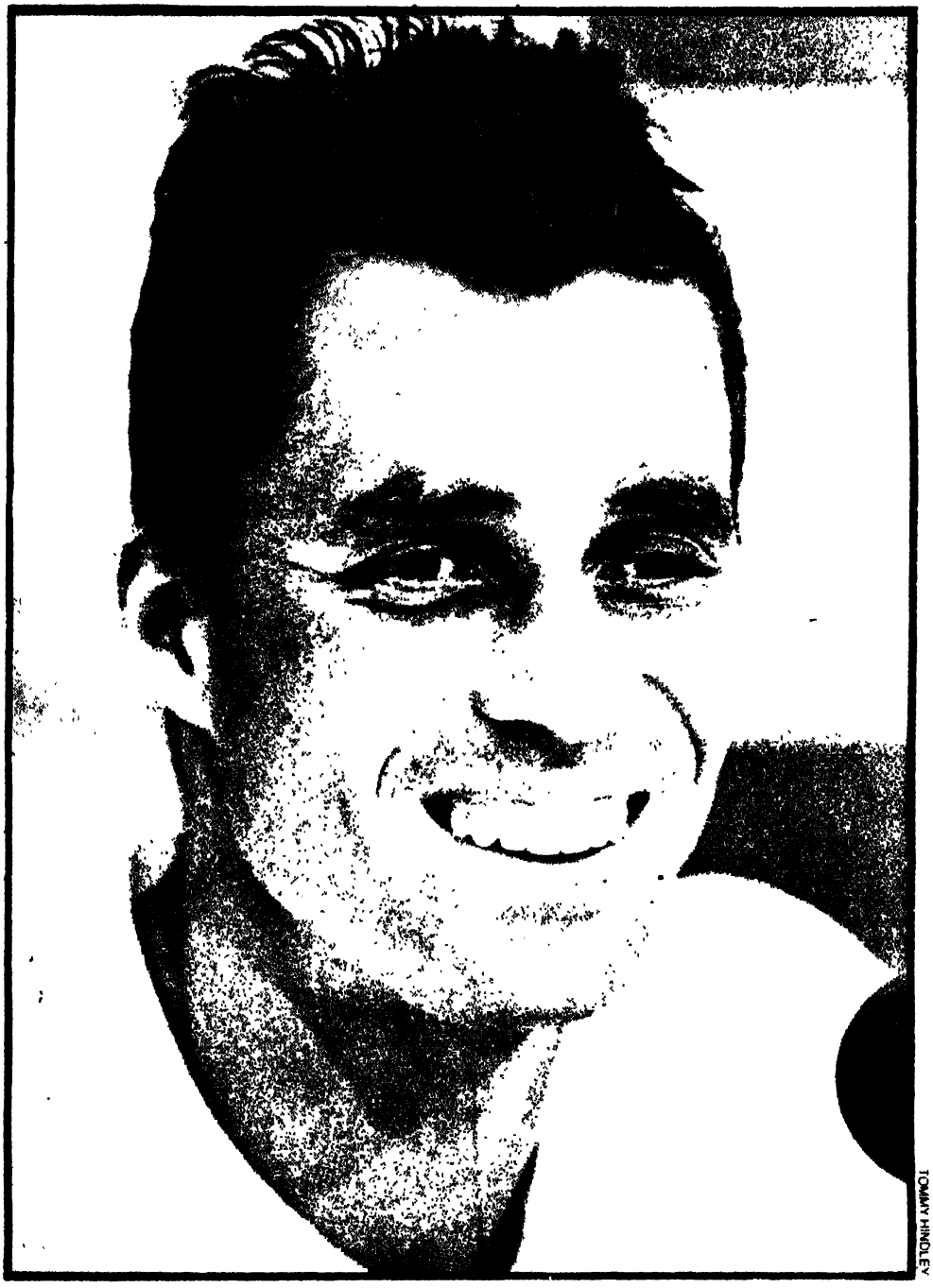
WHY LENDL MUST WIN?

THE town ain't big enough for the two of us says the marshall to the gunslinger. The gunslinger can leave or die. If a cowboy movie didn't have this scene, who watched it? Nobody.

Ivan Lendl knows this scene backwards. Definitely. Surely. He better.

There's a shoot-to-kill gunfight smouldering on the tennis circuit with three gangs looking to rule. Agassi, Chang, Ivanisevic and Sampras are honing their weapons on the range; Becker and Edberg are sitting in the sheriff's office, wearing the badge of authority; and Lendl is wondering if he should saddle-up and follow McEnroe and Connors out of town, or show the boys that he's still the fastest gun in the West.

EVERY player has levels. McEnroe lost his. Lendl is losing his. What follows is that the fear and respect they once commanded has



TOMMY HINDLEY

Lendl's reign as marshall of tennis may be over, but leathery gunfighters never really fade away. They keep battling... eventually contributing to Boot Hill. And Lendl is ready for just that. The battle that is.

now diminished McEnroe has not been successful in dealing with the demons that fester within him. Lendl is not that far gone being more resilient, mentally and physically. If the word association with McEnroe in retirement, with Lendl it is resurrection. McEnroe has lost an entire slice of his greatness, Lendl has merely misplaced the edge in his game.

It shows in his performance. A five-set defeat by Pat Cash at the 1988 Australian Open semi final; a five-set defeat by Wilander at the 1988 US Open final; a five-set defeat by Chang at the 1989 French Open fourth round; a five-set defeat by Becker at the 1989 Wimbledon semi-final; a five-set defeat by Sampras at the 1990 US Open quarter final.

These defeats *per se* do not appear unusual, a



perspective that alters once you consider the score and the occasion. Lendl had a imperturbable, impenetrable air at the Grand Slams—he personified consistency, the greater the occasion, the more refined his play. Furthermore, in a Grand Slam fifth set, he was the original Man of Steel. Yet he was failing. So much so, that, the man who won two Grand Slam tournaments in 1987 would in the next three years (88-89-90) win two in totality. Absurd? Perhaps.

Lendl is a manufactured player. A product of discipline, not superior genes. At 30 he trains as religiously but there is no regimen to counter age and its sly, subtle demons. He is playing men of a generation where speed and power have replaced finesse and intellect, where even a fractional athletic retardation is fatal. That translates to errors, and Lendl who knew not what that word meant, now is a collector of them. The edge, remember. He says, "you ask Stefan or Boris and they will tell you if I play my best. I'm going to beat anybody". The best comes too rarely now.

As much as winning Wimbledon rules his very life, Lendl is not oblivious to the race for No. 1. Which is reason why the Australian Open is vital. If he has to stay with Becker and Edberg in the race—and in public esteem as a champion—he must win. The Open assumes further significance because everyone wants



to start the year well, and although Agassi (him again) and Chang will stay home, the rest should be there.

Lendl's advantage is that he loves the surface, has won on it twice, combats the heat well with his Beau Geste hat, and is eager to start 1991 afresh. Edberg poses the most dangerous threat, Becker not so, as for some reason he is unable to succeed in Melbourne. He calls it a 'jinx' but tennis makes no allowances for such trivial labels.

Victory for Lendl would not just enliven his career. It would also enliven a game that is being stifled by Becker and Edberg's energetic but unelectrifying domination

Victory for Lendl would not just recharge his career. It would also enliven the game which, but for Sampras' US Open win, is being stifled by Becker and Edberg's energetic yet unelectrifying domination. It is an interesting reversal of roles, for not so long ago Lendl was the one hunted by Becker and Edberg. Now he is the hunter.

If Lendl were to lose and fade quickly into the dark night, the game would suffer. Tennis needs him. He has shunned fuss, controversy, whining and image, all the while showing a commendable preference for substance. He has been, quite simply, an extraordinary champion. His reign as marshall of tennis city may be over, but leathery gunfighters never really fade away. They keep battling...eventually contributing to Boot Hill. And Ivan Lendl is ready for just that. The battle that is.

Rohit Brijnath

SPORTING CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
		1 Tata Int Open Chess (Jamshedpur); Benson & Hedges World Series Cup, Eng vs Aust. (Sydney); Federation Cup Football semi final (Cannanore); Senior National Volleyball (Bombay); National School Games (Gandhinagar, Sholapur, Akalauj); Australian Men's Hardcourt Tennis (Adelaide); K.D.Singh Babu Memorial Hockey, (Lucknow)	**2** National School Games (Gandinagar, Sholapur, Akalauj); President's Polo Cup (Bombay); Australian Men's Hardcourt Tennies (Adelaide); Tata Int Open Chess final round (Jamshedpur); Sr. Nat. Volleyball final (Bombay); K.D. Singh Babu Memorial Hockey (Lucknow).
6 Eng vs Aust, Third Test (Sydney), World Swimming Championship (Perth); Final of Australian Men's Hardcourt Tennis (Adelaide); 11th Sub-junior and 13th Senior National Archery (Calcutta); K.D. Singh Babu Memorial Hockey (Lucknow), National School Games (Gandhinagar, Sholapur, Akalauj), Final of President's Polo Cup (Bombay)	**7** Eng vs Aust, Third Test (Sydney); World Swimming Championship (Perth)); K D Singh Babu Memorial Hockey (Lucknow); Archery Nationals (Calcutta)	**8** Eng vs Austr, Third Test (Sydney); Final of K.D. Singh Babu Memorial Hockey (Lucknow); World Swimming championship (Perth); Nat. Archery (Calcutta); PSV Eindhoven vs India; Under-23 XI, Supersoccer series (Bangalore)	**9** National Archery (Calcutta); Senior National Table Tennis (Jaipur).
13 5th Indira Gandhi Int. Gold Cup Hockey (Lucknow); National Archery (Calcutta); Sr. Nat. TT (Jaipur); Nehru Gold Cup Football (Trivandrum); All-India Shastri Memorial Hockey (Guna); B & H World Series Cup, 1st final, (Sydney); P.S.V. Eindhoven vs IFA XI, Supersoccer series (Calcutta)	**14** Indira Gandhi Gold Cup Hockey (Lucknow); Nehru Gold Cup Football (Trivandrum);Australian Open (Melbourne); (Guna); Final of All India Shastri Memorial Hockey; National Archery (Calcutta); Sr. Nat. TT (Jaipur); England 'A' vs Comb. Univ. of Pak. (Lahore).	**15**: 5th International Indira Gandhi Gold Cup Hockey Tournament, (Lucknow); 9th International, Nehru Gold Cup Football, (Trivandrum), Sr National T.T (Jaipur); Yonex Open Badminton Chps., (Tokyo); Australian Open Tennis (Melbourne), 2nd final of Benson & Hedges, World Series Cup (Melbourne), England "A" vs Comb. Univ. of Pak . (Lahore).	**16**. Indira Gandhi Gold Cup Hockey (Lucknow); Nehru Gold Cup Football (Trivandrum), Final of Sr. National T.T (Jaipur), Yonex Open badminton Chps., (Tokyo); Australian Open Tennis (Melbourne); England "A" vs Comb Univ., (Lahore)
20: Indira Gandhi Hockey (Lucknow); Nehru Gold Cup Football (Trivandrum); Finals of Yonex Open Badminton Chps (Tokyo); Eng "A" vs Pak "A", second one-day international (Lahore); Australian Open (Melbourne); Jr Inter-State Athletics Meet (Cuttack).	**21**: Indira Gandhi Hockey (Lucknow); Nehru Gold Cup Football (Trivandrum), Eng "A" vs Habib Bank (Rawalpindi); Inter-Railway Athletic Meet (Madras); Australian Open (Melbourne).	**22**: Final of Indira Gandhi Hockey (Lucknow); Nehru Gold Cup Football (Trivandrum); Eng 'A' vs Habib Bank (Rawalpindi); Inter-Railway Athletic Meet (Madras), Australian Open (Melbourne)	**23**: Nehru Gold Cup Football (Trivandrum); Eng 'A' vs Habib Bank (Rawalpindi); Australian Open (Melbourne).
27: Final of Nehru Gold Cup Football (Trivandrum); Eng vs Aust, Fourth Test (Adelaide); Eng 'A' vs Pak. 'A', First Test, (Gujranwala); San Sebastian International Cross Athletic Meet (Spain).	**28**: Eng vs Aust, Fourth Test (Adelaide); Junior National Boxing Championships, (Aizwal).	**29**: Eng vs Aust, Fourth Test (Adelaide); Jr. Nat. Boxing Championships, (Aizwal); Eng 'A' vs Pak 'A', First Test (Gujranwala).	**30**: Jr. Nat. Boxing Championships, (Aizwal); Eng 'A' vs Pak. 'A', First Test (Gujranwala).

FOR JANUARY '91

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3 Videocon Asia Cup Cricket final (Calcutta); Federation Cup Football final (Cannanore); World Swimming Championships (Perth); National School Games (Gandhinagar, Sholapur, Akalauz); President's Polo Cup (Bombay); Australian Men's Hardcourt Tennis (Adelaide); K.D. Singh Babu Memorial Hockey (Lucknow).	**4** Eng vs Aust., Third Test (Sydney); World Swimming Championship (Perth); Australian Men's Hardcourt Tennis (Adelaide); National School Games (Gandhinagar), Sholapur, Akalauj; K.D. Singh Babu Memorial Hockey (Lucknow); President's Polo cup (Bombay).	**5** Eng vs Aust, Third Test (Sydney); World Swimming Championship (Perth); Australian Men's Hardcourt Tennis (Adelaide); Mallus Cross, IAAF Mobil Grand Prix Meet (Belfast, North Ireland); National School Games (Gandhinagar, Sholapur, Akalauj); PSV Eindhoven vs India XI, Super Soccer (Delhi); K.D. Singh Babu Memorial Hockey (Lucknow); President's Cup Polo (Bombay).
10 Eng vs Aust, B & H World Series Cup (Melbourne); National Archery (Calcutta); Sr. Nat. TT (Jaipur).	**11** 9th Nehru Gold Cup football (Trivandrum), National Archery (Calcutta), Sr. Nat TT (Jaipur); Eng 'A' vs PIA, one-day (Karachi).	**12** Nehru Gold Cup football (Trivandrum); National Archery (Calcutta); Sr. Nat TT (Jaipur); Eng 'A' vs Patron trophy winners (Hyderabad); Limerick Int.-Cross. IAAF/Mobil Grand Prix Meet (Limerick, Ireland)
17: Indira Gandhi Hockey (Lucknow); Nehru Gold Cup Football (Trivandrum), Australian Open, (Melbourne), Yonex Open Badminton Chps, (Tokyo); 3rd final, (if required B & H) World Series Cup (Melbourne); Jr. Inter-State Athletics Meet (Cuttack)	**18**: Indira Gandhi Hockey (Lucknow), Nehru Gold Cup Football (Trivandrum); Australian Open (Melbourne); Yonex Open Badminton Chps., (Tokyo), Duleep Trophy (Calcutta); Eng "A" vs Pak. 'A', First one-day international (Multan); Jr Inter-State Athletics Meet (Cuttack)	**19**: Indira Gandhi Hockey (Lucknow); Nehru Gold Cup football (Trivandrum), Australian Open (Melbourne); Yonex Open Badminton Chps, (Tokyo); Duleep Trophy, (Calcutta); Jr Inter-State Athletics Meet, (Cuttack)
24: Nehru Gold Cup Football (Trivandrum), Australian Open (Melbourne).	**25**: Nehru Gold Cup football (Trivandrum); Eng vs Aust Fourth Test (Adelaide); Australian Open (Melbourne); Eng 'A' vs Pak. 'A', First Test (Gujranwala)	**26**: Eng vs Aust, Fourth Test (Adelaide); Finals of Australian Open Tennis (Melbourne); Eng 'A' vs Pak. 'A', First Test (Gujranwala).
31: Jr. National Boxing Championships (Aizwal).		

TELEVISION

Live telecast of Supersoccer series, on Jan. 13.

Live Telecast of India's matches in 5th Indira Gandhi International Hockey Tournament at Lucknow

Live telecast of all matches of the 9th Nehru Gold Cup Int. Football Tournament

RADIO

Running commentary in Hindi and English on semi finals and final of Federation Cup Football Tournament.

Running commentary on Supersoccer series on Jan. 13. Running commentary on India's matches in 5th Indira Gandhi International Hockey Tournament, Lucknow.

Running commentary on India's matches of the 9th Nehru Gold Cup, International Football Tournament.

All commentaries are in Hindi and English on the national hook-up.

COMPILED BY NOVY KAPADIA

Giant Panda

SUNIL PANDA is the gentle giant of Indian basketball. His height, though an advantage on court, is a disadvantage in life



A BANERJEE

IF you wanted to photograph this man and wanted his full height, you would have to move a good 20 metres away, crouch and then click. Photographers have a tough time accommodating him in their picture frame. Well, what do you do when your subject is 7 ft 4 inches tall and plays one of the most difficult sports to photograph: basketball?

The person being written about is none other than India's veteran basketballer, Sunil Panda, who with his towering height and scoring prowess has impressed basketball afficianadoes all over. Recalling an incident that happened some years ago at Kuala Lumpur he says, "It was a very embarrassing and funny situation I was in I was in Kuala Lumpur, for the Asian Basketball Championship (ABC). Pradeep Srivastav (as tall as me) and myself were crossing a street and suddenly we heard a crash. We turned around and there had been an accident. Then this man runs up to me and says, 'I was watching you both, and ran into a car.' I did not know what to do." Modest and soft-spoken that he is, Panda was surely at a loss for words.

Born in a middle class family in a small village Chorechita in the Midnapore district of West Bengal,he was the tallest in his family. His father, a railway employee, encouraged his sporting pursuits, though strangely enough in his early years Sunil displayed a preference for the shot put and discus and *not* basketball.

It was the promise and talent he showed in these disciplines that got him a job in the Tata Iron and Steel Company (TISCO) in 1969, where he was tutored by the lengendary Ken Bosen. He won TISCO many medals in the Inter-Steel Athletics Meet as a shot-putter and discus-thrower, including a silver medal in the discus at the Cuttack Nationals in 1972.

From the start, Bosen felt that Panda was not doing justice to this stature by pursuing these field events So in 1972, Panda was finally persuaded to play basketball and the rest as they say, is history. Before long he had earned a reputation in the sport that few players have rivalled. "I will be forever indebted to Mr Bosen for inspiring me to switch to basketball. It is in this game that I could realise my full potential."

By K.O. Jacob



KISHORE ROY CHOUDHURY

The little lady looks up in awe at the towering, yet gentle Panda

The transition to playing for his State and for the country was smooth and he was the captain of the Indian squad for the Seoul Asiad.

Panda, surely is a traffic stopper, specially in our country and he is often the brunt of many a joke, sniggering remarks and catcalls. Being so tall is an advantage on court, but, off it, it makes life miserable As a player he is always on the move and it can be quite frustrating when the berths in the train only accommodates half your body. Travelling in a bus is tortuous for him because once he squeezes himself into a seat he can hardly move. "Now you wouldn't want to be as tall as me, would you?" he asks me No I wouldn't, but then maybe .

His life now, revolves round basketball Up in the morning by 6-30 a.m workout, office by 9 a.m back home in the evening, practice and then it's family time. He loves spending time with his wife and kids. A father of a son and a daughter, he, like the kids, is an Amitabh Bachchan fan He admits that he blossomed fully only after his marriage in 1979. "My wife has been a constant source of encouragement to me. In fact she is my inspiration. She is the one who prodded me on In fact my success should be dedicated to her."

Now what was that about, 'Behind every successful man is a lady.

Baskets Of

The 41st National Basketball Championships in Calcutta saw some impro

TO Calcutta went the honour of hosting the 41st National Basketball Championship in the 100th year of the game's invention. This incidentally was the city where, for the first time in the country, the game was played in 1904. It also happened to be the tercentenary year of Calcutta and so no venue could be more appropriately chosen.

In the initial phase, politics reared its ugly head once again. Politics and sports are indeed strange bedfellows but in India they always go together.

Uttar Pradesh sent not one, but two teams for the men's competition. The teams belonged to the rival factions in the UP Basketball Association, one of J.P. Misra and one of Deepak Srivastav. Mr Srivastav claimed that he had an order from a Lucknow Court, restraining the Misra team from playing. Nevertheless, Misra's team played. Incidentally Mr Misra

Baskets

IT's been 86 years since the first basketball bounced on Indian soil. And since then the game has made inroads into our sports culture. These inroads have made sure that every school or college worth it's name has a basketball court. Over the years, it has acquired a large number of followers especially in the states of Kerala, Punjab and Bihar.

Yet in spite of all this we figure nowhere in the Asian level. What could be the reason behind this? Countries that adopted the game years after we did, are much ahead of us. The standard of basketball in our country is so pathetic that we do not even think in terms of sending a squad to the Asian Games!

True, we lack the physical stature required for the game. Our height and build does not match that of our counterparts from the U.S.S.R or U.S.A., but then countries like Japan, Korea and the Phillipines also face the same problem and surely they are much ahead of us

As Sunil Tandon, one of the seniormost players in the Bihar squad put it, "In our country, basketball is an outdoor sport, played on cement or earthern courts. As a result, our movements, our tackles are suited to these courts. When we get on to a synthetic court (the chosen surface for indoor courts the world over) we face a psychological barrier. Our movements are sluggish and our instincts are not fine-tuned to sharp reflexes." This is surely one of the major drawbacks that we face. And yet, the Basketball Federation of India (BFI) seems satisfied with the present state of affairs and are doing precious little about the conditions.

Players, coaches and managers alike are of the common opinion that the Federation has done little for the upliftment of the game in the country. But the prevailing power of the BFI hangs like the sword of Damocles, and



In India basketball is still an outdoor sport played on cement courts

Mediocrity

41ST NATIONAL BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

ndividual performances but the overall standard continued to disappoint

was re-elected as the secretary of the Basketball Federation of India (BFI)

Playing on an indoor court brought out talent and skill in abundance The fear of injury being minimised, the teams played with rare fervour, and all present agreed that this was the best national meet in the recent past judging by the standard of play

The pundits were proved right when the Railway teams annexed both the Todd Memorial Trophy for men (for the 4th consecutive time) and the Basalat Jha Trophy for women (for the 3rd consecutive year)

On the way to the finals the Railway men did not really face any competition as they steamrolled their way to the top The final between Railways and Services was predicted as a close affair but the Services offered little resistance The Railway team outwitted their opponents purely on the basis of skill and technique Ajmer Singh

Going To Waste

everyone who spoke about the Federation did so on the grounds of anonymity

A group of girls from Karnataka pleading anonymity moaned, "The Federation has done nothing for the sport There is a lot of internal politics, and the people holding office are not former players or even remotely associated with the game They are either industrialists or have political clout Hence selection is not made on the basis of merit but on the pulling of strings " Young girls in their early twenties, and they are already a disillusioned lot They see no future in pursuing the game seriously

As Thomas Kalierekal, an upcoming star from Kerala, put it, "We, at a young age put in five to six hours daily for the sport But this cannot continue The game is not financially motivating and one cannot fill his stomach playing basketball You are a hero when you represent the country, but after a few years no one is bothered "

Makes one wonder as to how come the game is being played at all The players have little security to fall back on at the end of their career

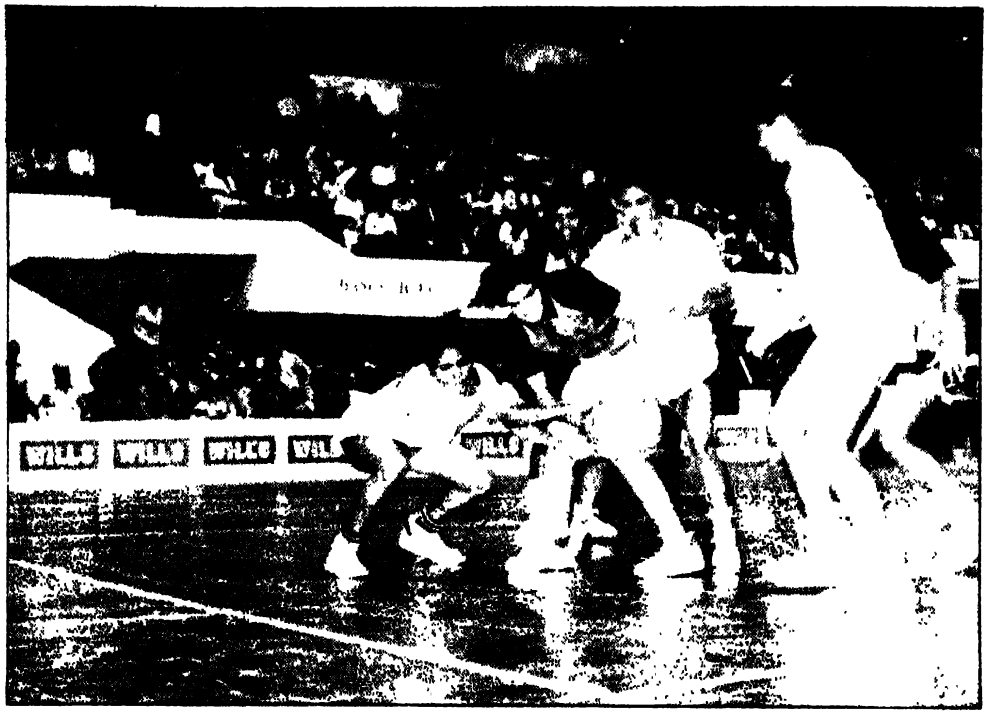
Dr S Subramanian, chief basketball coach at the Sports Authority of India (SAI), Patiala cited his opinion, "Sponsorship and finance are the main handicaps We are lacking sponsors and that is the reason why basketball is still being played on outdoor courts in our country " Citing the examples of the Arab countries like U.A.E, Qatar etc (countries that took to basketball much later than us) he says, "They have a very professional approach. They spot their talents young and then nurture them on a long term basis These guys are sent abroad, they get the much needed international exposure and also the knowhow about the latest techniques of the game "

Dr Subramanian feels that the Federation can play a very important role "by choosing talent from the mini basketball matches There the boys and girls are in the age group of 10 to 13 years and they can be moulded according to the present day requirements of the game There should be clear cut objectives, and exposure should be given specially to the juniors " He admits that "the players are dedicated, but only some players in the national squad have some standard and when these players move out of the game there are no replacements " Why? "Because we do not nurture talent "

The upliftment of the game requires an awareness to be created among the people In spite of a good advertising campaign being undertaken by the organisers there was no crowd support at all The stands bore a barren look right from day one and this continued till the end of the tournament It will take a big helping of corporate muscle to change this TISCO and ITC have always been dedicated to the cause of upliftment of sports in our country It is up to other corporate big names to take a cue from them and lend a helping hand

As for the Federation, it is time to pull up their socks and do its bit in boosting the sagging morale of the game in the country. Maybe we cannot expect an epochal change in the near future but surely one day in the not too distant future, we might became a force to reckon with.

It's certainly worth a try.



Action from the final, between Railways and Punjab



PHOTOGRAPHS: SANTHOSH GHOSH

The Railways team with the Todd Memorial Trophy

Railways did a commendable job shuttling between the boards, assisting in defence and scoring an useful 14 points. Ram Kumar was exceptionally good that evening with 36 points, including 5, three pointers. He ended as the top scorer of the tournament with 177 points. The score finally read 96-72.

The women's section saw some very close matches. The Railway girls opened the throttle right from the word go and it came as no surprise when they emerged as the champions for the 3rd consecutive time.

The Railways team was so strong that, there were rumours in certain sections that Kerala willingly conceded their match against Bengal so that they would not have to face Railways. Such is the authority and fear that the Railway girls wield over their counterparts.

Punjab, the runners-up, had some close shaves on the way to the top. In their very first match against Bengal they got the biggest fright of their lives. At the breather the hosts were trailing by just 2 points. The score then read 22-24. Eventually the score read 42-55, in favour of Punjab.

From then on the Punjab girls did not really meet up with any stiff resistance till they came across Railways in the final.

The final was a very tame affair with the Railway women overpowering the lasses from Punjab with considerable ease. From minute one it was a one sided affair. At half time the Railways led 44-13. The Railways finally walked away with the honours at 85-53. Punjab's Prabajot Gill became the highest scorer in the women's section with 122 points in six matches.

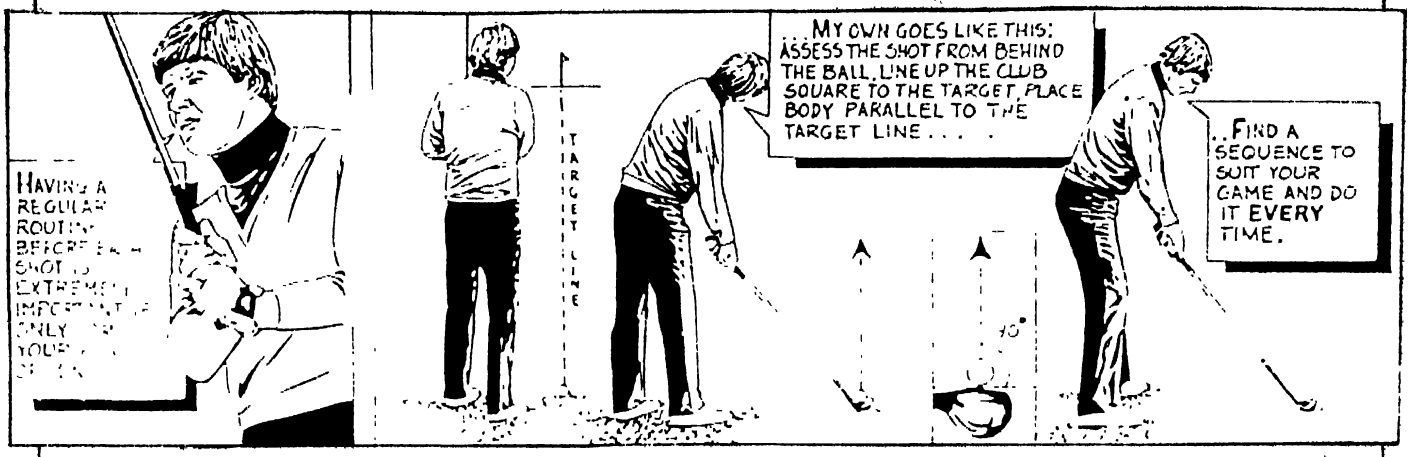
It was merrymaking season in the city and maybe this was the reason that the stands of the Netaji Indoor Stadium wore a deserted look right through, except for the last couple of days. Adequate crowd support would certainly have added charm to an otherwise lacklustre tournament.

By K.O. JACOB

THE FALDO FORMULA

FROM TEE TO GREEN

Develop a Routine



Posture



Shoulders above Knees



Who Will Score The 300th Goal?

Year	Venue	Winners	Runners	Result of the final
1982	Calcutta	Uruguay	China	2 - 0
1983	Ernakulam	Hungary	China	2 - 0
1984	Calcutta	Poland	China	1 - 0
1985	Cochin	Soviets	Yugoslovia	2 - 0
1986	Trivandrum	Soviets	China	1 - 0
1987	Calicut	Soviets	Bulgaria	2 - 0
1988	Siliguri	Soviets	Poland	2 - 0
1989	Goa (Fatorda)	Hungary	Soviets	2 - 0



* Soviet Union won the Nehru Cup four times in a row, after making their first appearance in 1985. They lost to Hungary in the final at Fatorda.
* China participated in all the Nehru Cup tournaments, except in 89, and reached the final on four occasions.
* 299 (the last goal being scored by Hungary's Jovan Roberts against the Soviets. The first goal was scored by China's Zuo Shu Sheng against India) goals were scored in 125 matches by 53 teams in the last eight Nehru Cup tournaments held, involving 23 countries (nine from Europe, seven from Asia, four from Africa and three from South America).
* Average goal per match is 2.39
* Individual top scorer: Evtushenko (Soviet Union)-6 goals, in the 5th. Nehru Cup at Trivandrum.
* Top scorer in a match.
  Three goals. Choi Soon (South Korea) against Italy in 1982
  Three goals. Pastor Frank (East Germany) against India in 1986.
* Soviet Union won all the matches in the 1988 Nehru Cup.



Shabbir Ali's attempt being thwarted by the Chinese



China scoring against Italy



...gural Nehru Cup in Calcutta

India's Statistics

1982

India-1 (Mihir Bose): China-1
India-2 (Prasanta Banerjee, Monoranjan (Penalty): South Korea-2
India-0: Italy-1 (Compton Dutta, suicidal)
India-1 (Manash Bhattacherya): Uruguay-3
India-2 (Monoranjan (penalty) Manash Bhattacharya): Yugoslavia-1

* India obtained four points in 5 matches, and finished above Yugoslavia.

1983

India-1 (Akum): China-2
India-0: Italy-1
India-1 (Parminder Singh): Hungary-2

1984

India-1 (Biswajit Bhattacharya): Poland-2
India-0: Argentina-1
India-0: Hungary-1
India-0: Romania-0
India-0: China-3

1985

India-0: South Korea-1
India-2 (Aloke Mukherjee, Bikash Panji): Algeria-3
India-0: Morocco-1

1986

India-0: Soviet Union-6
India-0: South Korea-2
India-0: East Germany-5
India-0: China-0
India-0: Peru-1

1987

India-1 (Pem Derji): China-1
India-0: Bulgaria-2
India-1 (Sishir Ghosh): Denmark-1

1988

India-0: China-2
India-1 (Tarun Dey penalty): Hungary-4
India:0 Bulgaria-3
India-1 (P. Vijay Kumar): Poland-1
India-0: Soviet Union-2

1989

India-0. Poland-2
India-0: Soviet Union-2
India-1 (Bikash Panji): North Korea-2
India-1 (Satyajit Chatterjee): Iraq-2
India-0: Hungary-1

* India's performance at a glance.

Matches	Won	Lost	Drawn	Goal for	Goal against
34	1	26	7	17	64

* Won the only match against Yugoslavia 2-1 in the inaugural Nehru Cup at Eden Gardens in 1982.

Compiled by Hariprasad Chattopadhyay

Balance Of Power Shifts

TEENAGED and tiny tot paddlers from Bengal and Tamil Nadu dominated the 52nd Junior National Table Tennis Championships at the Talkatora indoor Statium. In the junior (under-17), sub-junior (under-15) and cadet (under-12) categories eight titles were at stake. Tamil Nadu annexed four, Bengal three and Maharashtra, dominant in this sport in years gone by,got just one title, the junior boys doubles crown for the Sawantwadi Trophy was won by Vinod Deshpande and Rajesh Shelar.

The Junior Nationals was sponsored by Tirupati Texknit, manufacturers of underclothing. Organising secretary Hukam Singh said, "The sponsors paid us Rs. 2.5 lakhs, otherwise we would not have been able to stage the Junior Nationals. We were keen to stage the Junior Nationals this year as it was part of the golden jubilee celebrations of the Delhi Table Tennis Association. We honoured former champions on this occasion."

Mr Angpal Bhatia, a spokesman for the company said, "It was our maiden venture in sports sponsorship and we are satisfied with the mileage obtained. We would like to be associated with table tennis on a long-term basis. It is good publicity as our company is also known as T T" Indian table tennis has been mainly sponsored by Electra and Singhania. Now creditably they have got a new sponsor, Tirupati Texknit. Their sponsorship indicates the increasing involvement of the corporate sector in Indian sports

It was Tamil Nadu all the way, in the junior section Top seed and highly rated Chetan Baboor annexed the boys singles crown for the Indira Trophy in his third junior singles final. For the last two years, it had been the proverbial slip between the cup and lip for Chetan as he lost in the finals to his nemesis the quicksilver Arup Basak of Bengal in both 1988 and 1989.

Rated by former



B. Bhuvaneshwari upsets top seed Mythili in a titanic five-set thriller



The winners from Bengal with their two coaches (from left): Diptimoy Mukherjee, Kishalay Basak, Debabrata Sana, Anindita Chakraborty and Michael Mullick

national champion Farokh Khodaiji as a future national champion. Chetan was the most impressive paddler on view. His variety in service, footwork and total control either in attack or defence indicates his precocious talent. Runner-up the Jalandhar-based Deepak Thukral was tenacious but not in the same class as Chetan.

So, for Chetan it was a case of alls well that ends well. However, the gap between him and the other junior players is considerable. Talent in this section is limited. So it would be better if Chetan plays more in the senior ranks now as otherwise winning easily could make him lax

The junior girls singles was more contested. Second seeded B. Bhuvaneshwari toppled top seed team-mate M S. Mythili in the titanic five-set thriller. The phlegmatic Bhuvaneshwari's greater control on vital points enabled her to triumph. Mythili's weak backhand let her down frequently. Both these Tamil Nadu girls have already made a mark at the senior level and have a bright future. However coach Muralidhara Rao says: "They should improve their footwork and mental attitude They should go for the kill more often instead of prolonging rallies "

Other girls to impress in the junior section were the Siliguri-based Mantu Ghosh and Calcutta-based lanky Munmun Ghosh In 1988, Mantu won the sub-junior girls title and this year is the Bengal State women's champion. In the team events she was unbeaten. Her top spin game and good control could get her far Munmun, an avid reader of Bengali novels and admirer of Satyajit Ray and Munmun Sen, has good reach and powerful forehand drives but tends to freeze at crucial points.

The sub-junior and cadet categories belonged to Bengal. Slim and agile Kishalay Basak annexed his third successive singles in the age group table tennis nationals. In 1988, he won the cadet singles crown. Last year, he won the sub-junior singles title for the Kamath Cup. This year, he again won the sub-junior singles title beating team-mate Debabrata Sana in a well-fought five setter. This was a unique final as both of them are from the same club, the Narkeldanga Sadan Samiti, Calcutta. Jayanta Pushilal, their coach, said that both of them are the best in their age group in India. Certainly a fitting tribute to the organised coaching at the grassroots level in Bengal. Sana won the cadet boys singles crown.

Anindita Chakraborty, a class VIII student of Hind Motors HS, annexed the sub-junior girls title. In the final, she consistently attacked the weak backhand of her rival Leena Bhola of Delhi and won easily. Anindita has an attacking game, good temperament and service and is the most promising teenaged paddler in India.

Meena Bora, a former junior champion and now a SAI officer said, "All the finalists in the Junior Nationals were spotted and given intensive training in our National Sports Talent Contest Scheme (NSTC). The improvement of Chetan, Anindita and Kishalay is heartening as it shows we are on the right track."

Novy Kapadia, Delhi



TTFI's Stepmotherly Attitude

BENGAL's success is due to their dedicated coaches, Diptimoy Mukherjee and Michael Mullick. Their record in the Junior Nationals has been the most impressive in India recently. In 1988, Bengal coached by the two annexed five titles. Last year at Jaipur, they bagged five titles again. This year they got four titles. As Diptimoy Mukherjee explained: "Arup Basak and Arjun Dutta became overage and so we did not have a good junior boys team. Our effort was thus on the sub-junior and cadet categories and we won what we had aimed for."

Sadly, the dedication and proven ability of the two coaches has gone unrecognised. The Table Tennis Federation of India (TTFI) have never utilised their services in any junior national camp, nor had bothered to send them abroad for specialised coaching courses.

Both are disheartened at this stepmotherly treatment by the federation. They feel that they do not have a godfather in the TTFI, hence the neglect. Farokh Khodaiji was approached at Delhi and has been asked to ensure that Mukherjee and Mullick get their due.

SPORTS HALL OF SHAME

BY NASH & ZULLO



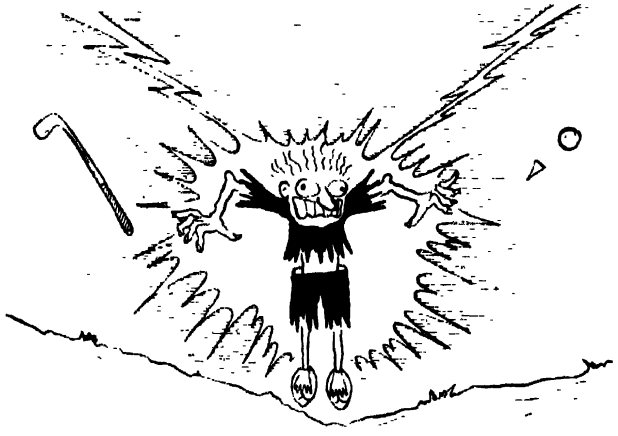
FIRED-UP UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FULLBACK **LEROY HOLT** GOT CARRIED AWAY WITH HIS PREGAME SPEECH AND KICKED A CHAIR THAT STRUCK DELMAR CHESLEY, A STARTING LINEBACKER, IN THE HEAD. "*IT FIRED ME UP,*" SAID CHESLEY. "*BESIDES, IT WAS THE HARDEST I WAS HIT ALL DAY,*" HE ADDED AFTER USC TROUNCED ARIZONA STATE 50-0 IN A 1988 PAC-10 MATCHUP.



DEFENSIVE LINEMEN RARELY GET AN OPPORTUNITY TO SCORE TOUCHDOWNS, SO IT WAS NOT SURPRISING WHEN FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY LINEMAN **FRANK VEHUN** TOOK AN EXCEPTIONALLY LONG TIME TO CELEBRATE THE TD HE HAD SCORED IN A 1969 GAME. THE HULKING LINEMAN FINALLY SURRENDERED THE BALL, BUT ONLY AFTER HIS TEAM WAS PENALIZED 15 YARDS — FOR DELAY OF GAME.

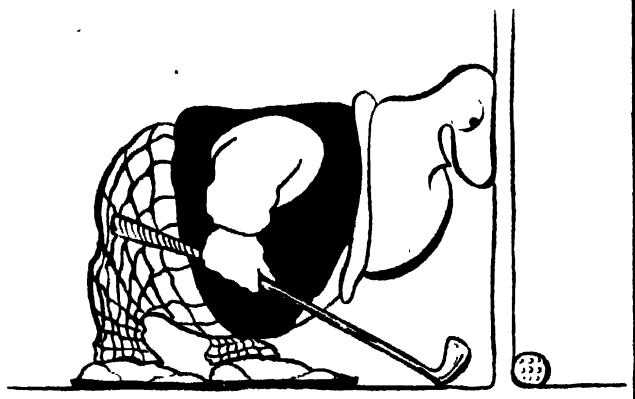
THE FUNNY SIDE OF GOLF

RULE 6-8. DISCONTINUANCE OF PLAY:
THE PLAYER SHALL NOT DISCONTINUE PLAY UNLESS:
(II) HE BELIEVES THERE IS DANGER FROM LIGHTNING



LEASOR

DEFINITIONS: OUT OF BOUNDS.
A BALL IS OUT OF BOUNDS WHEN ALL OF IT LIES OUT OF BOUNDS



LEASOR.

THE RETURN OF THE

TENNIS BADDIES

ILIE, JOHN and GORAN... the trio sounds like a cosmopolitan metal band from America. But the similarity ends there. The three are, in fact, the elite members of the bad boys' gang of pro tennis. They are the past, present and future *prima donnas* who infuse adrenalin in the game by their tantrums, foot-stomping and back-chatting to the umpires and linesmen. Personifying anger and fury, these tennis superbrats take fans on a roller coaster ride of love and hate.

The temperamental Romanian superstar Nastase was the first of this flamboyant genre. Though far into his retirement, his antics on and off the court ushered in the area of the gumball kid. His behaviour at Wimbeldon last year was a watered down version of his past mannerisms. In a first round match of the seniors' tour he entered the centre court. bent

Tennis became boring as McEnroe (in picture) mellowed with age and the new players were tunnel-visioned, computer-controlled kids with victory on their minds...



TOMMY HINDLEY



ACTION PLUS

down and kissed the grass saying in a typical Nastase style: "Thank God, I am back. I had started missing it." and when he said, "You need a superman like me to beat the hell out of the tennis robots of today," there was a round of thunderous applause. His comments were splashed on the front pages of the tabloid press all over again. Nastase till date remains the biggest tennis draw ever.

His successor to the crown, John McEnroe is no different. When 'Mac' was banned from the Australian Open, he made headlines. An independent poll by *The New York Post* made him the favourite American tennis player once again. His facial expressions still make it look as if tennis is pure drudgery. And even if he shows a mild display of displeasure with the linesmen of the chair umpire, fans clap excitedly expecting a good old-fashioned outburst. But today his temper tantrums are fewer and milder. A far cry from the days when he was banned from the Davis Cup team because the image he projected was not right for his country. The 31-year-old McEnroe, father of two, often

"In Ivanisevic (in picture) I see young Boris, determined to fight out. I think he is the star of the future"...Ion Tiriac

carrying one son while the other tagged along with mon Tatum, was clearly well past his fighting days.

Tennis became boring as McEnroe mellowed with age and the new players were tunnel-visioned, computer-controlled kids with victory on their minds. Till Goran Ivanisevic came bouncing in throwing tantrums, bad mouthing linesmen and arguing with fans. A worthy successor to McEnroe's throne with all the requisite qualities of a tennis baddie.

A cocky newcomer with an unpronounceable name and an unplayable serve, Goran is arrogant enough to admit that his talent makes him the best prospect for men's tennis. Says Boris Becker, "He's got the hardest and the best service of anyone I've ever played." Goran adds, "A couple of years behind me and I will be able to cream everyone, and that includes Becker."

Tall, powerful and mean, the Yugoslavian teenager's grunts have been compared to an elephant nearing orgasm. Even though his expletives are in his native language, when he resorts to gutter English, he can make the spectators turn red with embarrassment. A bundle of raw energy, Ivanisevic is the devil's Messiah tennis has been waiting for. And it will be in the fitness of things if his professional career progresses like his mentor, John McEnroe's. In effect the



Goran Story can be nicknamed McENROE YEARS: PART II.

One of the most powerful practitioners of tennis, Ivanisevic's turbocharged serve sends line judges and ballboys ducking for cover. At the age of 18, with only one Grand Slam semi-final to his credit, he has alreday started making waves across the world. The amazing part of his psyche is the determination to win at any cost. No wonder, John McEnroe calls him a genius. "I have seen



"You need a superman like me to beat the hell out of the tennis robots of today"...Ilie Nastase

him play and I find nothing wrong with his game. His anger is his biggest asset," says McEnroe.

That is good enough for Goran who admits: "I neve wanted to be Bjorn Borg. For me McEnroe is the beacon". Purists say his is an all-court game. A perfect amalgamation of grit and genius, Goran has already drawn attention from the likes of Ion Tiriac, ex-coach of Boris Becker. Says Tiriac, "In Ivanisevic I see young Boris, determined to fight out. I think he is the star of the future." The way Goran has been speeding up the rankings, he should safely be perched on the top spot very soon. When he joined the top-ten club recently, he made his intentions clear. With a permanent smirk on his youthful face, he is ripping the opposition apart with his 190 kmph serve, second only to fellow-countryman, Slobodan Zizavoni. Goran's whole oncourt persona revolves around his serve which at high speeds results in many faulty line calls and thus the ever-erupting quarrels.

Says he, "The country I come from, you have to really fight for everything. Bad temper and tantrums are part of daily life. So don't blame me if I behave in a

slightly crazy manner." Whatever the reasons may be, Goran remains one of the most charismatic and exciting players on the tour. Friends have advised him to rein in his temper, but he asks, "Can you mellow down McEnroe? Not really, so don't try and pipe me down"

JOHN McENROE, obviously is the role model in Ivanisevic's life. "He has been my mentor and I am not ashamed to say that I worship the man", says Ivanisevic unabashedly. The Yugoslav and the American have a lot in common. Way back in 1977, McEnroe, an unsceded 18-year-old left-hander entered the Wimbledon semi-finals Thirteen years later, Goran emulated the feat at 18. Even in the game the duo have a lot in common. Like 'Big Mac' he too is pompous and arrogant. But with a reason. At the post-match conference at Wimbeldon he said, "If I continue to play like this, I can soon be amongst the top five in the world, maybe higher." He justified it by entering the top ten. "When I see Goran play, he makes me feel old," says McEnroe. "He reminds me of the good old days when I had everything to gain and nothing to lose".

In the French Open, Ivanisevic caused the greatest upset of the tournament when he ousted an in-form Boris Becker in the first round. He reached the quarters before losing to runner up Thomas



John McEnroe (in picture) is the role model in Ivanisevic's life. "I'm not ashamed to say I worship the man," says Ivanisevic

Muster. Says Becker, "His serves just whistled past me. If the man is a dynamo on clay, what will he be like on hard surfaces? I wouldn't like to face him often." Over the last one year, Ivanisevic has gained the reputation of a morale-destroyer. Ask anyone who has faced him on clay. Specialists like Emilio Sanchez, Alberto Mancini and Pete Sampras have been humiliated by the lanky Yugoslav.

But his big break came when he defeated former champion Kevin Curren in the Wimbledon. Unleashing a string of 27-aces, he decimated the South African in the closing stages of the game. Before the match he was ranked 38th, after the 1990 Wimbledon tournament he hit the top ten.

Goran Ivanisevic has come a long way from his backyard days. Son of a lecturer of the University of split, his first flirtation with the game came at the age of six, when a wooden recquet and a worn tennis ball were gifted to him. Remembers Goran "I had this terrible temper when I was a kid. I guess I was not very popular." Seeing his concentration the father soon realised that he had a budding champion on hand. At the age of nine, he was the national Under-10 champion. A year later he had won everything which was around. He became the youngest Under-12 and Under-14 champion. And ever since, the world of tennis has been readying the red carpet for the young man.

Like Monica Seles, he too didn't get any support from the Yugoslavian Tennis Federation and one of the family homes had to be auctioned to raise finances for his fast expanding career. A definite fear of losing everything gave him the determination of a winner. Today he wins at will.



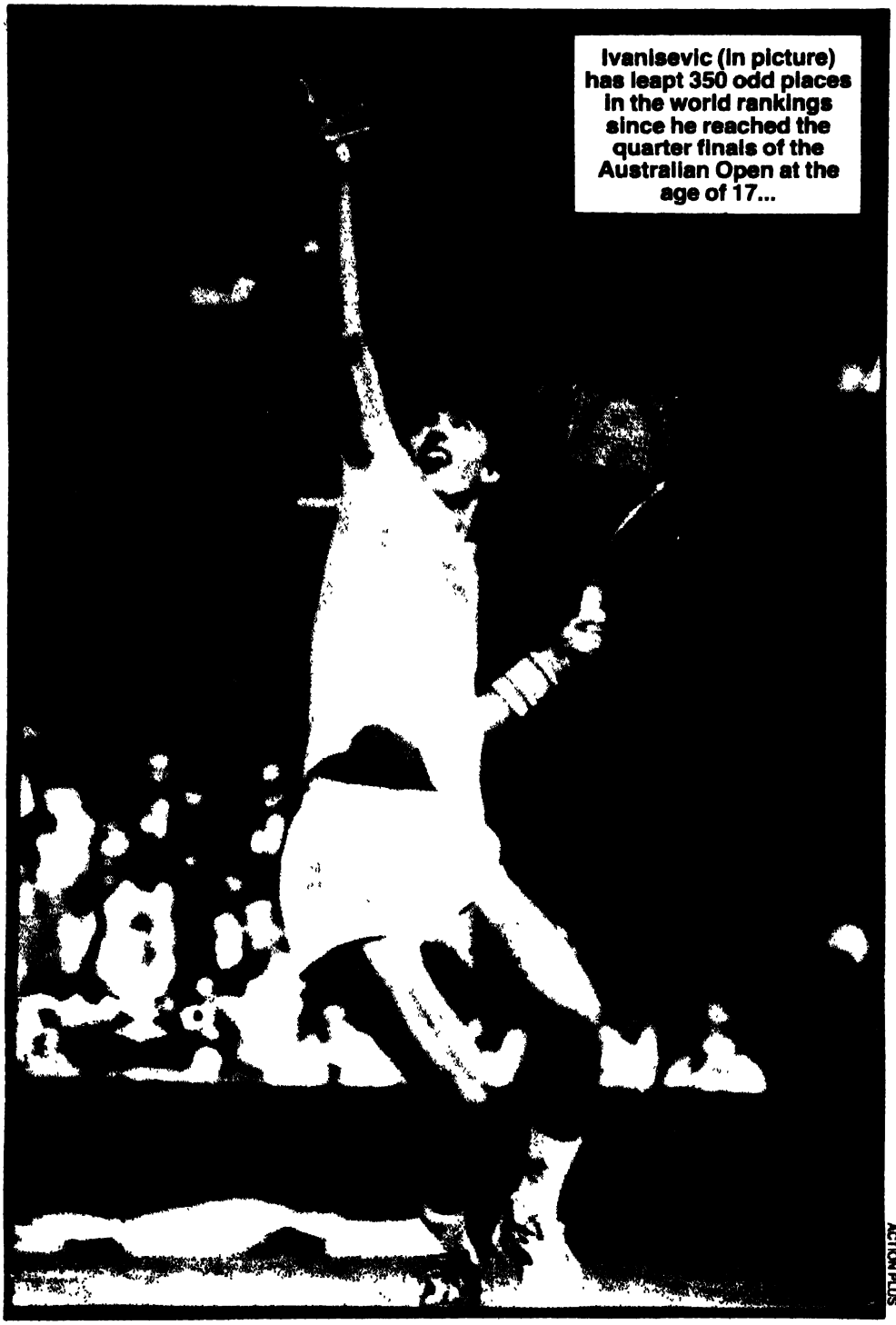
Monica Seles: One of the unfortunate Yugoslavs who got little support from their national federation...

But as he was growing in stature a series of tumultuous events made many cast doubts on his capabilities. Says Goran, "My family had sold their house to finance my career. How could I disappoint them by losing?" He is known to gradually lose control over his temper when facing defeat and that, perhaps, is his only drawback. By the time he was 15, he had been banned twice by the Yugoslav federation because of his fiery outburst.

But Goran believes that the ban was a blessing in disguise. "I went to play in a Satellite event in Switzerland. I won and got my first ATP points," recalls he and adds, "At the age of 16 my junior career was over. For me men's circuit is home and *et al.*" After a frustating few months, he marked time to reach the top. Ivanisevic has leapt 350 odd places in the world rankings since he reached the quarterfinals of the Australian Open early in 1989 at the age of 16. He started the year at 876, ended with the No. 40 slot and ever since has

never looked back.

All this while when he was climbing up the charts, he was getting a notoriety which the media has been lapping up with delight. Wherever he went, he left a wide trail of broken racquets, rude rebukes and tantrums which drew fans like fireflies to a fire. His Wimbledon performance got him a very healthy contract from the International Management Group, which has made him a millionaire already. No wonder he resides in the tax-haven of Monaco. Says Goran, "You can call me rich of you feel like. But I feel Mike Tyson is rich, Ivan Lendl is rich." But with wealth and success he is making a serious bid to restrain his foul behaviour without realising that verbal abuse adds a dash of charisma to his personality. "I think I have passed the time of bad behaviour. At least I am trying to be polite." His coach Balazs Taroczy adds, "An emotional player like Goran can achieve a lot of things better than cold tennis machines. He is full of fire and that puts him above the others."



Ivanisevic (in picture) has leapt 350 odd places in the world rankings since he reached the quarter finals of the Australian Open at the age of 17...

ACTION PLUS

Purists may call him a temperamental teenager prone to emotions, but on the contrary he has little to worry about. One of the most natural players around, his biggest asset has been his stamina which was acquired in the most unusual way. His stormy temper has been with him since childhood and whenever he threw tantrums, he was made to run a mile. No wonder, he is almost everywhere on the court.

Ion Tiriac Says, "He has even greater speed on the racket than Nastase He is the top man." Goran's flamboyant style has made him a crowd favourite and is much in demand for lucrative exhibition matches where he comes as a comic relief more than a great player. But on a more serious note he wanted a match against McEnroe badly. It will be exciting to see the student and the mentor belt it out on the court.....the past of the turbulent men's tennis playing with the present hell's angel.

By JAMES HAVELOCK
NEWSMEN FEATURES

LUCKNOW

National Sub-Junior Tennis

NITIN KIRTANE of Maharashtra and Anirban Barua of Tamil Nadu claimed the boy's under-16 and under-14 titles, while Divya Merchant of Maharashtra and K.V. Nirupama clinched the under-16 and under-14 girl's crowns in the National Sub-Junior Tennis Championship.

The boy's doubles title went to the pair from Rajasthan, Jagdish Tanwar and Chandraveer Singh. Divya Merchant and Falguni Prasanna of Gujarat won the girl's doubles final. Nitin Kirtane was well in his elements while beating Vasudeva Reddy of the Brittania Amritraj Tennis school. Nitin started off well by breaking Reddy's service thrice in the first set to win it 6-0 but lost his concentration for a while to concede a break point to Reddy, who capitalised on it to win the second set 6-4.

The third set was fought almost evenly, but an overconfindent Reddy made too many errors to lose his serve when he was behind by 3 games to 4. Nitin utilised this opportunity to win the set and the final 6-3.

Divya Merchant had no problems in clinching the girls Under-16 crown breezing past a subdued Sahiba Chadha of Rajasthan in the final. She won in straight sets 6-2, 6-2.

Anirban Barua, also a BAT boy made up to the loss of Vasudev Reddy beating Chandraveer Singh of Chandigarh in the final of the boy's under-14 category. After losing the first set to Chandraveer he came back with vengeance to win the second and third set to clinch the title. The scores read 4-6, 6-2, 7-5.

Sahiba, who figured in the earlier final, also lost the girl's under-14 final to KV Nirupama of Tamil Nadu, 4-6, 6-3, 2-6. The girl's doubles was a keen affair with both sets going to a tie breaker. Top seeds Divya



Divya Merchant: the Under-16 champion

Merchant and Falguni Prasanna, though made to fight, defeated Sahiba and Nirupama to wear the doubles crown.

Jagdish Tanwar and Chandraveer defeated Akshat Misra and Vikram Venkat (son of former Indian cricket skipper S. Venkataraghavan) in straight sets to clinch the boy's doubles crown.

K.P. Venkat

Northern India TT

CHETAN BABOOR led the Tamil Nadu domination in the Northern India Table Tennis Tournament, which not only won him laurels but made the darling of the Lucknow table tennis buffs.

Former international V. Chandrashekar would have been a happy man, if he could witness the marvellous performance of his wards in this tournament.

Chetan, who showed more maturity than what his age says could not beat the experience of Kamlesh Mehta in the men's singles final, but the boy's singles crown was his from the very beginning.

The men's crown also could have been his, had he held on to the four point lead in the decider. But that was not to be. Kamlesh went on to win all his service points and gain the lead and clinch the title, which was the only one that escaped Tamil Nadu's kitty.

Chetan's match with Sujay Ghorpade was the best of the tournament. His forehands were superb that kept the top seed at bay. Ultimately, Sujay had to surrender in straight sets. Arunjyoti Barua and S. Raman were the other two who fell to Chetan's might.

The women's section lost the glamour from the very beginning with the withdrawal of Niyati Shah and Ambika Radhika. Adding to this, the women's final wasn't to be there as Archana Rao of Karnataka conceded the final to Arul Selvi of Tamil Nadu due to ill health.

Monalisa Mehta and Rinku



Chetan Baboor: the boy's winner in the Northern India TT championships

Acharya could not proceed beyond the last eight round losing to Arul Selvi and Archana respectively.

Mythili who beat Bhuvaneswari in a hard-fought match in the girls' singles final could not get past Archana in the women's singles semi-finals. She lost to Archana 21-17, 13-21, 24-22, 13-21, 13-21.

Chetan Baboor won the boy's

crown defeating Gurjeet Taneja of Maharashtra, while Amit Srivastava of Uttar Pradesh claimed the sub-junior boys' title and the sub-junior girls' title went to Ritu Bhola of Delhi.

K.P. Venkat

MANGALORE

Buffalo Race

BUFFALO racing, or 'Kambala' as it is known, is a popular and traditional sport of South Kanara district of Karnataka held between December and February.

There are two types of races conducted in marshy water-filled fields. The "running race" calls for a high degree of endurance since the driver has also to run along with the animals, spurring them on till the finishing point is reached.

The "splashing race" requires skilful manipulation of the animals with the man standing and riding on a wooden plank yoked to the buffaloes, goading the buffaloes to run very fast. Water spurts out from a hole in the plank to a great height. The pair which jets water to the highest level staining a white cloth tied above across the field is considered the winner.

He-buffaloes are bred and trained specially for this purpose; most of them specialising in one type of race.

One such buffalo race took place in early December near the historical Kadri temple in Mangalore, where 10 pairs of buffaloes took part. This event has been taking place here since ages and is the first race of the season followed by many other races in different parts of the district.

Michael R. Patrao

RANCHI

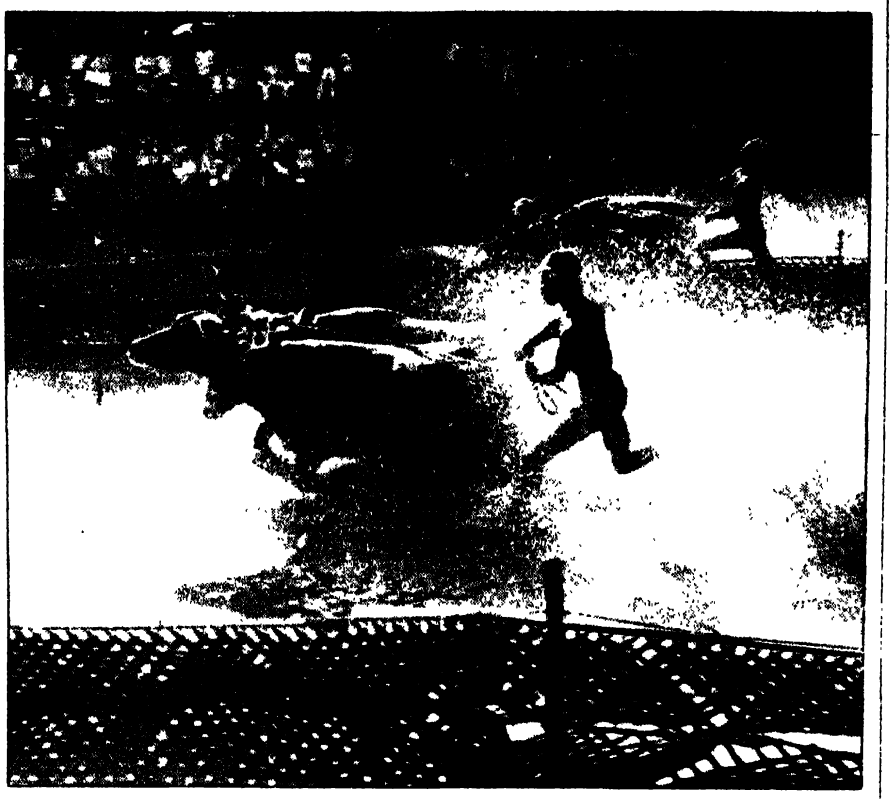
Police Sports

CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINHA of Ranchi won the men's athletics individual championships when he earned 21 points in the first Chotanagar Police Sports held here recently. Keshwar Sahu of Chaibasa got the second place with three golds.

In the women's championships, Sarojini Lakra of Ranchi won the individual championships, giving hosts Ranchi the overall team championship while Jamshedpur came second.

Balbir Singh of Jamshedpur was adjudged the fastest man of the meet when he won the 100m in 11.1 secs. In the women's section, Emelda Ekka won the 100m in 13.2 secs.

Anil Kumar Singh



The buffalo race in Mangalore

MANGALORE

Cricket Tie

A TIE is a rare occurrence in cricket. Such an occurrence took place in the 'C' division league tournament match recognised and conducted by South Kanara Cricket Association. The match was played between Union Cricketers, Puttur and Mangalore University XI.

Batting first, Union Cricketers piled up 218 runs in the stipulated 40 overs. Set to score 219 for a win, the Mangalore University Campus XI needed only 12 runs when there were only two overs left.

The last pair managed to get 11 runs, equalising the score. The tie which created a local sensation occurred when the last batsman got run out off the last ball.

TRIVANDRUM

Junior Athletics

TRIVANDRUM district won the overall championship in the Kerala State Junior Amateur Athletic Championship held at Central Stadium. Six meet records were created during the two-day meet.

In the junior girls section, S.Lekha (Idukki) threw the discus to a new distance of 28.86 mts., erasing the existing record by 96 mts. B.Reshmi (Kottayam) jumped a new height of 1.54 mts in the high jump. She also won

gold in the long jump (5.33 mts). Ross Mary Antony of Trivandrum won a record gold in the pentathlon event (2440 pts.)

The Trivandrum team came first,bettering the meet record, timing 45.3 sec. in the junior boys 4×100m relay. In the boys (below 10) long jump, M.D. Edwin (Quilon) leapt 4.44 mts, eclipsing the meet record by .10mts. Sabari Paul (Quilon) set a new mark of 6.88mts in the shot put for boys below 12.

Rajiv Sadanandan, Secretary, Kerala Sports Council gave away prizes.

Sajeev Kumar T.K.

KANPUR

National Bridge



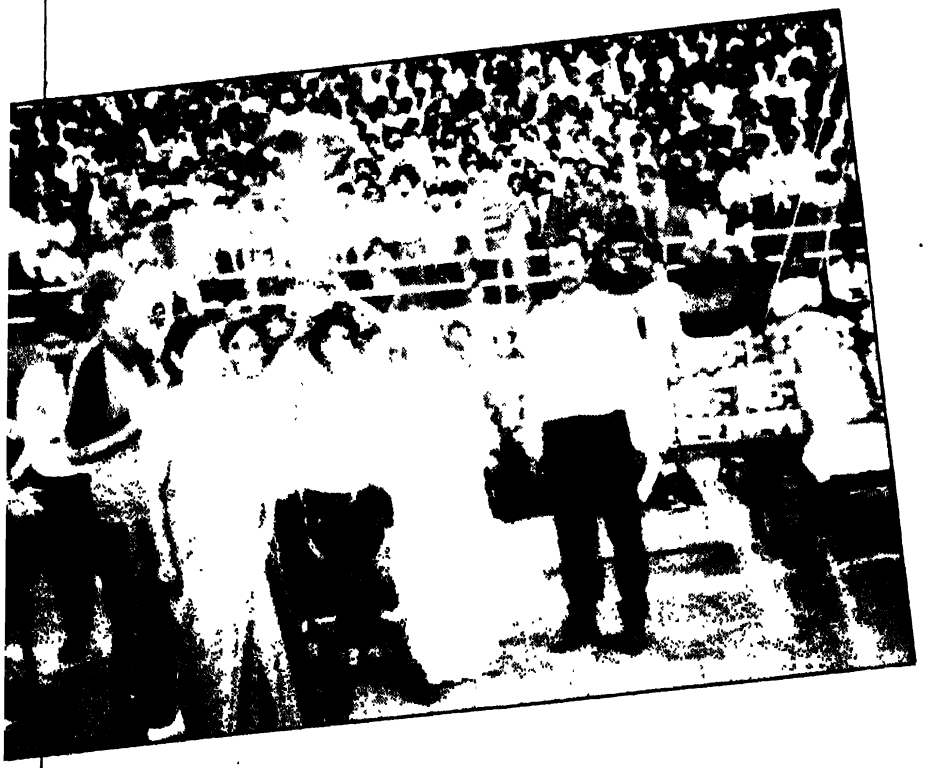
KAILASH AGARWAL

Mr R. Ramamurthy, General Manager, Ordnance Factory presenting the Holkar Trophy to H.K. Kapoor (left) and J.S. Baksi, the winners of the open pairs event

NAGPUR

National Women's Football

KERALA won the Begum Hazrat Trophy when they defeated Rajasthan 2-0 in the national women's soccer tournament held at Gondia recently. The Kerala girls were far too superior to the Rajasthan players, their short passes and superb technique was a delight to watch. In the final, Batla and Usha were the scorers. Earlier, in the semi-finals, Rajasthan upset West Bengal through the tie-breaker while Kerala easily beat Maharashtra.



The Kerala women's team with the Begum Hazrat Mahal Trophy

The tournament itself was a disappointment. There was a series of one-sided matches in the league stage, and all the seeded teams won by huge margins. For example: Kerala scored as many as 25 goals in their five matches before the semi-final stage, while Maharashtra knocked in 23. Unless the standards between the different teams improve, national level women's soccer will continue to be of abysmal standards.

Joseph Rao

A Lean Trot

YOUR cover story on Dilip Vengsarkar (*Sportsworld*, 19th December, '90) seems to suggest that he should be written off. Well, every cricketer has a lean trot in his career and I think this is one such moment in Dilip Vengsarkar's career.

He is still a world class batsman and 34 years of age is still not too old for a cricketer. After all, Viv Richards is going strong at 38.

I feel that, given time, he will make an explosive comeback like Ravi Shastri has done recently.

S. SURESH,
Madurai.

A Threat

I DO not know why all distinguished ex and present cricketers have avoided making adverse comments about Dilip Vengsarkar. In *Mid-day*. (Bombay) of January 15th, 1990, my letter was published in which I justified the dropping of Dilip Vengsarkar from the New Zealand tour.

Soon enough, I received a letter in Marathi (from a Vengsarkar fanatic anonymous admirer) threatening to maim or kill me if I wrote another letter criticising Dilip Vengsarkar

DR. A.G. BHAGWAT,
Bombay

Thanks

THANKS to *Sportsworld* for interviewing two of the most-talked about Indian cricketers—Sunil Gavaskar and Ravi Shastri. Sunny's interview was the more informative and it was interesting to see the great impact that Marshneil had on Gavaskar.

Ravi Shastri is perhaps the only Indian cricketer who has made such a remarkable transformation after his marriage and it is heartening to know that he has now shed his playboy image.

PRABAL GUHA,
Guwahati.



Dilip Vengsarkar

Superb

YOUR story on Imran Khan (*Sportsworld*, 10th Oct. '90) was superb. We are grateful to Faresteh Gati who cleared Imran Khan of all the accusations that he took drugs. This is not the first time that he has been accused of taking drugs but now things have been cleared up once again.

I always wonder why, in any interview that is done with Imran Khan, invariably the questions that are asked have to do less with cricket and more about girls and his private life.

I think his private life should be just that: private and off-limits.

DEBJANI MONDAL,
Calcutta.

A Correction

The photographs on page 45-46 in the issue dated 2.1.91 were not by Tommy Hindley as mentioned but by Jeff Crow/Sports File. The error is regretted

The Editor

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Who is the first professional cricketer to be Knighted?
2. After whom is the Sheffield Shield named?
3. Who is the first ever cricketer to score over 700 runs in a debut Test series?
4. Clive Lloyd is a cousin of one of the West Indies' famous cricketers. Who?
5. Which English player has the distinction of getting Garry Sobers out first ball for the second time in successive innings?
6. Which player of the present England cricket team bagged a pair in his debut Test?
7. Which Indian cricketer scored his maiden Test century after going in as a night-watchman?
8. Who was the Surrey 'twin' of Jim Laker?
9. Who is the first batsman to complete a double century and a century in the same Test?
10. How many centuries did Frank Worrell score against England?

ANSWERS

1. Sir Jack Hobbs
2. The Earl of Sheffield. He took a cricket team to Australia under the captaincy of W.G. Grace (in 1891-92) and before leaving Australia gave a sum of 150 guineas for the promotion of cricket in Australia
3. Sunil Gavaskar.
4. Lance Gibbs.
5. John Snow.
6. Graham Gooch.
7. S.M.H. Kirmani (101 vs Australia at Bombay in 1979-80).
8. Tony Lock.
9. Doug Walters (Australia) vs West Indies in the fifth Test at Sydney, 1968-69.
10. Six.

CHESS

The Sozin System against Sicilian Defence is actually somewhat misnamed. Even though Sozin originally suggested it the characteristic 6 Bc4 was played and popularised by Bobby Fischer.

Then Velimirovic and Stein took it up winning a lot of impressive games. Now the specialist is John Nunn. This game won the brilliancy prize at the '84 Olympiad and nearly put this line of the Sicilian out of business.

White. Nunn Vs Black: Sosonko Salonika '84.

1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 d6 3 d4 cd4 4 Nxd4 Nf6 5 Nc3 Nc6 6 Bc4 e6 7 Be3 a6 8 Qe2 Qc7 9 0-0-0 Na5. The Velimirovic attack. Fischer preferred castling Kingside

10 Bd3 b5 11 a3 Bb7. After this game black's started experimenting with 11 – Rb8 and 12—b4 The idea is to open the b-file and double with Qb7.

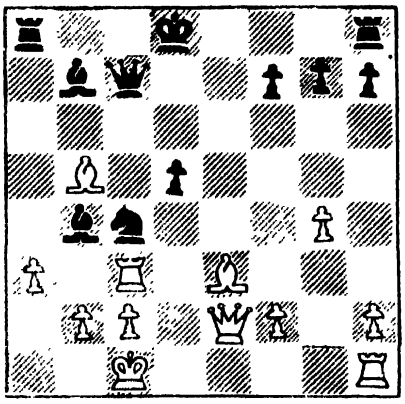
12 g4 d5. Black must play this before white kicks the knight with 13 g5 **13 ed5 Nxd5** 14 Ndxb5!! The moment of truth Black was shellshocked into instant acceptance LATER Nunn himself pointed that 14-Qb8 15 Nxd5 Bxd5 16 Nc3 Bxh1 17 Rxh1 is reasonable and anything may happen.

14-ab5? 15 Bxb5+ Kd8. Interposing with 15—Bc6 loses to 16 Nxd5 ed5 17 Bb6+ Qe7 18 Bxa5 Qxe2 19 Bxc6 + Kc7 20 Rhe1 Rxa5 21 Rxe2 +

16 Nxd5 ed5 17 Rd3! Nc4 18 Rc3 Bb4! Blak uses the back rank mate to hit back. Now white has to give more material to open up the centre files. (see Diagram).

19 Rxc4! dc4 20 Rd1+ Kc8 21 Rd4 Bd5 22 Rxd5 Bd5 Bd6 23 Rd4! (1-0). After 23—Kb8 24 Rxc4 Qe7 25 Bc6 white has material advantage and a blistering attack.

Devangshu Datta



BRIDGE

Those who have read Geza Ottlik's mind-boggling book 'adventures in Card Play' know that even seemingly impossible contracts often have chances of making. Today's hand is from the Holkar Open Pairs elimination round at the 1989 Kakinada nationals:

Dealer South — N-S Vul.

NORTH(dummy)
♠ Q 7 3
♡ A 6 3
◇ Q 6 5 4 2
♣ A 4

WEST
♠ K J 9 6 5
♡ K 7 4
◇ A J 7 3
♣ 8

EAST
♠ 10 4
♡ J 10 7
◇ 10 9
♣ J 9 7 6 5 2

SOUTH
♠ A 8 2
♡ Q 9 8 2
◇ K 8
♣ K Q 10 3

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♠	1♠	2♢	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

West started proceedings with his fourth-best spade, taken by dummy's queen. A diamond went to the king and ace at trick two and West continued with the spades It seems that the 4-2 diamond break with West having an entry in that suit spells doom for declarer but past international Milon Roy, South, had other ideas. He correctly won the second spade itself with his ace, cashed the diamond queen and three rounds of clubs with the aid of a second-round finesse of the ten, West discarding a heart and a diamond. Now the last club by South finished West. Needing four more tricks to beat the game, he was helpless. If he discarded a winner, he could be thrown in with a spade (that is why it was essential to win the second spade rather than the third) to lead away from his heart king at the end. He actually threw a heart but Milon Roy scored his contract by dropping the now-bare king.

Perhaps West should have thrown a spade rather than a diamond on the third club. Then, one might argue, South would have had to guess whether West had bared his heart king or discarded two hearts from four. However, in all likelihood South would had got it right for with 5-4 in the majors and a singleton club West would surely have preferred a takeout double to an overcall.

Santanu Ghose

KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND



Grandmaster Masutatsu Oyama polishes up Shivaji Ganguly's technique

THE upcoming Oyama Cup will give all exponents of Kyokushinkaikan Karate the unique opportunity to meet the living God of full-contact karate· Masutatsu Oyama The only Grandmaster left alive, this great man has a tremendous record of never having lost a fight anywhere in the world Besides, his speciality of fighting bulls with his bare hands has also made him very famous

Oyama will be accompanied to Calcutta by four senior karatekas: Shihan Kaoru Takagi (senior instructor), Akira Masuda (1990 All-Japan champion and world number 4), Kenji Midori (best technical fighter at the last world tournament and All-Japan number 2), and Shinichi Sotodate (1990 All-Japan number 4)

They will be gracing the occasion by demonstrating some advanced technique at the Oyama Cup meet, to be held on 19 January

By Shivaji Ganguly
Kyokushinkaikan karate



HOT LEGS!

And they know how to use them

So you think you know your sportspersons like the back of your hand. Let's see. Here's a tease: The accompanying 11 pictures are of famous sportspersons, but from their waist downwards. To help you identify them, each picture will be accompanied by a clue. The first all-correct entry will get a prize of Rs 500/-



She was fast (right). Too fast for normal, some said


2
Broken English and breaking hearts
No boots and standing still? Some goalkeepers must be praying hard
3
4
A nice guy. Who stole his best friend's girlfriend
She liked the country track but not spikes
5


6
She could have been a sprinter, but she prefers to be in vogue
6
7
One stride meant nine feet
8
You normally wouldn't see these legs when he's playing. Take your time, girls



SPORTSWORLD is not responsible for postal delays. The winner will be notified by post.

In regard to interpretation of rules, the verdict of the Editor of Sportsworld is final.

Address your entries to: SPORTSWORLD 'HOT LEGS' QUIZ, ANANDA BAZAR PATRIKA LTD., 6 PRAFULLA SARKAR STREET, CALCUTTA-700001.

Name .....
Age .....

Address .....

.....

Last date for entries: 31st Jan, 1991



BLESSED CHILD

Marathon Women



HOT NIGHT

Damp Cricket

WHERE were England's stand-in captain, Allan Lamb and former skipper David Gower the night before England's third day slide to defeat in the Brisbane Test?

They were playing truant, that's what. Both Lamb and Gower were spotted at the Gold Coast casino with billionaire Kerry Packer and ex-cricketer Tony Greig. It's obvious that Packer has got over his heart attack, since they were all partying in the casino till 1.30 a.m.

The next day told a different story when both Lamb and Gower were curtly ticked off by manager Peter Lush. Lamb did a hustle when he tried to convince Lush that they had left the casino well before midnight. It didn't work. The heavy partying took its toll the next day when Terry Alderman just ripped through the English batting.



Allan Lamb partyin

Ironically, the finest catch of the day was pulled off by Peter Cantrell, substitute for

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Huge Premiums

PEOPLE who are famous and recognizable for a certain part of their anatomy go ahead and insure it. We have Pele, who went and insured his legs for a huge sum and various other big wigs, who insure the best parts of their body: and now we have Merv Hughes. Merv the Swerve has gone ahead and insured the only thing that he is recognisable for. You guessed it! It's his moustache.

The big Australian cricketing heartthrob lent his whiskers a huge amount of respectability by insuring them for a massive sum of £200,000, after appearing in a number of beer commercials (not exactly his favourite drink) that featured his famous hairy 'trademark'.

Well, Merv can't be Merv minus a moustache.



fore a disaster

Aussie David Boon, who had been nightclubbing till three in the morning himself!



MAC DOUBLE EAGLES

Against The Custom

McENROE began the year with a whimper (courtesy, the Aussie default) and he seems to be ending it with guns blazing. The setting, however, was not his normal hunting grounds: the tennis court. It happened when he missed a connecting flight to Hawaii, last month.

McEnroe was booked on a United Airlines flight when he threw a massive tantrum at the airport. In fact, there was such a row between Mac and two of the airline gate agents that they were all hauled off to the airport police station. Police later claimed that the confrontation involved pushing and shoving. According to airport spokeswoman Sara Dornacher, the airline, "Has not signed any complaint or pressed any charges in this matter and we do not intend to. They eventually booked Mac on another United flight later on in the day .

Scoreline of McEnroe versus United...anything but love all!



John McEnroe: ending the year on a violent note

GOLD AGAIN!

A Wedding Ring

WEDDING bells are going to be ringing in Payolli within the first half of next year At least that's what a little bird told us The bride is going to be a certain Miss P T Usha Now don't tell us you've forgotten her

After her last (disappointing) public appearance, the Payolli Express had decided to call it a day and concentrate on settling down to the rigours of domestic life And the proposals have been flooding in The choice has finally been narrowed down to three an engineer, a forest officer and a police officer The forest officer (poor man) does not stand much of a chance as Usha is not too keen on spending her spare time in the middle of the woods As for the engineer, he's fine but it is the police officer who takes the cake

The man is 28-years-old, tall, dark and handsome So over to Usha "I'm not saying anything," she hastily adds So saying she breaks off into peals of laughter. A sure giveaway that the officer might have 'arrested' her attentions The man's name is uknown Usha, a personnel officer with the Southern Railway has to go on a month's officers' training to Palghat Once the training is complete, it's straight onto wedding preparations anytime between March-April, 1991 We're waiting impatiently for the cards



P.T. Usha: now domesticated

freewheeling

LAST week on this page, my erudite colleague Shevlin Sebastian wrote on the misplaced values of some young Indian tennis players. Sebastian was correct to an extent, nevertheless a discussion ensued and he proposed that I write my view on the same subject. This is it:

The very instant sport shed its amateur status, values changed. The huge corporate involvement and powerful media interest was seductive—money and image always is. Today the circuit is a dirty jungle of agents making deals in corporate marquees. It allows for situations where a 17-year-old Agassi and a 13-year-old Jennifer Capriati had millions in the bank, of which only a fraction was actual tournament earnings. The awareness that young Indians have of publicity and the media might seem shocking. Perhaps it is. Yet for Indians to be naive of such a reality would make us further backward in the way professional sport is conducted.

Another issue, is that looking for sponsorship without achieving anything construes an incorrect attitude. But that is a belief based on the assurance, that achievement brings with it money and media attention. In India that is untrue, for we do not possess the same reward structure that the West thrives on. There is no definite link between success and fame. For example, how much sponsorship and press coverage did world amateur billiards champion Manoj Kothari rate? Not much.

A further delicate question concerns whether these players are in search of excellence, or fame and money. To begin with, are the two separable... to make money don't you require excellence? Or, let us put it this way. When a kid from Calcutta Gymkhana says he wants to be Boris Becker, is he thinking about driving a Ferrari or hitting a diving volley at match point to win a five set final over John McEnroe at Wimbledon? I believe he dreams of the latter. "Everyone" said Gavaskar "wants to raise their standard of living", and in professional sport excellence is the key to that.

An equally contestable issue is that of childhood and parental pressure. There will be many in agreement with the coach who told the parent of a 8-year-old, "Take it easy. Let him enjoy his childhood". I am not. To start with are the assumptions that the child is uninterested in becoming a champion. Nevertheless, to be a champion necessitates in many ways a lost childhood—it is one of the many sacrifices a player must make. No parties, no distractions, a single focus.Stefano Capriati, for example, had his daughter Jennifer doing baby sit-ups when she was six months old. That, is the edge. Taking it easy, is the road to mediocrity.

Parents themselves are often motivated by different compulsions. In fact it is surprising and good, in a sense, that Indian parents now believe sport is a sensible pursuit, a decent way to spend your life. Greed, for some parents, may be a possible reason for raising a champion, but surely not always the entire motivation. All parents want their children to be successful and are pushy—the real problem occurs when tennis parents put undue pressure on their children, like physical punishment or public admonishments for bad play.

It is worth remembering that for the parent, there exists the reality that after 8 years of effort and lakhs of rupees spent, there is no guarantee of their child being a champion. Out of the hundreds of thousands of Indian children who play tennis in India, very, very few earn a decent buck. That makes you wonder about the greed factor.

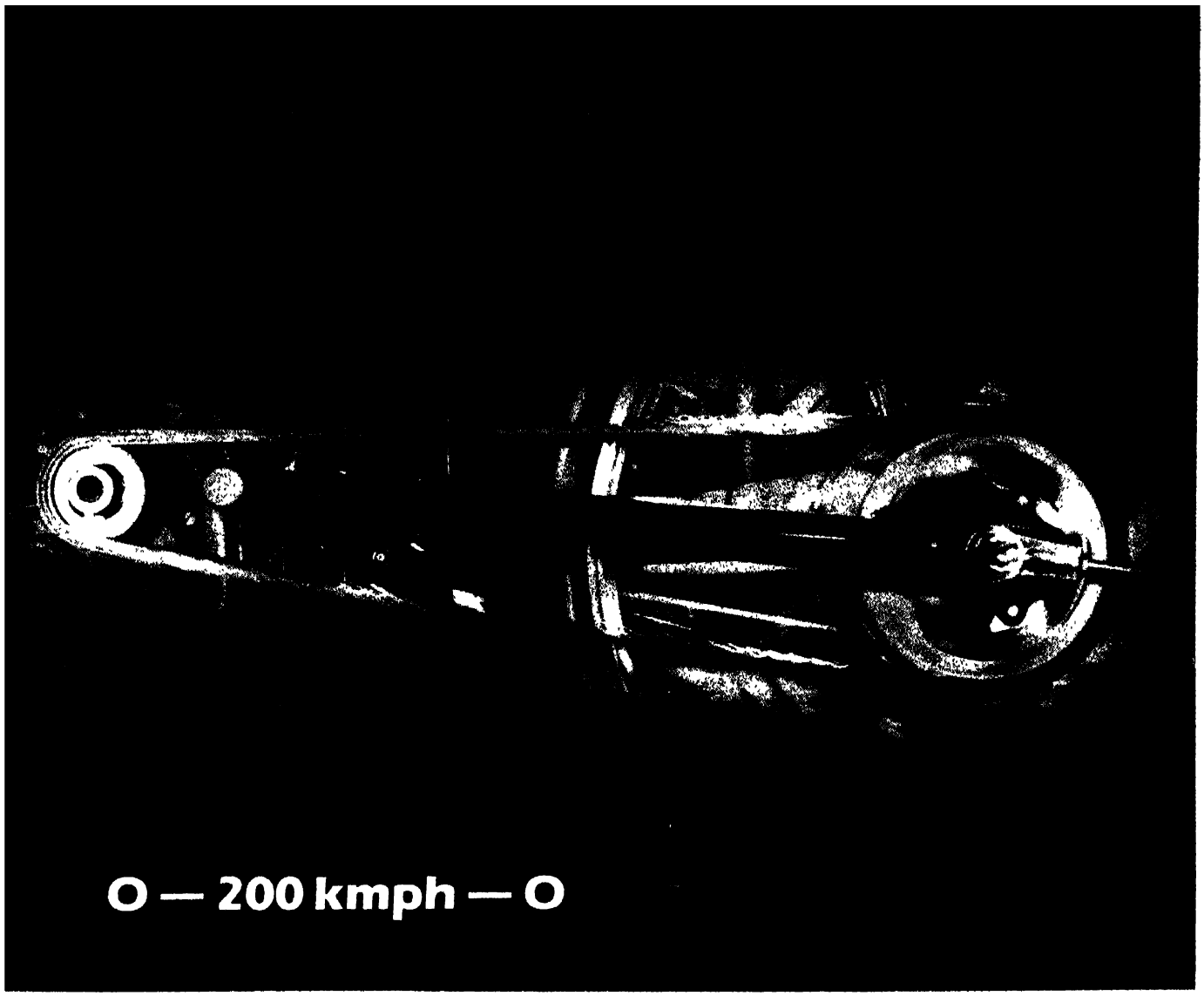
It is also true that to be one of those few, means extra effort. It is an extremely hard life and that extra inch of media coverage, that extra thousand of sponsorship money, can make a huge difference.

As a tennis writer, I have spent hours watching young Indian players sweat. And all I have for them, is respect.

Rohit Brijnath



It is an extremely hard life and that extra inch of media coverage, that extra thousand of sponsorship money, can make a huge difference

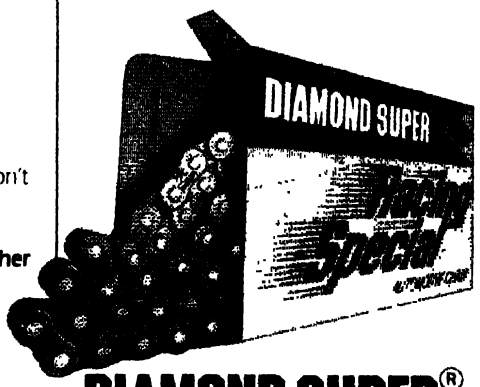


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Sportsworld



Kapil Dev



Azharuddin with the Asia Cup



Sachin Tendulkar

INDIAN CRICKET'S

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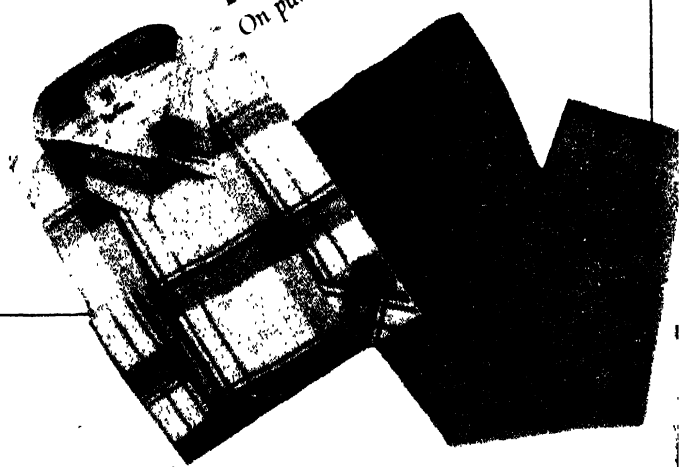
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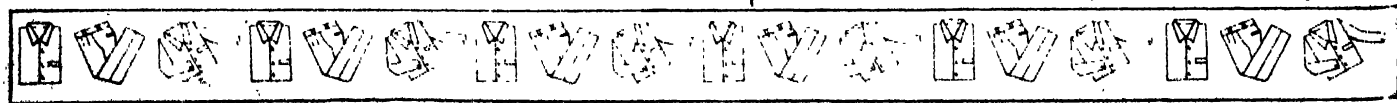
_____

Signature _____



Rules and regulation There is no restriction on the number of entries The entry form should be complete in all respects The company will not be responsible for loss of entries, or for postal delays The judges decision will be final and binding No communication in this regard will be entertained Employees of the company and their relatives are not allowed to participate in this contest Prizes will be awarded to contestants who submit the best sentence Each entry should be accompanied by a purchase bill of Hartman s shirt or trousers

Entries to be sent to: Hartman Contest, 601 Carlton Court Bombay '50



Vishi-SC/660/90

VOICES

"I am wound up about it because it is a matter of life and death to me. The game is a drug to me and I really can't imagine being without it."
JACK RUSSEL the English wicketkeeper just before the series against Australia

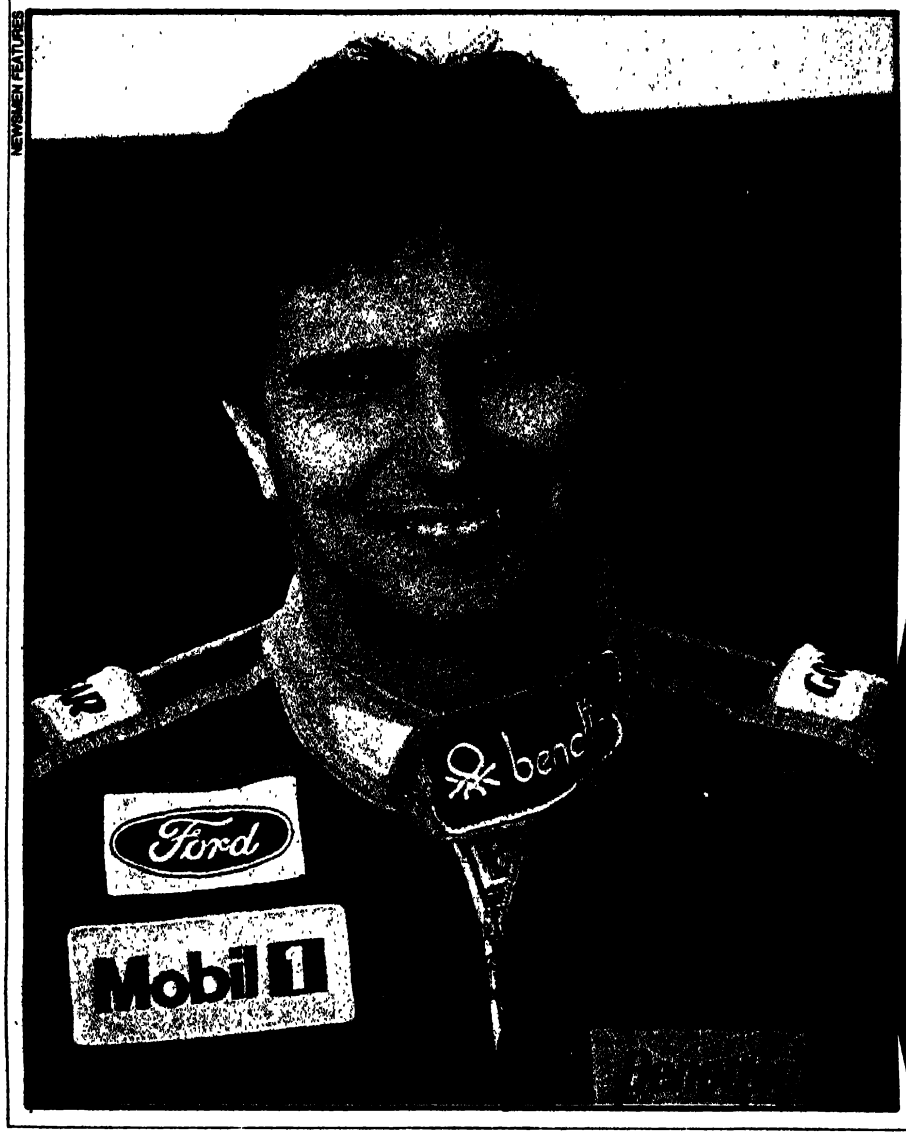

ACTION PLUS

"It's still a mystery how the Ludwig(sic) could have tested positive on the basis of our (drug) administration."
Ben Johnson's disgraced coach CHARLIE FRANCIS makes a rather naive remark after nearly three years. He maintains that Johnson was either sabotaged or was freelancing (taking drugs without the coach's knowledge).

"I felt so confident in the final. A lot of pressure was on me after the US Open. It's great to finish a year like this, it's the icing on the cake."
PETE SAMPRAS after his Grand Slam Cup victory. 1990 was indeed a remarkable year for him.

"I'm not satisfied with the result of the game. I offered a draw in a completely winning position because I just didn't want to play anymore."
KASPAROV, after the draw in the 24th and final game against Karpov. Kasparov won the match though and pocketed $1.7 million.

"It's has never been about winning. Viewers vote for the person who captures their imagination. Gascoigne's tears moved so many people. They felt for a player who had tried so hard and just failed."
A BBC spokesman on Gazzamania and on why Gazza was voted as the Sports Personality of the year by the viewers of BBC.



NEWSMEN FEATURES

"Italians agree that Maradona is a trouble maker, a hypocrite and a sower of discord."
EDITORIAL in La Republica, a newspaper of Italy after the Italians voted Maradona the most hated man in Italy.

"A perfectly healthy man with no problems finds that his arms are very tired after a race. It's already a miracle that he has got 20 per cent movement back into his arm. Sure I understand he wants to come back and race again and is keeping his spirits high, but I don't think he can do Formula One again."
NELSON PIQUET on his colleague Alessandro Nannini after the latter's arm was severed in a helicopter crash and stitched back on again. Incidentally his team Benneton has already found a replacement in Roberto Moreno

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Sportsworld

16—22 January, 1991 Volume 12
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Poster photograph by Colorsport

All illustrations by Debashish Deb

Editor Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi

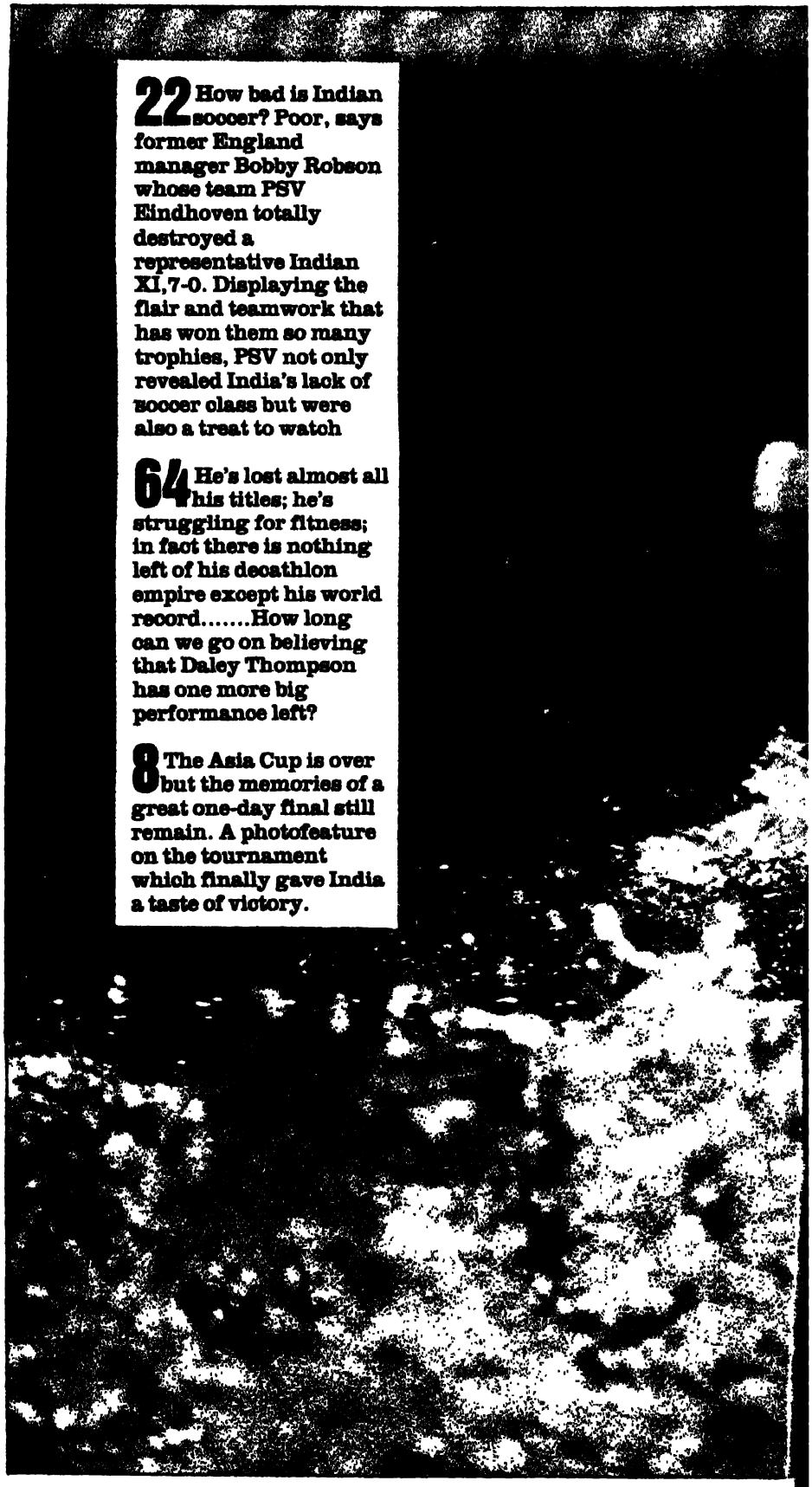
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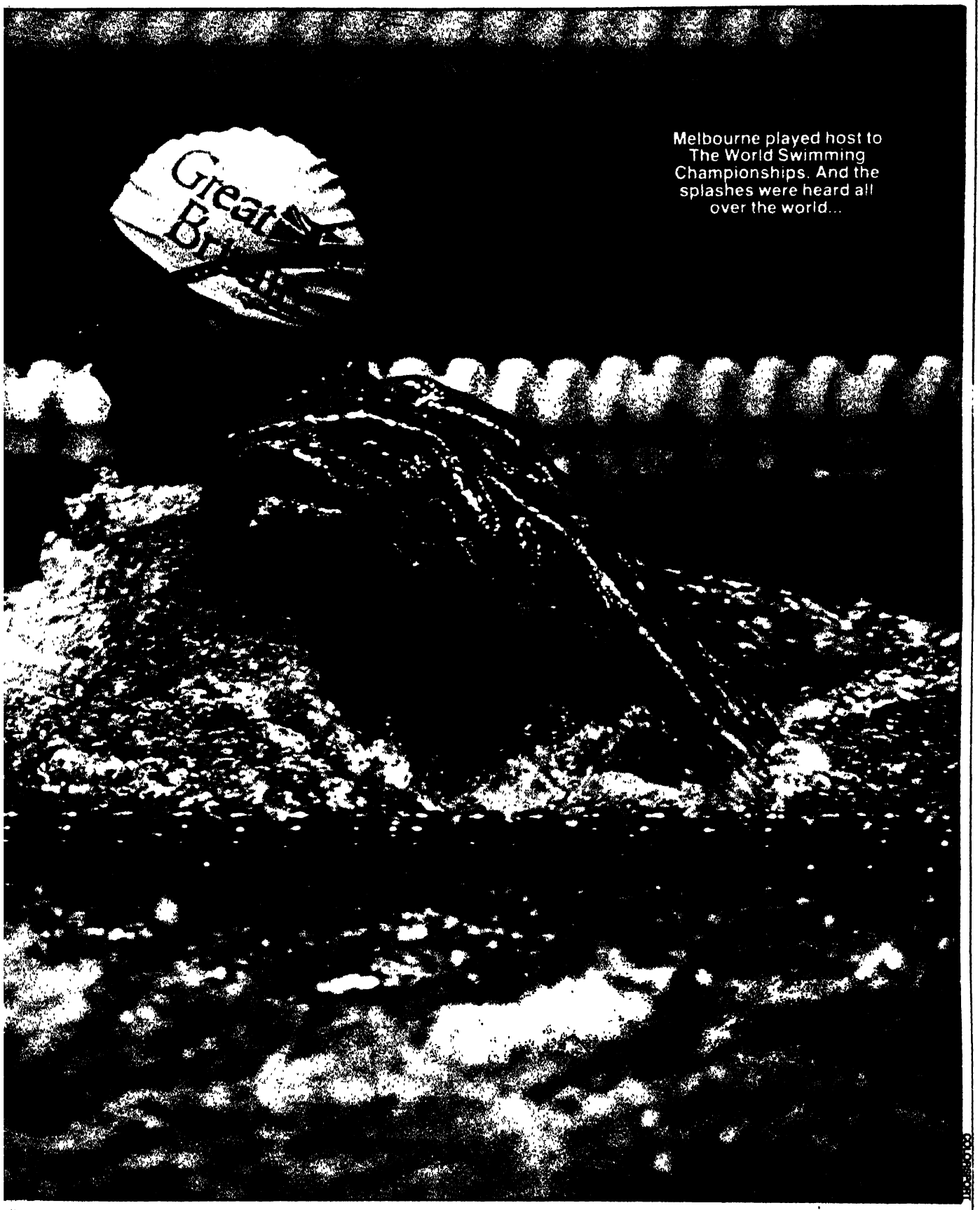
Air surcharge for Srinagar, ex Delhi and Tripura 20 paise North Eastern States —25 paise



22 How bad is Indian soccer? Poor, says former England manager Bobby Robson whose team PSV Eindhoven totally destroyed a representative Indian XI,7-0. Displaying the flair and teamwork that has won them so many trophies, PSV not only revealed India's lack of soccer class but were also a treat to watch

64 He's lost almost all his titles; he's struggling for fitness; in fact there is nothing left of his decathlon empire except his world record.....How long can we go on believing that Daley Thompson has one more big performance left?

8 The Asia Cup is over but the memories of a great one-day final still remain. A photofeature on the tournament which finally gave India a taste of victory.


Great
Melbourne played host to The World Swimming Championships. And the splashes were heard all over the world...



IMRAN KHAN responds to Desmond Haynes' claims that Pakistan doctored the ball in their recent series

DOCTORED BALLS



Haynes should ask his bowlers (Ambrose in picture) if they have ever lifted the seam

DESMOND HAYNES, the seasoned West Indies campaigner, and New Zealand's John Wright remain two of my favourite cricketers. Yet when Haynes accused Pakistan of cheating by doctoring the ball, I felt I had to correct him about what cheating really is.

If Desmond felt he saw a few scratches on the ball and that was cheating, then what is lifting the seam called? He should ask his pace bowlers whether they have ever lifted the seam. Maybe he will get a shock to find out that most of them have done so to varying degrees at some stage of their career.

Indeed, some of the world's greatest bowlers have been caught on television lifting the seam of the ball. Yet I have never known a bowler being cautioned, or for that matter a ball

Some of the world's greatest bowlers have been caught on television lifting the seam of the ball

being changed because it was tampered with. There have also been instances where various substances like facial creams have been applied to add shine.

Actually, I don't blame Desmond for this controversy. His only fault is that he was naive enough to believe anyone could swing a cricket ball if they scratched one side of it.

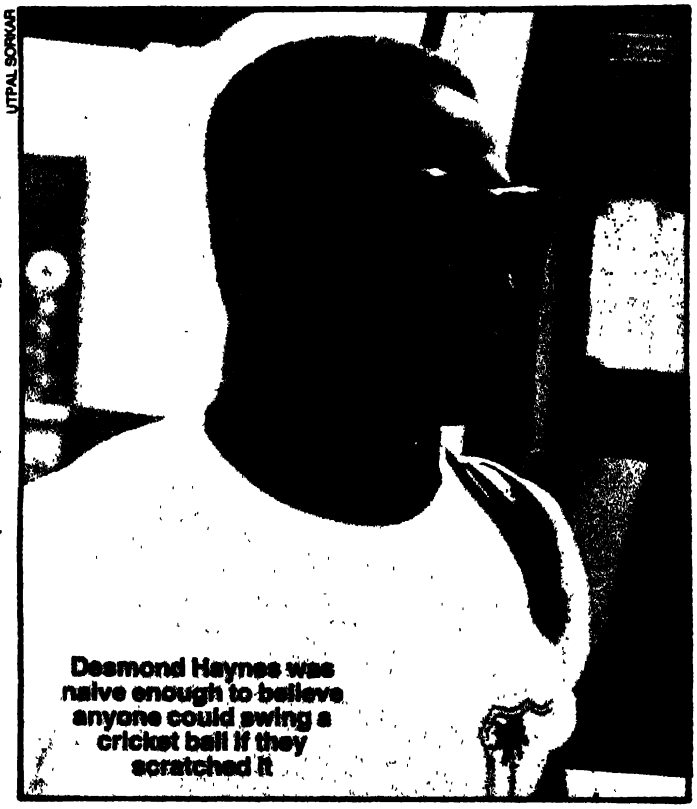
Not content with causing a huge financial loss by sending the weakest Test team to tour Pakistan (Sri Lanka included), the New Zealanders left our team completely unprepared for the West Indies after a one-sided Test series. Instead of admitting they had sent a club-standard team, the New Zealanders accused us of doctoring the ball.

Consequently, Haynes was keeping an eye on our ball as if it was a hand grenade that could explode any time. When we won the first Test, Gibbs and Haynes were going to release a statement until they were shown the ball they had used. There was no difference as the rough pitch had equally affected the two balls.

Pakistan can swing the old ball and this was not the first time accusations have been made against us. At Lord's in 1982, Pakistan capitalised on the rough pitch and swung the ball much better than the Englishmen.

It is normal for us to bowl on wickets where the ball loses its shine and becomes rough. We wet and shine one side, leave the other untouched, and then reverse swing the ball. In other words, it swings with the shine, unlike the orthodox way when it swings opposite.

UTPAL SORKAR



Desmond Haynes was naive enough to believe anyone could swing a cricket ball if they scratched it

The English bowlers struggled on two accounts. Firstly they were all seam bowlers who couldn't swing the ball and secondly, they were trying to move it the orthodox way. In Pakistan 90 per cent of matches are played on wickets where the ball neither bounces nor moves off the wicket. Therefore a bowler who cannot swing the ball never rises above club level. With the new ball losing its shine after 10 overs, most pacemen, mainly through lack of practice, don't know how to handle those conditions. It's only the genuine swing bowlers who succeed, which makes the New Zealand manager's comment that anyone can get swing by roughing up one side of the ball sound foolish.

> Consequently, Haynes was keeping an eye on our ball as if it was a hand grenade that would explode any time

The West Indies bowlers were reverse swinging the ball in Pakistan, yet the amount of swing was nothing compared to what Wasim and Waqar were extracting from the wickets. In Pakistan, you learn to bowl on low-bounce wickets and indeed I used to find it difficult on the bouncier wickets like Perth.

I am glad the whole issue will be raised at the ICC meeting. Some serious claims have been made and I would like the Pakistan Cricket Board to present the balls used by both the teams for inspection.

I don't expect anything to come out of the ICC meeting except more frequent umpire inspections of the ball in future games. But hopefully umpires will be just as tough on lifting of the seam as they would be on scratching the ball.

However, on bare and hard wickets the ball will get roughed up—maybe a few overs later—just as on damp green wickets. No amount of scratching will make the ball reverse swing.

Lifting of the seam will continue, perhaps not to the extent it is done at times, except in Pakistan and India where it is pointless.

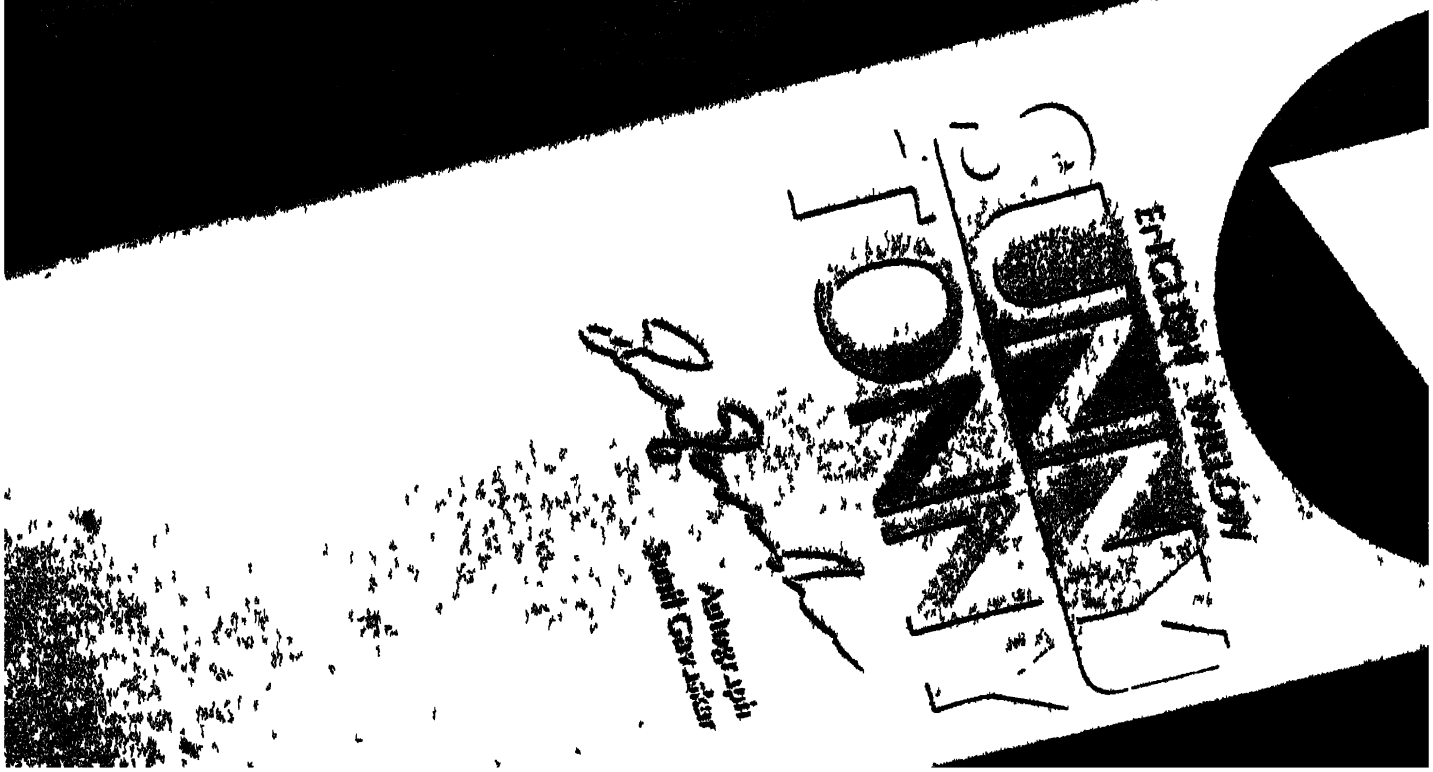
COURTESY THE DAILY TELEGRAPH

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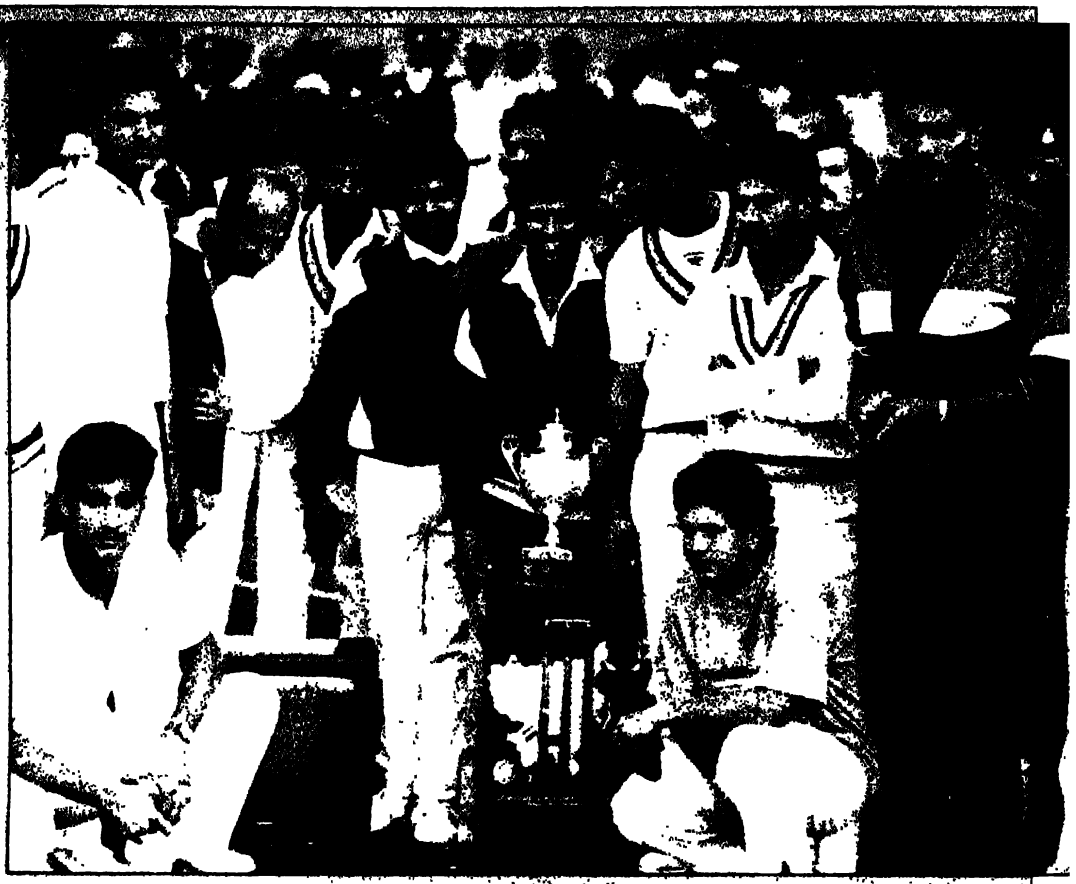
INDIA RULE THE CONTINENT

A fluent victory over the marauding Sri Lankans at Calcutta's Eden Gardens gives India the Asia Cup

Worth its weight in gold



The winners take it all...the victorious Indian team show off their spoils of war

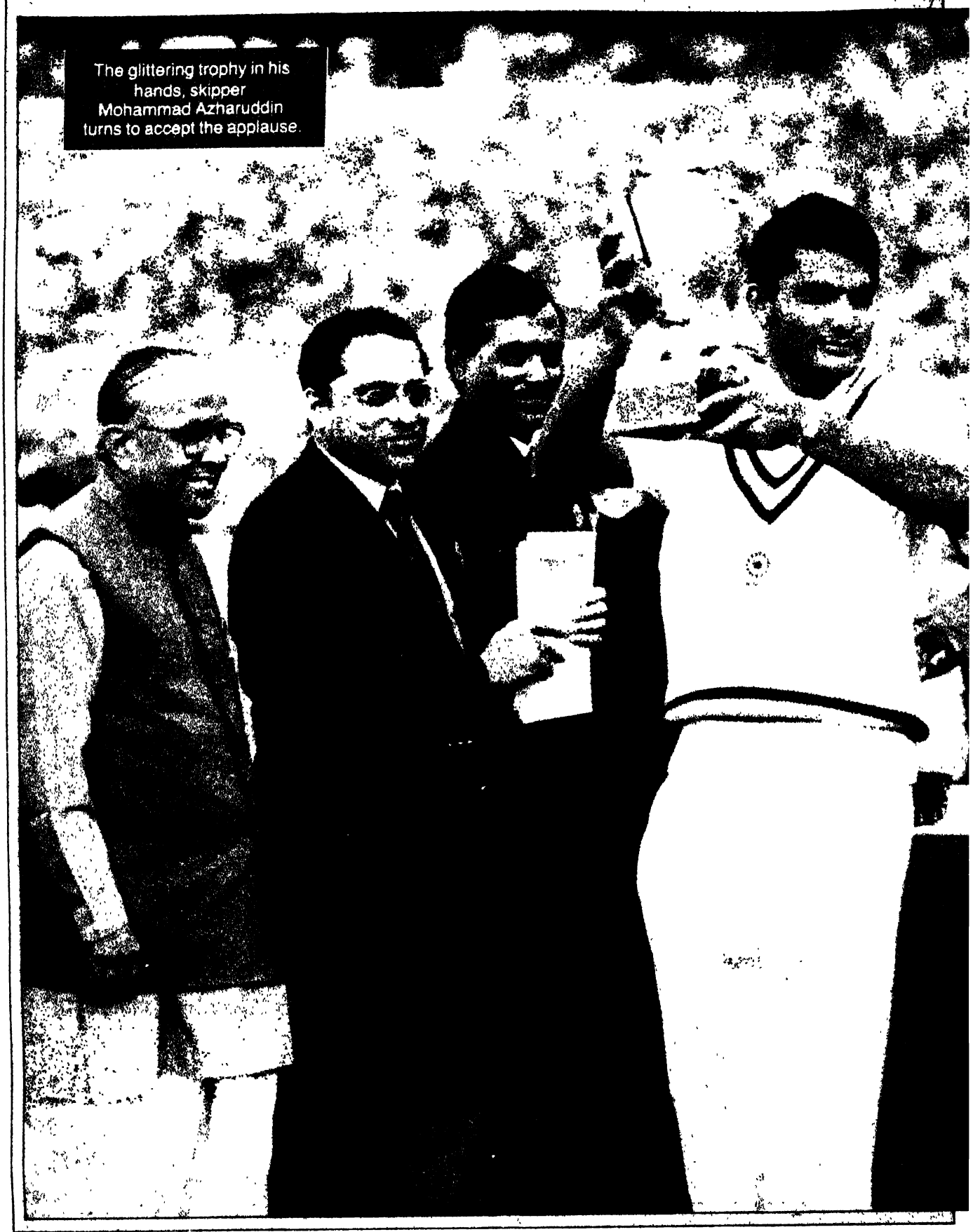


PHOTOGRAPHS:
NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

SG

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precious to every batsman,
as Gold is to
And as it is with all precious things,
SG men's cricket bats are now available with
an extra protective covering, in addition to the poly.
No tampering, better moisture retention, more safety
against dust and the elements.
So you get a factory fresh bat . . . . . everytime!

CCASG/0038



The glittering trophy in his hands, skipper Mohammad Azharuddin turns to accept the applause.

INDIAN CRICKET'S

BALANCE SHEET



M.A.K. PATAUDI EVALUATES THE ASSETS AND LIABILITIES WHILE FINDING SOMEWHAT THE SAME EQUATION IN THE REST OF INDIAN SPORT

I SUPPOSE you could glean some joy at winning the Asia Cup, in spite of Pakistan's absence. It came as a relief to everyone except those members of the BCCI who are thoroughly non-plussed with the financial position of the Board, and would have liked the opportunity to improve the cash flow situation, without resorting to a self-destructive proposal of witholding the players' payments. Fortunately the President saw through this particular game, and the finance committee is now expected to present a more commonsensical and prudent proposal.

Why on earth, an association with a huge turnover (though it does carry some dead weight like the domestic tournaments) has to tighten its belt when only a while ago it could afford to be expansive is a bit of a mystery. And a careful scrutiny could well be amusing, assuming that you have a special sense of humour.

But back to the Asia Cup. I was amazed at the enthusiasm with which India's victory was hailed. After all, India does have the strongest batting side in the game, and needed only 205 to win, a total that was reached with considerable aplomb.

On the other hand, the Indian bowling, as has been said over and over, is the type I would not mind facing and that too without a helmet. This will give you some idea why

The Indian bowling is the type I would not mind facing and that too without a helmet

domestic tournaments can become so misleading, where scores of 500 and more are commonplace, and you are not given anywhere near the correct picture of a batsman's true worth

There is therefore an attempt to restructure the Ranji Trophy; that is, to make it into more than one league (like English football) as well as make it more remunerative for the player. Since this is going to cost, the BCCI is desperately looking for sponsors.

But whether you play a one-tier or a multi-tier system you will only produce mediocrity—more so with the bowling—unless you prepare better wickets and seriously consider playing with balls that are used in international competitions. These are slightly smaller, with the leather polished rather than glazed; they do not swing quite so promptly. If you plan on competing with the best, you have to be prepared for it.

It is a malady that afflicts Indian sport in general. The reaction to the Indian performance—if I may term to so—at the Asian Games was predictable. The country was not amused; though hardly surprised. And as is the norm the participants and the coaches tried to convince us that it was the other's fault.

At the end of it all authorities like Milkha Singh, Suresh Kalmadi, M.P., Arun Pandya of the S.A.I., sundry politicians, experts, and well wishers have expressed their views, and suggested the remedies. You and I, being thorough sceptics in these matters, know fully well that none of these suggestions will be put into effect since the Government of India is preoccupied elsewhere,



Milkha Singh is of the opinion that Indian sport should be given to the army to run

though some may well ask where this 'elsewhere' happens to be.

Milkha is straightforward. He says "Give it to the Services, more specifically to the army" thereby indicating that it is the only institution left which can provide the discipline and facilities required to miss an Olympic medal by a fraction of a second.

Milkha could have been right—if even in a limited way—25 years ago. Today the army has little to offer to the better equipped sportsman, who is no longer content with the relative security of an army job, the extra diet and the much sought after privilege of missing the daily foot slogging.

Athletes like Sriram and Shivnath Singh found no comfort in a system in which their qualifications were unlikely to fetch them anything higher than the rank of a Naik Subhedar, or encourage the jawan to compete on equal footing with the officer. Intermingling on the sports field (I am told) is no longer considered terribly healthy for the morale of the soldier. Well, I suppose times do change, but it seems a pity.

Arun Pandya is in the process of evolving some long term schemes involving State Governments and sponsorship. Unfortunately most sponsors like to get their money's worth of exposure and that too in quick time. Pandya is aiming for the turn of the century to make his mark in the Asian circuit. I



ALOKE MITRA

reckon even if he sets off now and all goes well, he is being optimistic by a decade.

In the meanwhile, Mr Kalmadi has hopefully given up organising marathons for himself and the over fifties but will continue to invite near top class athletes for our edification as indeed Russi Modi will continue to host near top class footballers. If nothing, it at least will continue to show the vast difference between India's foremost sportsmen and the second or third rung foreigner.

I find it quite unbelievable that, in Delhi of all places, thousands sat through a game of football in which only one side played—and that too when it wanted to. No Indian came within touching distance of his opponent, and while one agrees that entertainment is presently at a premium in this country, one can also carry patriotism a little further than is necessary. What I mean is that if you are not prepared to pay good money to watch me play Kasparov, what pleasure can you possibly derive in watching India play against PSV Eindhoven?

To do well internationally, no matter in which sport, you must learn your trade in conditions as close as possible to those that you will come across most often. For this you need foresight, organisation and finance. Need I say more?●



Skipper Azhar and Manjrekar walk in after seeing India through in the final

You will only produce mediocrity unless you prepare better wickets and seriously consider playing with the balls used in international competitions

INDIA IN ASIA CUP

ONWARD

Despite the underdog status of Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, India's victory in the Asia Cup had a special significance. It showed definite signs of progress...especially in terms of her batting might and Mohammad Azharuddin's captaincy potential

GLAMOUR is not all that you should necessarily look for in every sporting tournament. If you do, you could be in for disappointment, not only because of the lack of big-time personalities, but more so because you may miss the actual significance of a tournament, which may be having its own special meaning and impact. And, that is sad, if you truly are a sports lover.

For the common man, the just-concluded Asia Cup was by no means a multi-starrer—an irresistable attraction. There was no Pakistan, in the first place. And without Pakistan, as it is obvious, Asian cricket is sans half its firepower. For except India, the other two participants, Sri Lanka Bangladesh, are still second stringers.

Yet, the Asia Cup had its own special significance. Despite its depleted, unimpressive and somewhat one-sided looks, India obviously held centrestage like a domineering force far ahead of the others. Critics as well as laymen will attach much importance to this. But that kind of a viewpoint is wrong. Barring Bangladesh, who paid a heavy price for their penchant for 'international exposure' with total lack of preparation, India's victory in the Asia Cup had much greater significance than just another win over the permanent underdogs of cricket, Sri Lanka. India's triumph was much more meaningful and valuable than just that.

The reasons: Firstly, it would be absolutely wrong to evaluate India's main rival in the tournament, Sri Lanka, on the same scale as ever before. The Sri Lanka of today, in all fairness, is vastly different from the Sri Lanka of yesteryear. Now, it is a remarkably strong side that travels out of the emerald islands. Now, there is that unmistakable aura of resurging confidence about them, which stems from a new attitude of defiance, of refusal to accept their nearly unshakable underdog status. And of course from talent.

Look at that irrespressible, ebullient young man Aravinda De Silva and his no

The sense of overbearing mastery that Tendulkar showed in every innings that he played indicates his future greatness as a leading, motivating influence on the team...



MARCH



The Indian team's victory lap: sure-footed approach towards the future

holds-barred defiant response to even top class bowling. In the three matches he played in the Cup, his haul was a respectable 126; with a highest of an explosive 89 at Cuttack.

It was indeed an honour for Sri Lanka to have a batsman in its rank who commanded so much respect from even their much fancied Indian opponents Coming in mostly at one down, he almost inevitably proved the stabilising factor in the consistent Lankan innings And his contempt for any stupidity, any slackness on the part of the bowler, resulted in spectacular fireworks that dazzled.

Quite similar to this irreverant approach was the solid, surefooted aggression of Asanka Gurusinghe. If anything, his onslaught was more sustained and more consistent than the impulsive eruptions of Aravinda De Silva, whose sudden rushes of blood often cost him a big innings. But their defiance boosted the Sri Lankan morale in facing their celebrated opponents

Talking about morale, both skippers Arjuna Ranatunga and Mohammad Azharuddin have been exemplary in their contribution to team spirit, simply by taking the right decision at the right time. As well as doing the all important job—performing.

As far as India is concerned this aspect has been a revelation, really After traversing through a long difficult terrain of confusion, bitterness and acrimony, India has been happy to settle down under the reassuring influence of a captain who excelled in every area of his activity He batted excellently, with the same original grace that characterised his game when he made his sensational entry into big-time cricket and had been missing for disquietingly long

Just as his performance contributed to the Indian victory in concrete terms of rich knocks, averaging an impressive 94, his handling of the Indian bowling strategy paid rich dividends.

This undoubtedly showed his ability to make the most of the limited resources at his disposal, as Indian bowling—despite the towering presence of Kapil Dev—has become too weak to reassure any captain. Azharuddin, without any great expectations from his bowlers, and at the same time without the

slightest trace of frustration, wrestled with the realities surrounding him to extract the best possible results.

Kapil Dev must have been an extremely happy man that sunny afternoon in the Eden Gardens, joining the One-day hattrick club, but glory be with the chief too For Kapil's hattrick not only paved the way for the quick Indian victory, but also sort of endorsed and rewarded the skipper's belief in his ageing colleagues.

Ironically, enough, it was at the final of a One-day tournament that Kapil Dev seemed to have struck form. After a long spell of unproductive drudgery and painful criticism, Kapil Dev had, in fact, began to believe that it was his excessive participation in one-day cricket which was harming his bowling. "The biggest factor that has caused damage to my bowling is One-day cricket. Too much of it," said Kapil, explaining how his "original style has been severely affected. This business of keeping the ball in, in, and in, to check the runs has really changed my style. My outswing has gone haywire—that cutting edge, that tempting lure that used to force mistakes on batsmen and then make them fall to my pace no longer exists. There is no threat in my bowling anymore. Playing one-day cricket has grooved it into my system to bowl straight, straight, straight, within the stumps. I've become predictable."

Seen from that point of view, Kapil's sudden success should not cause as much optimism about his bowling as it is likely to do. The pundits may demand stiffer tests, more convincing proof of his return to form; but since there is no cricketing engagement in the offing, that question would now remain unanswered. However, the good news is that this season ends on a happy note. As far as Kapil is concerned, amid optimism

Happiness also permeated from the smooth, sure-footed progress that the youngsters showed. Sanjay Manjrekar, and Sachin Tendulkar certainly symbolise our greatest hopes about India's cricketing future So far we have not had the slightest reasons to re-examine our expectations. Sanjay Manjrekar and Sachin

VIDEOCON ASIA CUP STATISTICS

Batted first	Score (overs)	Batted second	Score (overs)	Margin	Man of the match
Bangladesh (T)	170-6 / 50	India	171-1 / 36.5	9 wkts	N. Sidhu
Sri Lanka (T)	214-1 / 49.2	India	178 / 45.5	36 wkts	A. Ranatunga
Sri Lanka (T)	249-4 / 45	Bangladesh	178-9 / 45	71 wkts	Athar Ali Khan
Sri Lanka	204-9 / 45	India (T)	205-3 / 42.1	7 wkts	M. Azharuddin

Note: Teams in capitals for match winners; (T) signifies toss winner.

BEST BATSMEN

	M	Inn	No	Runs	Ave	HS
Athar Ali Khan (Ban)	2	2	1	122	122.00	78*
S. Manjrekar (Ind)	3	3	2	112	112.00	75*
Mohd. Azharuddin (Ind)	3	2	1	94	94.00	54*
A. Ranatunga (SL)	3	3	1	166	83.00	64*
Navjot Sidhu (Ind)	3	3	1	144	72.00	104*
Aravinda de Silva (SL)	3	3	—	126	42.00	89*

BEST BOWLERS

	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Avge	Best
Kapil Dev (Ind)	26.2	2	96	9	10.66	4-31
R. Ratnayake (SL)	14.5	1	58	4	14.50	3-24
Atul Wassan (Ind)	27	0	104	5	20.80	3-28
S. Jayaswiya (SL)	20	1	91	3	30.33	2-39

Compiled by Ravi Kant Srivastava



ground in frustration
being run out at a
crucial stage of th

Both skippers Ranatunga and Azharuddin have been exemplary in their contribution to team spirit, simply by taking the right decision at the right time. As well as doing the all important job—performing.

Tendulkar are just going great guns, dovetailing so well into each other's as well as their seniors' gameplan. And most remarkable of all, the sense of overbearing mastery that Tendulkar showed in every innings that he played in the recent past indicates his future greatness as a leading, motivating influence on the team.

If this sounds like premature crystal-gazing into the distant future of a Sachin Tendulkar era, well, even though the future is not for us to see, nurturing such visions is certainly not wild imagination.

So the point is: for all the underestimation that the Sri Lankans suffer, India's victory over them for the Asia Cup should not be slighted at all. On the one hand, Sri Lanka has given a good account of themselves by even beating India, while on the other India's Asia Cup campaign was memorable for its own positive signs of progress.

By SUPRAKASH GHOSHAL

PHOTOGRAPHS NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. In boxing, what does 'cold cock' or 'lower the boom' stand for?

2. Which city is known as the 'Texas of European football'?

3. Which boxer played the part of Mr. John Gully in the film 'Royal Flash, in which he had a fist fight with Oliver Reed, who played the role of Bismarck?

4. To whom did Muhammad Ali address these words: "This is the bear hunting season, you big ugly bear. You are the chump and I am the champ."

5. Which Argentine soccer star became famous as the 'Blond Arrow'?

6. Which tennis player described two great accomplishments in his life as one, when he started playing tennis and two when he stopped playing tennis?

7. Which tennis player who was also a novelist and poet outside the court acted in the film 'Players'.

8. Who comes next in the following series · in which he was seen winning the Wimbledon singles title, although he didn't win the Wimbledon singles title in real life?

Bill Ponsford, Doug Walters and Alvin Kallicharan...

9. In which sport did Pericles, the renowned ancient Greek emperor, win the gold medal in the ancient Olympics?

10. Only three players have scored in the final match of two different World Cup soccer finals. Two of them are Vava and Pele. Who is the third?

11. What would a sportsman be doing if he were 'tanking'?

12. Who is the only athlete to be Olympic champion, world champion, Commonwealth champion and European champion?

13. Which famous golfer, when asked why he didn't have only one girlfriend, said, "That would be like playing in the same golf course all the time."

14. In January 1983, Ian Botham won a horserace against another famous cricketer at Adelaide's Globe Derby Raceway by three yards. Name the other cricketer.

15. Who is awarded the Val Barker trophy?

RATING TEST

ABOVE 15: Wish you were part of our quiz team.

Between 10 and 13 : Not too bad.

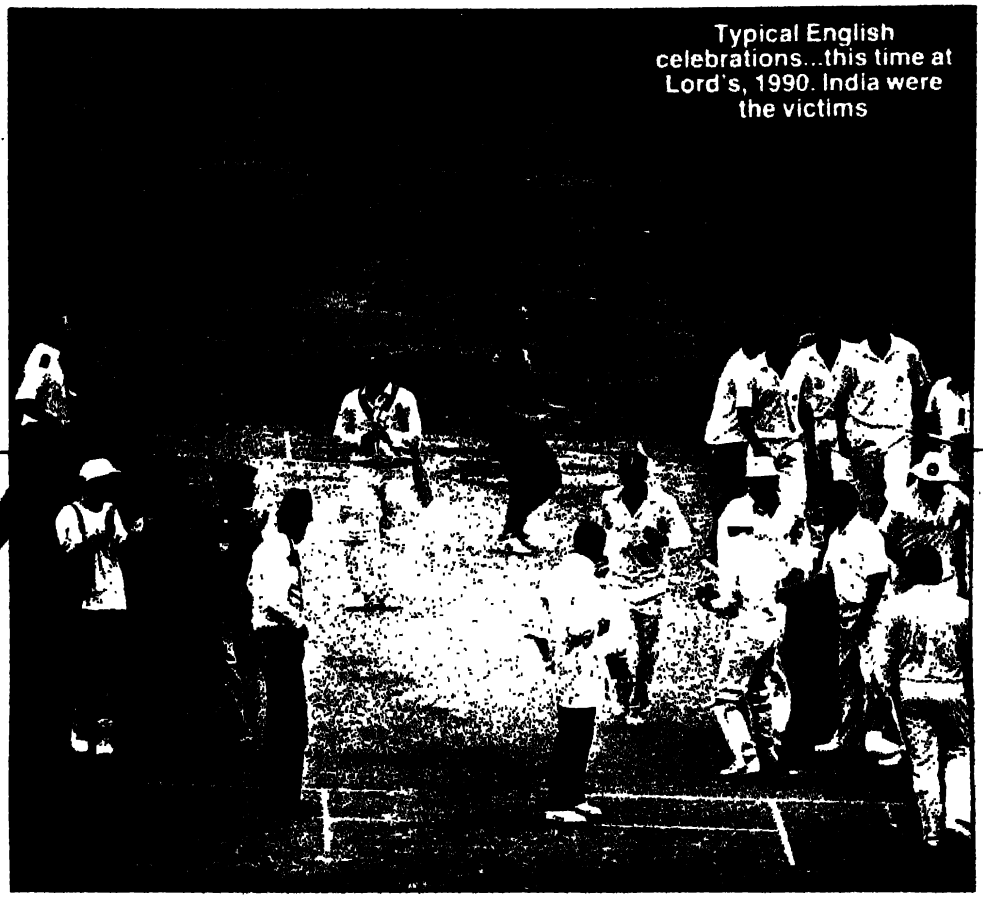
Below 10 Sportsworld reading recommended

All answers sent in by the contributor.

ANSWERS

1. It is the time when the opponent is knocked out with a single blow.
2. Barcelona.
3. Henry Cooper.
4. Sonny Liston.
5. Alfredo Di Stefano.
6. Bjorn Borg.
7. Guillermo Vilas.
8. Mohammad Azharuddin. All three cricketers have scored centuries in their first two Test matches.
9. Wrestling
10. Paul Breitner of West Germany.
11. He would be losing a game or contest intentionally.
12. Daley Thompson, Great Britain.
13. Severiano Ballesteros, Spain.
14. Australia's Dennis Lillee.
15. The best allround boxer at the Olympic Games. He may or may not be a gold medal winner.

THIS QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY :
MINHAJ ALAM,
QUARTER NO. C/12,
ROAD NO. 2,
WATERTOWER QUARTERS,
PATNA-800 001
BIHAR



Typical English celebrations...this time at Lord's, 1990. India were the victims

Playing football with cricket

JONATHAN RICE finds that sport and politics do mix

THE recently retired Prime Minister, the Rt Hon. Mrs Margaret Thatcher, PC, MP, began her campaign to continue as leader of her party with the widely quoted view that 'There will be no ducking of bouncers, no playing for time. The bowling's going to get hit all round the ground.'

Without wishing to draw attention to the doubtful wisdom of not ducking bouncers, the strategy of bringing cricketing metaphors into political discussions clearly does not work. Her ex-deputy Sir Geoffrey Howe described her policies as 'Rather like sending your opening batsmen to the crease only for them to find, the moment the first balls are bowled, that their bats have been broken before the game, by the team captain.'

This displayed no greater knowledge of the working of our summer game than the words of his former boss. You have got to be a pretty stupid batsman not to notice that your bat is broken until 'the moment the first balls are bowled', and then to try to blame it on your captain.

And at what moment is it that the first *balls* are bowled? In most games of cricket I have seen, only one ball is

bowled at a time. For the sake of our sanity, it is obviously essential that we all do our best to keep cricket out of politics, at least until a cricketer as good as Lord Home is once again our Prime Minister. As David Graveney once so memorably said, 'Cricket shouldn't be used as a political football.'

But I fear we would be fighting a losing battle. After all, there was more good news for the political-speech-writing fraternity recently, with the revelation that ball-by-ball commentaries on Radio Three are not to be scrapped when the frequencies change later on in 1991. Cricket has been seen as an essential source of material for a good political speech for even longer than the TMS team has been eating cakes.

Many years before Mrs Thatcher tried to use cricket to score political points, HH the Jam Saheb of Nawanagar, Prince Ranjitsinhji, was routinely using cricketing metaphors in his public utterances. He used to say things like 'Both on easy and difficult wickets, the princes of India have tried their best to play



Umpire Dickie Bird, in the company of his country's cricketers, has been invited to lunch at Buckingham Palace

with a straight bat for the Empire.'

As some of the Indian princes, the Jam Saheb himself always excluded, were among the worst batsmen ever to play first-class cricket, I am not sure that Ranji's comment was as noble as he would have wished his listeners to believe, but it was what the Empire wanted to hear.

And in 1959, *The Times* published a leading article in which it pointed out that Mr Khrushchev 'has done most of the bowling and the West has been stonewalling.' This predated by a quarter of a century Mrs T's view that Mikhail Gorbachev is a man with whom she could have played cricket.



PHOTOGRAPHS PATRIC EAGAR



Does Robin Smith have the makings of a cabinet minister?

The England team now face their own struggle to win the series in Australia, and also have to deal with their own leadership crisis as Graham Gooch nurses a hand as stitched up as Mrs Thatcher was by her backbenchers. The Lord's Taverners, whose reception at Number 10 gave Mrs Thatcher the unfortunate idea of talking in cricketing metaphors, are not travelling *en masse* to Australia for meetings with Prime Minister Hawke, so with any luck the confusion between politics and cricket will not spread any further than it already has.

However I have noticed a few new straws in the wind over the past week or two which worry me. It seems that some of our cricketers are preparing themselves for political careers as rapidly as our politicians seem to want to qualify for a slot as an expert summariser on the *Test Match Special* team.

Did you notice, for example, that Dickie Bird has been invited to lunch at Buckingham Palace? Perhaps he will be our next Prime Minister but one. Or that Robin Smith has asked for permission to come back to Britain in the middle of the tour? And why does he want to leave the sunshine of Australia behind for a few days, and put up with the snows and rain of England? To spend some time with his family, that's why. If ever I heard a political statement, that is it.

Why did Sir Norman Fowler leave the cabinet? To spend more time with his family. Why did Nicholas Ridley try not to resign? Because he was on record as saying that he did not want to spend more time with his family. If Robin Smith ever becomes a cabinet minister, he will be one of the first already to have his resignation statement worked out.

The only hope for England to avoid the vultures from now on is by asking that all future Tests, like leadership ballots, should be at least a three-way affair. Then, even if England cannot hit the bowling all around the ground or even play for time, we might win by virtue of the number of second-preference runs. ●

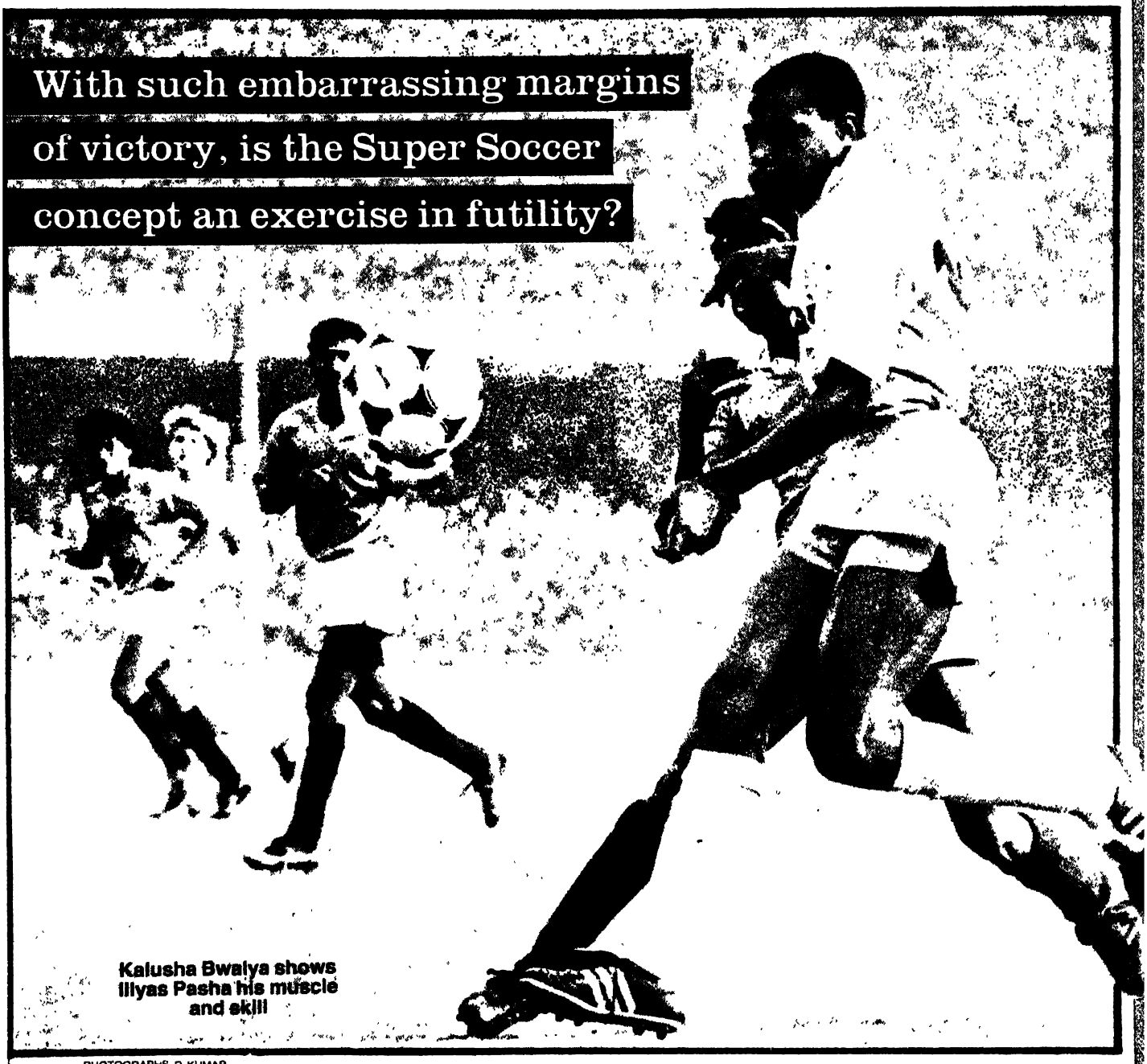
PSV EINDHOVEN TOURS INDIA

MISMATCH!



ACTION PLUS

With such embarrassing margins of victory, is the Super Soccer concept an exercise in futility?



Kalusha Bwalya shows Iliyas Pasha his muscle and skill

PHOTOGRAPHS R KUMAR

TISCO is a fine company. No surprise, since Russi Mody is a fine man. But they did not have to spend Rs 40 lakh plus for Bobby Robson to come to India and say. "Not a single Indian player impressed me. From what I've seen today, India is way behind international standards". I could have said the same thing, and it would have cost TISCO merely a phone call.

When I read the cumulative score of the first two matches--PSV 15; India 1—to my Uncle Stanley, he asked are we playing football or volleyball? All we are getting is a new dimension to the word embarrassment. When India, for example, scored its lone goal in Bangalore, the crowd reacted like as if we'd put a man on the moon. A bad joke.

Bobby Robson says on his first day, "The Indian players know more about us than we know about them". Well, Bobby, the Indian crowd

Facing page: The wise old man of world soccer—Bobby Robson

Not A Jamboree

TATA Iron and Steel Company (TISCO) organisers of Super Soccer, has a turnover of Rs 2,200 crores and a reputation of being the epitome of efficiency. But the way, they organised the PSV Eindhoven vs India XI match at Delhi, would have had founder Dohrab Tata turning in his grave.

PSV arrived in Delhi without visas. The organisers had not stressed that India is not an EEC country, for which no visas are required. Customs officials at Delhi understandably were upset at this lapse. The organisers had to work overtime to get temporary visas at the airport.

At the official Press conference to meet Bobby Robson, the names of the 17 Dutch players were not provided, in spite of repeated requests. Whilst Romario's absence was noted, there was no information about the missing Dutch World Cup defender, Berrie Van Aerle. No wonder some newspapers included Van Aerle in the squad. This occurred in spite of a publicity budget of Rs 50 lakh for the Super Soccer series.

The Press conference was a disaster. It was a free for all, with children, bank officials, friends of PROs and all and sundry joining in. Whilst sports journalists were restricted to one question each, children were allowed to ask all sorts of irrelevant questions.

The unkindest cut of all was at the match. The organisers could not co-ordinate at all with the technical officials. Erroneous team lists were provided. The numbers on the Indian teams were unidentifiable. As the line-ups supplied were wrong, the Public Address System notably made wrong announcements.

Rumanian star, Gheorge Popescu was not even listed though he played from beginning till the end. For 30 minutes the AIR and Doordarshan wrongly identified the PSV players. According to the list supplied by the Tata Steel Sports Foundation, Zambian left-winger Kalusha Bwalya was made a Czech, Jozef Chovanec. Ironically, Cnovanec was not even playing in the first half. Such *faus pax* are surely a poor reflection on Tatas organisational capabilities.

At the end of the match, no information was given about Bobby Robson's after match comments. The errors in the team lists were also corrected by the initiative of the media, who sent a man to the PSV bench to correct the team list. The organisers should realise that international football is no Samantha Fox jamboree.

Novy Kapadia

Rajiv Gandhi is introduced to the players in Delhi





Tarun Dey winces as Twan Scheepers rises for a header

knows more about your players, than our own. They'll tell you when Eric Gerets was born, and what van Bruekelen eats for lunch, but they sure won't be able to identify Swarup Das and Everest Gollado in a crowd. International exposure be damned, at least India should play its best team. And if this is it, boy, have we got a problem!

The Super Soccer concept is successful in only two spheres: exposing India's soccer frailness and giving the aesthetes in the crowd, an opportunity to watch one-sided excellence close up. It's like Boris Becker playing S. Fazaluddin. You can appreciate Becker's art in itself, nothing else. For any sport to be entertaining and exciting, a contest is required. In that context Super Soccer fails miserably.

The solution is alarmingly simple: bring two teams. If PSV were to play Liverpool, the match would retain it's exhibition status, but it would be a feast of contrasting styles of equal efficiency. With club honour at stake and winning being everything these days, the teams would take it easy, only to a point.

The counter argument to this would be that cliche of 'denying Indians international exposure'. Hogwash. What are the Indians learning from these successive humiliations? Nothing. Super Soccer teams have been touring India since 1984 and there has been

"The enjoyment in modern football seems to have gone"

PSV manager Bobby Robson speaks to Novy Kapadia

Has international football become very defensive?
No it hasn't become very defensive. Goals are very difficult to come by since world football defenders have become much more intelligent, quicker, they even think quicker and are hard to score against. Tactics are such that teams play with an extra player in defence. As both teams do it, it is difficult to score.

What was the difference between football in your days as a player and manager?
In my days as a player, in the 1950s and early 60s a manager's job was easier. He had to only concentrate on keeping the players physically fit. Now we are totally professional. We have to develop a player's attitude, temperament, character and skills. Each player has to be dealt with individually. Gascoigne is different from Shilton in attitude and approach to the game. Being a manager now is a full time job. You have to remain up to date with new trends. I enjoy my job with PSV but my best days were as a player with Fulham. In modern football, the need to win is so paramount that the enjoyment seems to have gone. Exorbitant transfer fees nowadays are mindboggling. Baggio was transferred for 8 million pounds. Nobody is worth that much. Most of the money goes to the club with the player getting a fraction. But high finance is robbing the joy of football. Nowadays, money from football is generated from sponsorship, whereas in my playing days, clubs depended on the paying public.

In modern football, the need to win is so paramount that the enjoyment seems to have gone. Baggio was transferred for 8 million pounds. Nobody is worth that much



Would you like to comment on supervision in the World Cup?
Referees should not be afraid to give a harsh decision, but at the same time, referees should apply commonsense and have to be careful about red and yellow cards. I thought that at Italia '90, they were too liberal with the cards. They have to be sure that it is a red card. FIFA told them to be strict with players but cards must be shown only if it is a legitimate offence. There were some bookings in the 1990 World Cup which were

unjustified, some were correct.

Do you agree with FIFA's proposals to widen the goalposts to make the game attractive?

The rules and regulations of football have stood the test of time, they are 125 years old. You make goalscoring too easy. Basketball for instance, scores are 92 or 105. There should not be too many goals. It will cheapen the sport. Football is an excellent sport and you have to preserve its simplicity. So I do not approve that goals have to be widened to make the game more attractive. If you extend the goals, matches would end with scores of 15-8 but it would not necessarily make the match more exciting and attractive.

What would make football a better game to watch?

Skilful players like Pele, George Best, Maradona, Bobby Charlton, Gullit, Gascoigne, Schillaci and Cryuff. Players with personalities and charisma will draw the crowds to the game. Great players are those who are always comfortable with the ball, can trap the ball at all angles, dribble and run with it, control, head and tackle with ease, master of every technique. Nowadays we use the ball a lot in training and I am sure skilful players will emerge.



Erwin Koeman goes up

a remarkable lack of improvement in Indian soccer in that period. So that equation doesn't hold.

The Indian players would probably sulk if denied the opportunity to play such teams, but so timid and awestruck has been their reaction, that you feel they're on the field only to tell their grandchildren 20 years hence, that, 'I played against Erwin Koeman, kiddo'. Only problem is if the kid turns around and says, 'And what did you do, Grandpa?'. Much silence in the house that day.

There is growing evidence in fact that this 'international exposure' hype is actually counter-productive. The embarrassment has become so unpalatable that, prior to the Calcutta match, Subrata Bhattacharya was heard saying, "We will not lose by more than 3 goals, even if it means absolute defence, standing still on the ground waiting for them to come up to our territory. Then we'll start our game. When we sense danger we'll even kick the ball out of the ground and do anything possible in the world to stop them from scoring'. Now that doesn't sound like a man interested in a learning experience, now does it. More a fear of being thrashed.

TISCO may have the last laugh by pointing to the enormous crowds that have flocked to these matches. Yet, the issue is not publicity but entertainment and therein the failure of this whole exercise.

Rohit Brijnath

THE BEST OF TENNIS WRITING



GUILLERMO VILAS

CURRY KIRKPATRICK
(MAY 1978)

THE ETERNA



L SECOND

'BOOM. BA-BOOM.' The floor is made of ceramic tiles that are the colour of buttermilk. 'Bip-bip. Ba-boom.' The walls are marble halfway to the ceiling. 'Baba-da-boom. Baba-da-boom.' There is chipping plaster, and water pipes all around. 'Bip-bip. Boop-ba-boop. Boom.' And mirrors and stalls and a long wooden bench. 'Ba-boom. Bip...bip...babadaboom. Ba-boom .ba..boom.'

In the faded elegance of a dressing room underneath the stadium of the Buenos Aires lawn tennis club, Guillermo Vilas waits to go upstairs for another tennis match. Waits and sits. Stands and dances. Sings and taps a small stick.

'I should have been a Brazilian,' Vilas says 'How fantastic they are with the music. Unbelievable So natural with the music. You go into a bar and there they are drumming and tapping on everything. Ba-boom. Ba-ba-da-boom. Metals, wood, the floor, the chairs. They click glasses and spoons and fill the bottles at different levels so they get the different notes. Bip-boom. They become a band. People singing and laughing and dancing on the tables. Ba-boom.

'I fly away with the music.' Vilas continues, now working on the marble and the pipes. 'Boop-bip-ba-boom. Yes, sometimes I wish I was making music. I speak to Burt Bacharach in Caracas. He said he went crazy listening to the Brazilians. He said he will come here and I will go to California and meet the big guys. My songs will be love songs. But not for lovers, you know? Love songs for all people. I want that. Yes, I want to make music.. I will...I know I will.'

The reason professional tennis has established itself as one of the big sports of the '70s is that it has grown far and wide and variegated enough to have at its highest level such desperate personalities as Jimmy Connors, Bjorn Borg and Guillermo Vilas. Though much has been made of their diversity, the notion persists that Connors and Borg are not so dissimilar after all It is Vilas who is different. Vilas, the poet. Vilas, the romantic. Vilas, the mild bull of the Pampas. Though probably lacking the raw ability of his two rivals, Vilas may have the greatest appeal to the public.

Connors has earned a reputation for nastiness while wearing his heart, not to mention his middle finger, on his sleeve. Conversely, Borg is well mannered but exhibits no recognisable human emotion past a wink. And although they have performed prodigies on the tennis court, they are sadly deficient in the social graces and general knowledge. Indeed, it sometimes seems that they went directly from childhood to manhood, while cutting classes, as it were, in the lessons of youth. Perhaps that is why, in their press conferences and public utterances, Connors, 25, and Borg, 21, can



Vilas with Tiriac. When Tiriac joined up with him he changed his image as well as his game

express themselves only in jock rhetoric or downright baby talk. Conversation? Forget conversation. They don't know what conversation is. If all the nets of the world suddenly were ripped asunder by Darth Vader, Jimbo and Bjorny would have to take to the streets selling sausage.

This is not the case for 25-year-old Vilas. Besides being one of the three best tennis players in the world, Vilas is a published author of prose and poetry. He has written a screenplay and collaborated on songs to be recorded in Argentina. He is a philosopher, a musician, a reader, a thinker. Even if Vilas's book of poetry were nothing more than recipes for 'carbonada criolla' and his musical notes badly off-key; even if his Renaissance-man reputation is based on nothing more than 'phantom depth' as one touring pro charges, that is besides the point. On his own the man reads, writes and composes, and he does it for only one reason. The self. Himself.

Tiriac deservedly has taken credit for the technical and mental improvements in Vilas's game since he joined up with him permanently in 1976. Other players sense his influence

Vilas is bright, handsome, articulate. He is honest, witty, sensitive. He makes tons and tons of pesos. You might not want your daughter to marry a tennis player, but Guillermo Vilas you'd approve of.

This is a simplification, of course. Vilas's passion for the aesthetic, his artistic nature, derives in large part from the circumstances of coming from a broken home and from the hurt inflicted by incessant reference to him in the Argentine press as a loser and 'the eternal second'. 'I am a very complicated person to get involved with,' Vilas says. 'I am not easy to know on a superficial basis.'

Significantly, the two men who say they know him best—does anyone know Guillermo Vilas *well*?—disagree on the subject of Vilas's state of mind.

'Willie is, you know, counterclockwise,' says Luis Alberto Spinetta, Argentina's leading jazz-rock musician. 'You tell him what's white, he'll tell you what's black. You act hard on him, he'll be sweet. It's all reversed. He's contradictory. But he is

For a time Bjorn Borg and Vilas became fast friends, but as Borg started defeating Vilas regularly, the friendship waned

young, a champion, sensible. He has fun. His future is now. He has found the world already.'

Arturo Romero, who was Vilas's roommate during law school at Faculdad de Derecho y Ciencias Sociales and now serves as a kind of secretary for his friend, demurs. 'Travelling is a lonely time for Guillermo', says Romero. 'He has no home left, but he needs the charm and closeness of the family. When you force Guillermo to think, he's pessimistic. Because he's not happy, he must discover a place to settle and find peace The problem is Guillermo doesn't find his peace.'



There are other contradictions. Vilas has said that money means nothing, that he 'plays for fame'. But last year he entered an astonishing 34 tournaments (winning 21), played 153 matches (winning 139) and earned $434,065 in tournament prize money, an all-time record. He plays and plays and plays and plays. He also won the $300,000 first prize in the Colgate Grand Prix bonus pool, as well as an additional $30,000 in the season-end Masters showdown in New York city, for a year's total of $764,065. That is quite a bit of fame.

And Vilas's interest in only the fame of the Masters title is suspect. He cabled Colgate before the tournament to ask if they could send his $300,000 down to Buenos Aires ahead of time 'for tax reasons'. (There were no tax reasons: tennis players are taxed where they earn their money.)

Moreover, Vilas resigned or, rather, Ion Tiriac, the brooding Romanian who is Vilas's friend, aide, mentor, agent, cornerman, coach and general manager, resigned both of them from the Association of Tennis Professionals last spring (over a petty gossip item in the ATP newspaper) Vilas was the only major player who refused to sign a pledge not to play exhibitions in conflict with ATP-sanctioned tournaments this season. As a result, this winter and spring Vilas (whom Tiriac has come to refer to as 'I', the way fight managers say, 'We fought so-and-so') has been lazing around, playing in only a few tournaments. He does appear in a whole lot of exhibitions For fame? For money?

In defence, Tiriac argues that Connors, Borg, Ilie Nastase and other big names have been 'collecting guarantees on contracts' from Lamar Hunt's WCT

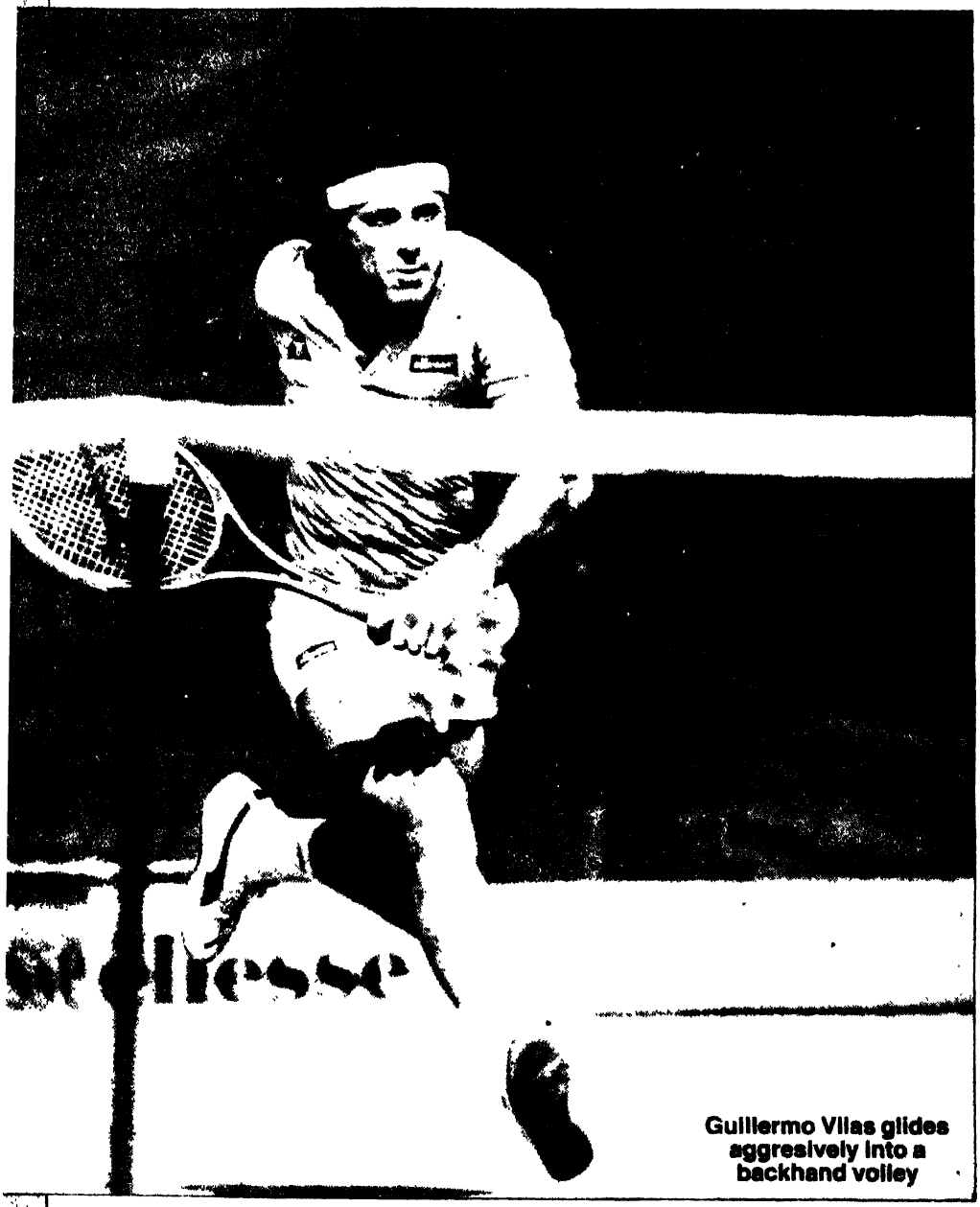
tour, and that his man either deserves the same largess or else should be left alone to make up the cash in exhibitions

'Guillermo is bored with deals I make,' says Tiriac 'He doesn't want to hear about them Anyway, money is not a factor with these guys anymore It just depends on who wants to win This guy won non-stop last year. God, we're tired.'

Be that as it may, Vilas, or Tiriac, or those spinners and weavers from Fila, the Italian clothes manufacturer that makes Vilas's two-tone outfits, or somebody, must be yawning all the way to the Buenos Aires Savings and Loan.

Arthur Ashe puts in a word for Vilas 'What Guillermo did last year—to reach that many finals and win that many tournaments—was extraordinary,' says Ashe. 'It's trivial to complain that he hasn't played much this year. He must have accounted for an extra 50,000 spectators in the last six months of each season. He more than supported the tour.'

This season the tour has had to make do without Vilas. After injuring his ankle at the Masters in January, he rushed home to rest for nearly three months before gingerly venturing back into competition, in which he has been rudely beaten by a whole draw sheet of players. But this appears to be another typical Tiriac production, go slow, practice hard, work like a pack mule, then sneak up on everybody in the world's big clay championships - this week's Italian Open in Rome and next week's French Open in Paris



Guillermo Vilas glides aggresively into a backhand volley

Tiriac deservedly has taken credit for the technical and mental improvements in Vilas's game since he joined up with him permanently in 1976 Other players sense his influence on Vilas's personality as well There was a time in South Africa, after Vilas had lost a long point, when he appealed to the chair that coughing spectators had disrupted his concentration. The umpire allowed a replay Last spring during the Davis Cup match between Argentina and the US, American representatives accused Vilas of arousing the crowd to use drums, bugles and whistles.

'Tiriac is the guru and Tiriac's forte is gamesmanship,' says Ashe. 'We know not to give Guillermo anything on the court because he'll nail you if he can. He has come to the superstar point. He plays on that image of the romantic poet, but he uses the grand gesture the way Newcombe used to in

Vilas left school forever. In 1973 he began his voyages around the tennis globe. The following summer there arrived on the American clay circuit a powerful, left-handed, fully fledged new star and anomaly; a flashing-eyed, head-banded South American who didn't moan and complain at line calls...and didn't even seem to lose



Vilas with the men's singles trophy. He won the French Open in 1977

influencing an inexperienced linesman Newk got away with it because he was Newk. This guy can do it because he is Vilas.'

The 'superstar' hasn't been conceived who would avoid exploiting such an advantage Still, for Vilas to engage in such gamesmanship seems totally alien to his image. 'Guillermo used to be warm and friendly', another player says, 'Now he has a singlemindedness that wasn't there before He is all business, and cold. I wonder if he really enjoys the sacrifices he has had to make because of Tiriac. To reach the top, he has had to become less human, a lesser person. But to win, he had to be.'

A story under Vilas's byline in the Buenos Aires newspaper *La Opinion* last November had asked for Vilas's impressions of the earthquake in Argentina the day before in which some 80 people had been killed. Heavy tremors had been felt in parts of Buenos Aires. Vilas, who had been awakened from a sound sleep in his 17th floor apartment and who had rushed down the stairs and into the street where he had joined his frightened neighbours, wrote:

It [the earthquake] was most lamentable, but foreseeable. It's within the percentage of things which have to happen. Fervently, therefore, I think that many times one feels oneself to be secure, and suddenly, one's world falls down like a pack of cards in a matter of seconds. An earthquake belongs to natural law. Nature is irreversible just as much for physical and psychic phenomena. If reconstruction is necessary, I pledge to contribute my grain of sand, playing exhibitions gratis, always on condition that in the scheduling of them, the dates that

tennis leaves me free are taken into account. This for me is a sacred pledge which I plan to honour.

Friends say the exhibitions were Vilas's idea, the proviso about free time was pure Tiriac.

For about as long as there has been an Argentina, there has been football—soccer—in Argentina. Neighbouring Brazil has won the World Cup three times, and now Buenos Aires is preparing to host that event. There have also been renowned fighters from Argentina—Luis Angel Firpo, Oscar Bonavena, Carlos Monzon—but not until Guillermo Vilas arrived did sports take over in a big commercial way: T-shirts, sporting-goods stores, that sort of thing.

For a time he and Borg became fast friends—Vilas bought an apartment in the same condominium in Monaco in which Borg lived, the two practised every day and they ate meals together. But Borg was on the verge of his engagement to Mariana Simionescu, while Vilas was surveying a field of international wonder women, including a 'Miss World Beauty', 32-year-old Mirta Massa. As Borg began to defeat Vilas regularly and Tiriac entered the picture, their friendship waned. Yet Borg's dominance in their matches— 12 wins to four, lifetime—while attributable in part to his greater consistency, is probably as much a result of Vilas's lack of a killer instinct against a friend. As Tiriac says of his ward. 'This guy is not capable in life to kill a fly.'

Guillermo Vilas was not born in a manger—or on a tennis court. Like any other Argentine kid, he grew up kicking a football. Vilas's father, preferring that Guillermo play something more white-collar, took him into the Club Nautico Mar del Plata, of which he was the president, and hired a local barber named Felipe Locicero to teach him tennis. Locicero remembers, 'On the face of the little boy were signs of deaf protest.' But the little boy learned the game. Later, when the elder Vilas wanted his son to become a lawyer, it was too late. Guillermo was hooked on tennis. He was playing in national and then international tournaments. And he was winning. In law school Vilas met the boisterous Romero, who came from the province of La Pampa. Of Romero, a notorious playboy, a friend once said, 'At 2 a.m .. Arturo is not thinking the night is young, but, rather, the night is born.'

The two got along famously—talking for hours over bottles of sidra, Argentina's apple-champagne drink—when Romero's carousing did not interfere with Vilas's studying. Romero recalls Vilas coming home miserable from class every day. 'One night', Romero says, 'Guillermo came back to the room, threw down his books and nearly



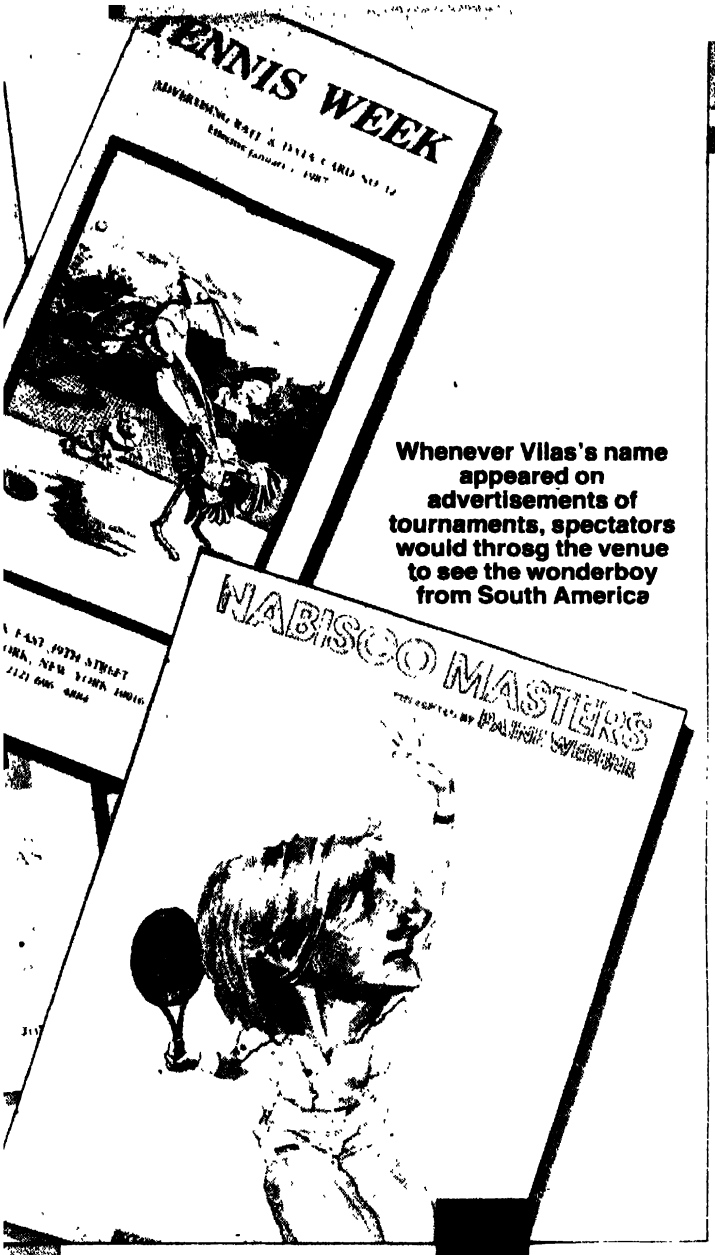
His press clippings made Vilas's countrymen expect too much. Because his baseline game had been born on red dirt, he was vulnerable to an aggressive charger, and he was still beset by familial problems...

cried. "This is not my life," he said "This is not my life.'"

'The law was too square,' says Vilas. 'Rules, more rules. You had to have the same opinions as the professors. Nothing ever was flexible enough.'

But tennis. Well.

'I remember when I started tennis, it was considered a sissy game,'says Vilas. 'We used to walk down the street and hide the rackets in our bags. Every boy whistled at us and called us queers. But I liked the creativity



Whenever Vilas's name appeared on advertisements of tournaments, spectators would throsg the venue to see the wonderboy from South America

of the game. A tennis player could create more than a painter. Create combinations of things. Nothing was secure. There were the variables of the racket, the surface, the weather, the opponent, the spin and speed of the ball. Where you were. Who you were. For me this was an unbelievable attraction. When someone said, "Come, go to court," it was like saying, "Come, paint." Only better.

So Vilas left school forever. In 1973 he began his voyages around the tennis globe. The following summer there arrived on the American clay circuit a powerful, left-handed, fully fledged new star and anomaly: a flashing-eyed, head-banded South American who didn't moan and complain at line calls, didn't temperamentally quit at the slighest hint of trouble, and didn't ever seem to lose.

"Guillermo used to be warm and friendly," another player says. "Now he has a singlemindedness that wasn't there before.

The press did not know what to make of this scraggly-haired strongman who wore sash belts, POW bracelets and macaroni necklaces while quoting Neruda and Krishnamurti, whoever *they* were.

'I am the No. I sportsman in Argentina,' Vilas told everybody. 'Of course in Argentina we don't have many sportsmen.' But the Argentine magazine *Gente* soon abandoned its cover-girl format to feature Vilas, and a taped tennis match—Vilas vs. Fillol—was shown on Buenos Aires television for the first time.

At the end of 1974 Vilas pulled off the upset of the decade when he won the Masters on *grass* in Melbourne, sometimes playing in 125° heat as he ripped through John Newcombe, Onny Parun, Borg, Raul Ramirez and Nastase. In 1975, Vilas beat a fading Rod Laver at Boston by 6-3, 6-4, after which Laver said, 'I saw a great player out there.'

His press clippings made Vilas's countrymen expect too much. Because his baseline game had been born on red dirt, he was vulnerable to an aggressive charger, and he was still beset by familial problems. Vilas kept winning all his matches—except the big ones.

After his embarrassing loss to Orantes at Forest Hills in 1975, Vilas turned to Tiriac. For all his gruff and bluster and Count Dracula's reputation, behind Tiriac's hirsute countenance is one of the game's most perceptive minds. Tiriac never got enough credit when he was honing Nastase's brilliance into marketable victories and he finally wearied of Nastase's selfishness. In Vilas he had a lesser talent but a more pliable student.

It took time. 'For Nastase, tennis was all a game, all play,' says Tiriac. 'For Vilas, it is all work.' Vilas worked hard, four, five, six hours a day of running and exercises and hitting balls. 'I make him run when he is very tired,' says Tiriac, 'I make him stretch muscles when he is very cold Vilas strong? I play ice hockey. I think I am strong. If we arm wrestle, this guy snap my arm off quick. Laver strong? This guy snap Laver in two pieces.'

Vilas's strength is a source of wonderment to his fellow pros Ashe says he was practising with Tiriac and Vilas in Australia once and had to stop out of sheer exhaustion. 'Guillermo trains like nobody I've ever seen,' says Ashe. Tiriac trampolines those balls to the corners and yells, "Run, run, run", and Vilas runs. He's not naturally gifted, you know. The kid is such a brute, he just muscles his way to the ball.'

Finally, in 1977, came the breakthrough, with his victories in the French Open, the US Open and his Grand Prix records. ●

Money!

Monica Seles meets swimming sensation Janet Evans and learns that some sports pay while others don't

MONICA Seles showed the perfect timing that wins her lots of money playing tennis when she chose to switch from Superdome to Superdrome last fortnight in Australia to call in on Janet Evans at the sixthWorld Swimming Championships

For the theme of the day was money, or rather lack of it. A day pass was arranged for the Yugoslavian tennis player, who was persuaded to accompany the press to the American team conference in hut SW 7.

Seles had come to meet Evans, the winner of three gold medals at the Olympics Games in Seoul, and of whom she is a "great admirer". On seeing Matt Biondi, the Californian who stands 6ft 7in tall, she said "I wanna meet him, too." She did not have to wait long

Biondi was asked whether the five gold medals he won at Seoul had helped him financially. He took the question as his cue to serve to Seles. "As the person sitting over there knows only too well, some sports attract a lot more money than others."

Love-15? Not so. Seles, in Perth for the Hopman Cup, smiled knowingly and nodded. There would be no contest, no challenge. She even agreed that part of the vast amount she and others in "big-money sports" pay in tax could go towards an aid programme for minor sports which, she said, "are often much more exciting"

Seles had come to meet Evans of whom she is a "great admirer". On seeing the 6ft 7in Biondi, she said, "I want to meet him too"



Seles (right) meets Janet Evans,her poor sporting cousin

For that reason, however, she suggested those sports should not rely on wealthy rela ives but find their own way in life by selling themselves rather better than they have done

Biondi had already said as much. "I've done better than the others because I got out of the swimming market and into the Olympic market. You should not have to win seven Olympic medals to attract support."

He cited the case of David Berkoff, known as the human submarine for his backstroke start of more than 30 metres underwater, who owed $10,000 by the time he stopped swimming after winning a gold and a silver medal at Seoul

"Kids finish college and find they have to freewheel it on their own," Biondi said. He and his team-mate, Tom Jager—both are world record holders, Bondi at 100 metres and Jager at 50 metres freestyle—have set their own wheels in motion by starting the Dash-for-Cash sprint series in America.

The two take on local sprinters with prize-money for victory and bonuses for records. Earnings have been about $12,000 a time, a large sum to a winner "People said swimming is not a spectator sport," Biondi said. "We do not believe that, and at Nashville [place of the first 50-metre dash] we showcased our sport We had more than 4.2 million people watching swimming on television across America."



"As the person sitting over there (Seles) knows only too well, some sports attract a lot more money than others"—Matt Biondi

Biondi knows that dashing for cash will not help the many in the sport who are not sprinters, nor most swimmers, who can peak physically only up to three times a year

Mike Barrowman, the American whose world record of 2min 11.53 sec at 200 metres breast-stroke is one of the most impressive in the record books, owes about $5,000 "When I get home, I'm in real trouble," he said. "I can't say whether I'll be around by Barcelona [1992]. If things go on as they are, I'll owe a fortune. I can't even get the bus to training without the help of my parents and the bank "

The same message came out of the Australian camp, although sport has received a multi-million-dollar injection of state money into all sports over the last two years. Glen Housman, the favourite to win the 1,500 metres freestyle, described his situation until a year ago as "desperate". He now has a private sponsor and is doing "fine"

Among the Britons here, many rely on Sports Aid Foundation grants which, because of swimming's amateur rules, have to go into trust funds Karen Pickering, of Ipswich, had "just a pound left" before leaving for Perth on December 16.

Evans does well by swimming standards with a $20,000 college scholarship and private sponsorship, with the promise of much more on retirement She could have had much more now but for what Biondi described as "a big bureaucracy in which all want progress but no one wants any damn change".

In Australia, at least, bureaucracy seems to count for little, or perhaps money does talk after all. As people without passes were met by unsympathetic barrier attendants, Seles drifted in, flattered Evans, agreed to come and watch her race and drifted out with a smile

Craig Lord, Perth
Courtesy The Times London



Cheating Prospers

Among Minors

THIS one is about athletics who judge their age. Like that bearded guy on TV you saw competing in the sub junior section. Rarely are they detected and action taken against them. At Thane, in the junior national athletics meet Ahmednagar's Bhushan Gavli transgressed the stipulated age limit, when he came second in the long jump, in the boys' Under-12 section.

Gavli's joy was, however, shortlived when he was detected to be overage by a certain Dr. Pramod Kolge. Dr. Kolge, who X-rayed Gavli (sport in India is going hi-tech) found that the boy was definitely 15 years or over. Said Dr Kolge, "The X-ray of the left elbow (AP lateral) and the palm showed that he was over 15." He supported his claims with some real confusing biological fundamentals: "His pisiform bone which appears at the age of 11 and fuses between the age of 15-18 was already fused. Also the external epicondyle and the internal epicondyle appeared to be fused."

The AAFI too had caught many athletes cheating in similar ways at the national championships, but they were let off easily, a few even donning Indian colours.

Is the state government determined to check serious cheating? Or is the complicated procedure of detection putting them off.

Chess And Soccer

Widening The Discussion

WE never run short of people who try to change existing sporting norms, rules and regulations and put forward ridiculous recommendations of their own. The controversy over the widening of football goalposts still rages and will take some time to die down.

A certain Mr. James Metiyard of London has now come up with a novel idea of putting the stalemate over draws in chess, to an end. To add strength to his argument he has cited FIFA's idea to widen the goalposts so that more goals can be scored. Metiyard forwards the idea that the chess board could be redesigned with 10 horizontal squares replacing the original eight. That way, more wins could be attained.

Is the World Chess Federation listening?

Female Fears

Of Male Locker Rooms



EVER heard of female reporters entering male locker rooms? In America, yes—female journalists are given the same privileges as their male counterparts—but sometimes American football players demonstrate that they are not very happy about it.

Lisa Olsen, a reporter for the *Boston Herald* was harassed in the locker room by four or five players of the New England Patriots, an American football team. She had gone there to do a story. The theme: locker room goings on.

A harassed Lisa, subjected to tremendous embarrassment took the players to court. After much negotiation—in and out of court—a settlement was reached upon whereby the National Football League had to shell out $22,500 The Patriots had to shell out another $25,000 for "instructional materials on responsible dealings with the media."

Interestingly, before the incident the Patriots had played who games and lost one. Their post Olsen fiasco record is nine defeats and no wins.

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND

STARTING this week, we are going to serialise a kata—*pinan-sono-ichi*—so that you can familiarise yourself with it.

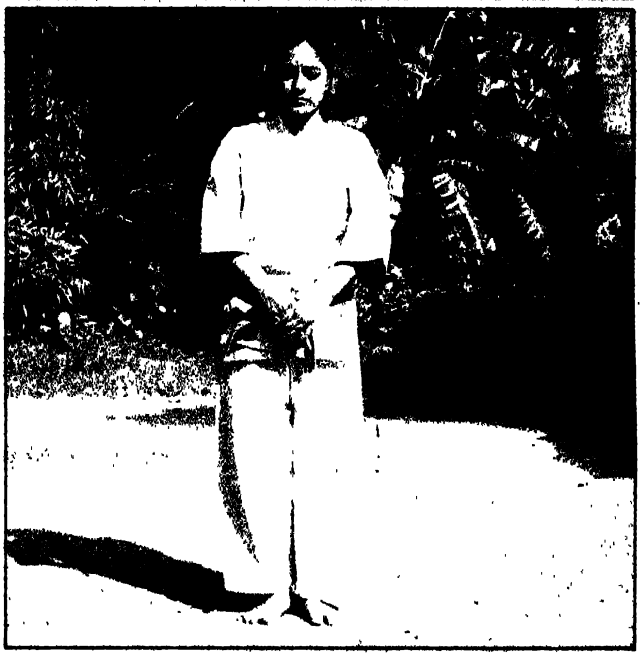
Starting from the *mokso* position, concentrate your mind fully while relaxing the body for the movements ahead. Then, moving your feet almost shoulder-width apart, go into the *yoi*, or ready, stance. From here, move your left leg out and turn 90° to your left and go into the *zen-kutsu-dachi* stance while performing a *gidan-barai* with the left hand. Then, stepping forward with the right leg, throw a middle punch with the right hand even as you go into *zin-kutsu-dachi*.

(To be continued)

By Shivaji Ganguly
Kyokushinkaikan karate

The 3rd All India Full Contact Karate Tournament for the Oyama Cup will be held on 19/1/91 at the Netaji Indoor Stadium, Calcutta. Gracing the occasion will be the Grand Master of Kyokushinkaikan karate Masutatsu Oyama as well as a team from Japan consisting of shihan Kaoru Takagi, sempai Akira Masuda, sempai Kenji Midori and sempai Sinchin Sotodate

Relax in *mokso*



Get ready in *yoi*



Turn left 90° and perform lower block with left hand



Step forward with right leg and throw middle punch



PHOTOGRAPHS: RAMAN BHALLA



1991 WHAT TENNIS HAS TO OFFER!

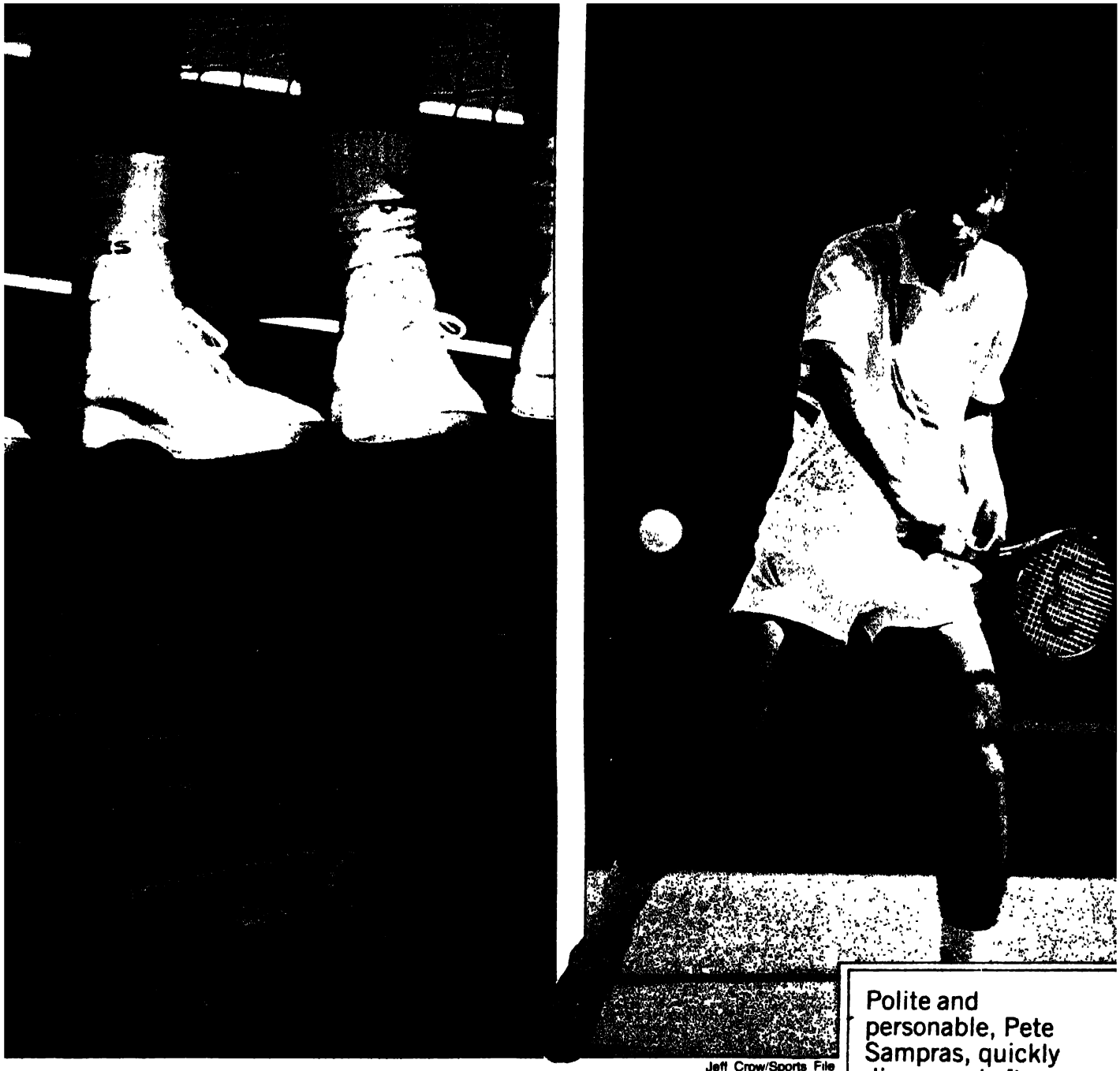
Jeff Crow/Sports File

PERHAPS Andre Agassi will make an appearance at Wimbledon next year. Perhaps he will not. It is difficult to predict what Agassi will do next, though the strong probability is that whatever Agassi does next is likely to irritate somebody, somewhere.

"Agassi is different; and thank God that he is different," Boris Becker has said, pointing out, for those who cannot see it for themselves, that tennis, in common with all professional entertainment, requires a varied cast of personalities,light and shade, in order to flourish.

The popular image of Agassi as a John McEnroe without the talent is a false one. Aside from such unsavoury incidents as spitting in the direction of an umpire at the United States Open last year, and using swear words beneath his breath, Agassi is small time in the league of tantrums. While it is true that he does not have McEnroe's touch with a racket, that probably could be said of every player who ever lived. But Agassi can play, and he is also something of a maverick.

Agassi is flash; some would say superficial. A glance at his day-glo tights is sufficient to confirm that he intends to be noticed and that Las Vegas is a suitable home town. He also has cheeky features, almost cherubic when cleanshaven, which can be moulded into expressions of innocence when he describes the custodians of the sport as "bozos" or



Jeff Crow/Sports File

Polite and personable, Pete Sampras, quickly discovered after becoming the youngest male to win the US Open, that he did not enjoy carrying the excess baggage of fame

advises them what they can do with their $6m Grand Slam Cup.

It has been suggested that Agassi and his packaging is a reflection of what professional tennis has become, with its inflated prizes and self-centred practitioners. There may be a degree of truth in this, though it seems pointless to pillory a court jester while leaving the rulers of the kingdom to tut-tut in the wings as if none of it was their responsibility.

The big mistake would be to take Agassi out of context and invest him with too much importance. Although fresh enough to cut through jaded opposition to win the ATP Tour World Championship in Frankfurt, he has yet to win a Grand Slam championship, losing in the finals of the French Open and the United States Open this year. Perhaps 1991 will be his year. Perhaps not. He has designated 1992 as the year of the big breakthrough, reasoning that by then he will have developed the strength and experience to make a telling impact.

Already there are signs of a heftier serve and greater control in his powerful forehand shots. Although dressed for pantomime, Agassi has considerably reduced the showmanship that cost him points through lack of concentration on what really matters on court. In time he may even deign to play in the

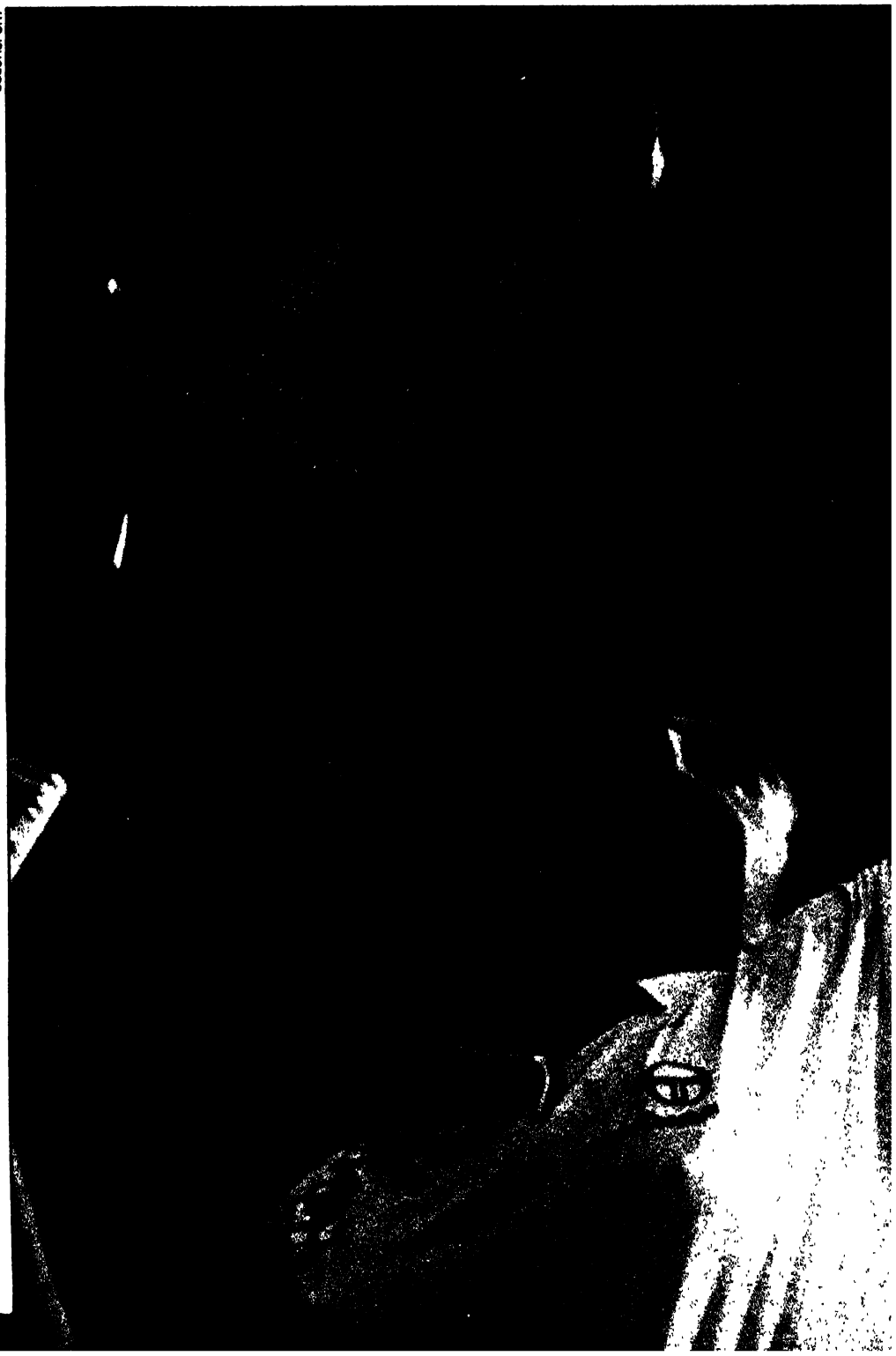
four Grand Slams, not just two, maturing into a player who acknowledges that all the world's a stage.

Tennis ought to have learned to cope with types, realising that one Nastase, one Connors, one McEnroe, one Agassi and, indeed one Goran Ivanisevic, is not only acceptable but also good box office.

Ivanisevic, the tall, talented left-hander from Yugoslavia, is Europe's best hope of extending the era of success in the men's game achieved by Bjorn Borg, Ivan Lendl, Mats Wilander, Boris Becker and Stefan Edberg. The problem with Ivanisevic is that, unlike the aforementioned, he has not yet discovered how to control his power and his temper, and how to keep his concentration through the various phases of a match, when a change of tempo can unhinge the unwary. Otherwise he, not Becker, could have emerged to contest this year's Wimbledon final with Edberg.

The Americans, who only a few years ago were beginning to despair at the thought of life without Connors and McEnroe, in terms of performance if not personality, are rejuvenated, and not only because they have regained possession of the Davis Cup. Setting aside Agassi, as some would like to do, Pete Sampras, 19, and Michael Chang, 18, have each won a Grand Slam singles championship in the past two years, and David Wheaton, 21, has the potential to join them.

Sampras, whose serve-and-volley style is tailored for the Wimbledon lawns, has reached a critical stage of his career. Polite and personable, he quickly discovered after becoming the youngest male to win the United States Open that he did not enjoy carrying the excess baggage of fame. Although the major performers employ people to assist with this burden, crucial decisions still have to be made, based on sound advice. Playing tournaments when injured is not a smart move, nor is it

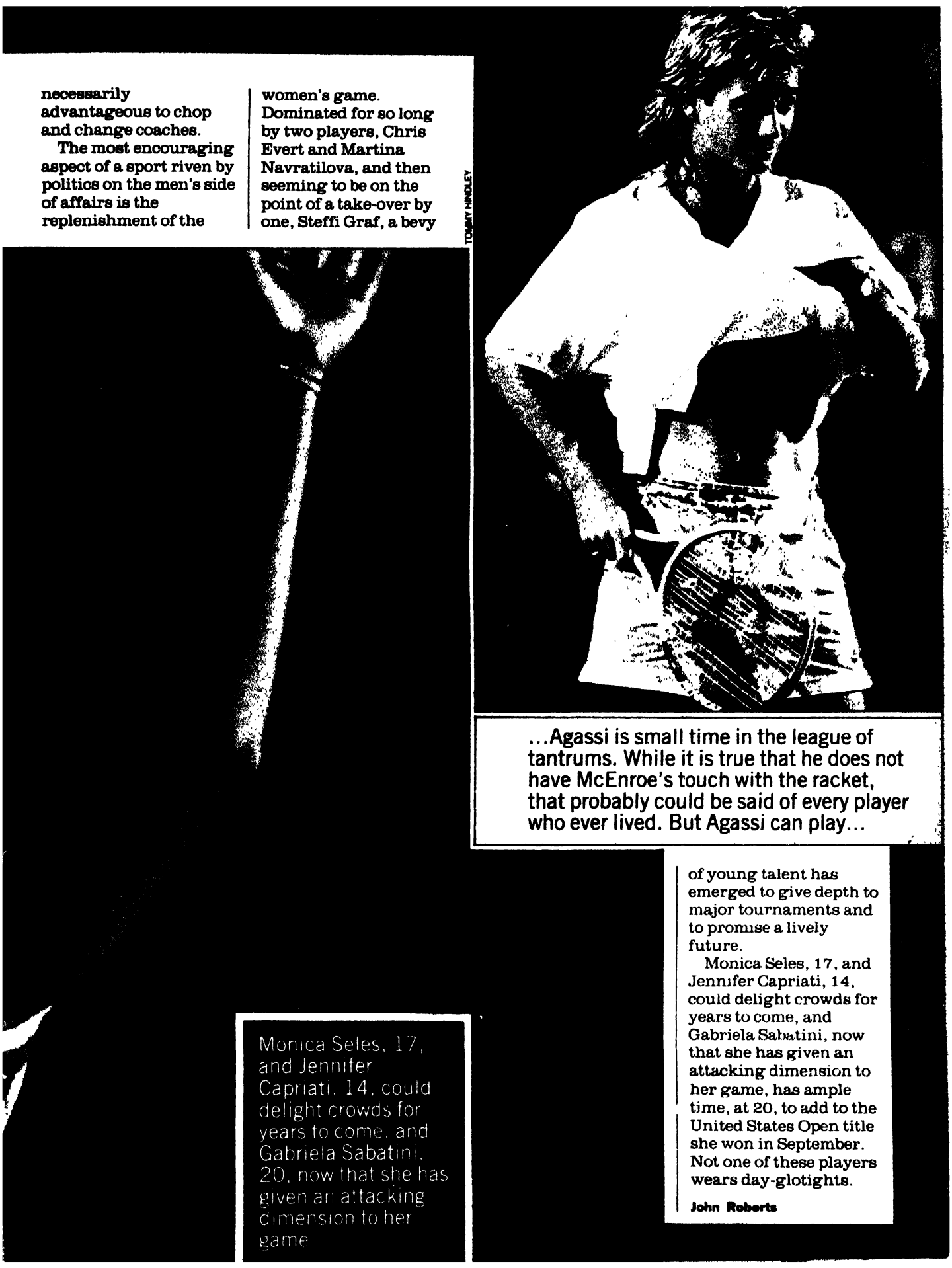

COLORSPORT

necessarily advantageous to chop and change coaches.

The most encouraging aspect of a sport riven by politics on the men's side of affairs is the replenishment of the women's game. Dominated for so long by two players, Chris Evert and Martina Navratilova, and then seeming to be on the point of a take-over by one, Steffi Graf, a bevy of young talent has emerged to give depth to major tournaments and to promise a lively future.

Monica Seles, 17, and Jennifer Capriati, 14, could delight crowds for years to come, and Gabriela Sabatini, now that she has given an attacking dimension to her game, has ample time, at 20, to add to the United States Open title she won in September. Not one of these players wears day-glotights.

John Roberts



TOMMY HINDLEY

...Agassi is small time in the league of tantrums. While it is true that he does not have McEnroe's touch with the racket, that probably could be said of every player who ever lived. But Agassi can play...

Monica Seles, 17, and Jennifer Capriati, 14, could delight crowds for years to come, and Gabriela Sabatini, 20, now that she has given an attacking dimension to her game





A SWAN SONG FOR SHILTON

THEY turned out in force at wintery White Hart Lane to honour England's record-breaking goalkeeper. The players, that is

The public, not unreasonably, took the view that Peter Shilton has earned enough in 20 years as one of the game's best-paid professionals not to need the £15 demanded for the dubious privilege of watching international performers of varying vintage run through their party pieces in this half-paced pantomime.

Shilton's testimonial committee had wanted Wembley for the game. They should be grateful permission was not forthcoming. Twelve thousand souls dotted around the famous old stadium he came to know so well would have been more embarrassing for the great man than the six goals Chelsea put past him.

This premature swan song—Shilton will play on for at least two more years—took the form of a low-key exhibition. The word match is a misnomer when tackling is non-existent.

After 125 appearances for his country few would begrudge this master craftsman an emotional farewell, but what was wrong with the World Cup? Shilton deserved to be remembered on the grand stage, not at the centre of some tawdry who-cares-who-wins sideshow.

In terms of atmosphere it made





THE TEAMS

ENGLAND XI: Shilton (Derby County); Anderson (Manchester United), Waddle (Marseille), Gascoigne (Tottenham), Walker (Nottingham Forest), Butcher (Coventry City), Robson (Manchester United), Platt (Aston Villa) Le Tissier (Southampton), Lineker (Totenham), Daley (Aston Villa), Substitutes: Keegan; Walsh (Tottenham); P. Allen (Tottenham).

ITALIA '90 XI: N'Kono (Cameroon); Gerets (Belgium), Lorenzo (Argentina), Nielsen (Denmark), Staunton (Rep of Ireland), Tovic (Yugoslavia), Tarman (Turkey), Valderrama (Colombia), Milla (Cameroon), Platini (France), Hagi (Romania). Substitutes: Ardiles; Nayim (Tottenham); Bonner (Rep of Ireland); Bergson (Iceland); Medford (Costa Rica)

Referee: G. Courtney (Co Durham).

Kenilworth Road seem like the San Siro. The players never got out of shuffling gear, but then it was all about pounds rather than passion, and no one was going to risk injury on an expenses-only basis.

Bobby Moore named among the England substitutes, preferred a seat in the press box to one on the bench. He was never a bad judge, old Mooro.

George Courtney, in *laissez-faire* mood, refused an obvious penalty when Michel Platini pushed Paul Gascoigne off the ball, but insisted on a modicum of seriousness when Kent Nielsen flattened David Platt, and Gary Lineker beat Thomas N'Kono from the spot as emphatically as he had to spare England's blushes against Cameroon six months ago

Terry Butcher, misplacing a back pass, allowed the beneficiary to display an ability beyond many men half his age in saving at Roger Milla's feet.

Milla, king of the road in Italy, looks to be nearing the end of it in his 39th year, and there was no sign of the spectacular finishing which illuminated the World Cup. He lasted 45 minutes before giving way to a wrinkly of similar vintage, Ossie Ardiles

Even Gazza was s victim of the ennui, for once leaving the tricks to others, with the notable exception of a typically audacious goal.

The inevitable welter of substitutes saw Kevin Keegan take the field after 72 minutes, with the self-deprecating aside, "Bring on the midgets". He scored immediately with a diving header. It was that sort of game

Joe Lovejoy

Courtesy The Independent



Even though the sinews are rusty and the joints creak, the very presence of superstars like Osvaldo Ardiles (left) and Michel Platini (above) was enough to make the occasion special. Adding his youthful flair was Carlos Valderrama (far left) and it all left the beneficiary Peter Shilton (top, left) a little emotional

PHOTOGRAPHS COLORSPORT

KING KASPARO V



In one of the most intriguing and exciting World Championship duels, Gary Kasparov overwhelms Anatoly Karpov once again



Garry Kasparov: looking beyond chess

KASPAROV ON KARPOV

"A creature of darkness, something evil and alien"

KARPOV ON KASPAROV

"I think I should invite him into the law courts"



Anatoly Karpov fiercely ambitious

EVERY Ali needs a Frazier, every Navratilova, an Evert, every sport a rivalry. It is, quite simply, the very essence of sport. It gives a sport life, character, intensity. And in Lyons, France, in the last weeks of 1990, the world witnessed what may be the end, of one of the greatest rivalries any sport has ever offered.

Kasparov versus Karpov.

Garry Kasparov, 27, has dominated world chess in the same flamboyant way Ali dominated boxing. He finally defeated his great rival Anatoly Karpov, 40, by the minimum possible margin, 4-3 with 17 draws, in their fifth world title match in the last seven years.

Seldom, if ever, have two men so openly detested each other without recourse to homicide. But then they have been trying "to kill each other" on those 64 black and white squares for something like 700 hours and 144 championship games.

Kasparov, a Jewish Armenian anti-communist refusnik from Baku, Azerbaidjan derides Karpov dramatically: "A creature of darkness, something evil and alien". Karpov, a communist deputy in the Supreme Soviet, and holder of the Order of Lenin, reacts more restrainedly,"I think I should invite him into the law courts".

Both have spent the best years of their lives trying to defeat the other so drastically that he gives up playing. For every one of those 700 odd hours spent playing for high stakes, they have spent something like five or six, cloistered in their respective hideouts with their seconds probing each other's weaknesses.

They have both hired top class Grandmasters, psychologists and para psychologists. There have been bizarre rumours that Karpov uses amphetamines and Kasparov has an Oedipal complex. Seconds have switched camps and apartments have supposedly been bugged.

Now Kasparov leads their "lifetime match" 23-20 with over a hundred draws. Decisive yes, though hardly drastic. But this was probably the last chance for Karpov to win back the world title he held with such distinction from '75 to '85.

By the time the next title match comes around in '93 he will be 43 and younger men such as Gelfand (22), Ivanchuk (21) and Anand (21) may well have overtaken him. He will have a hard fight to qualify as the challenger and Kasparov will still be in his prime.

Karpov was slated to lose this match by a three or four game margin according to experts. In the event he played wonderfully to improve his rating in defeat. Karpov, in fact, has played better since losing the world title in '85 than he ever did as champion.

He was the moral victor of the first half of the match in New York's Hudson Bay Theater. Though they came to Lyons, France, tied 1-1 with ten draws, Karpov could well have been two or three games up at that stage.

Kasparov's increasing political activism and his displacement as a result of the anti Armenian riots in January '90, may have distracted him. But in Lyons he singlemindedly played as only he can play.

Though the match was played out in order to divide the $3 million prize money, in effect Kasparov retained the title with

two games to spare. He could also have won by a larger margin but the motivation in the last two games was clearly lacking.

Game 13 featured Kasparov using the Grunfeld Defence, as he often does and Karpov reacting with a pet exchange variation The game was drawn without much of a struggle.

Game 14 featured Kasparov sticking to the King Pawn Opening that he had prepared for this match with white. Many speculations had been made about the possibility of his switching back to the Queen Pawn with which he is generally supposed to be more happy.

He played the Antique Scotch Opening that has not been employed at this level for a century Karpov equalised easily and held the draw.

Game 15 featured another Grunfeld and this time everybody felt Karpov had an obvious advantage but he failed to translate it into victory. The computer Mephisto found a strong line for white on move 26, something both GMs had missed in the match. As Spassky said "Bravo"

Game 16 was a monster, the longest ever between these two. Kasparov got a great advantage out of the Scotch but Karpov put up a superb defence. Kasparov finally won after 104 moves when he worked up a mating attack in the endgame with rook versus knight and opposite coloured bishops. This game is one of the all time classics from both the technical and sporting points of view and Kasparov went ahead 2-1.

Game 17 featured a comeback by Karpov. He finally cracked the Grunfeld Defence and won very easily to equalise 2-2 Obviously the challenger was still alive and kicking.

Game 18 was the game which probably proved the psychological turning point. Karpov played his favourite closed defence to the Ruy Lopez Opening and he came prepared with a good new move. Trapped on the board Kasparov played by sense of smell and won a fantastic game after conceding the advantage of two bishops for two knights in an open position. Paradoxically the knights proved superior this time and the champion went ahead 3-2.

After this, Karpov was shellshocked and certainly in a difficult situation in the 19th game. Kasparov got an edge after switching to the Kings Indian Defence and he offered the draw in a superior position because he did not want to take any risks.

By game 20 the Catch-22 factor applied for the challenger. He had to win the match while the champion only had to draw. So Karpov had to win at least two games now. That prompted him to take risks with black, something he will not normally do.



KASPAROV ON KARPOV

"He does not care by what margin he loses. He will take what risks he needs to win"

KARPOV ON KASPAROV

"He is a very deep psychologist despite his youth"

However, now, Kasparov was up 4-2 and he had won his last three games with white. Karpov was in the near impossible position of needing three wins from the last four.

He tried for 86 moves in a slightly superior position in the 21st. Kasparov had not quite managed to equalise from a Kings Indian, but he held the draw with strong defensive play.

The match was effectively over at this stage with Kasparov needing just a draw and having two whites to come. Karpov made a violent double pawn sacrifice in the 22nd with yet another new line in the Zaitsev. Kasparov countered by sacrificing a piece to deliver perpetual check, and drew the game to retain his title.

He states that "I was very

nervous, whether to play to win or just draw. However I played like a very good professional". The 22nd in fact saw roles reversed with Karpov playing like Kasparov and vice versa.

The match was effectively over but there was still pride, honour and $ 400,000 at stake. In case of a tie the prize money would be split, otherwise Kasparov would get $ 1.7 million.

The champion retaining his title despite the challenger having the same points has always been a controversial rule. Several GMs including both Kasparov and Karpov have called the law ridiculous. Every world champion since Botvinnik 1950 has gained from this proviso and Kasparov who is Botvinnik's pupil retained the title in Seveille '87 precisely because it existed

Even here he gained invisibly because of it Karpov would not have had to take such desperate risks if this law had not existed

However there was a letdown in game 23. Kasparov was thrashed in the Kings Indian Defence. But he certainly was not trying too hard This was an unfamiliar situation for both players Their title matches had invariably been wide open till the final game in the past 4 encounters

Game 24 confirmed doubts about Kasparov's motivation. He got an advantage in the Ruy Lopez and offered a draw in a winning position In effect he was letting Karpov off, and just playing to ensure the lions share of the prize money.

In addition to the cash, the world champion was given a diamond studded trophy valued at $1 million. He promptly said he would auction it and donate the proceeds to the Armenians community that has suffered such grievious losses in the Baku riots

Where will he go from here? Well politics is the answer Kasparov intends to stand for parliament as an anti Gorbachev candidate. Winning this match was politically vital to him, for it gives him great leverage and prestige.

BY DEVANGSHU DUTTA



Karpov with wife

'My win was important, because it meant ...THE VICTORY OF FREEDOM'

— Garry Kasparov



Boris Spassky: obscurity syndrome

William Rhodes: Pundits have suggested that this championship duel between Anatoly Karpov and you was the most nerve-racking experience you ever faced in your life. There was too much at stake for you...all that you are today...all that you have achieved so far...all the influence that you now have on mankind...could you tell us how you reacted to this pressure psychologically?

Garry Kasparov: Yes, there was a tremendous undercurrent of emotion involved in this game. Because I knew if I lose, I lose the result of my lifelong struggle and hard work. I lose my status as an individual who cast tremendous influence on an entire generation. You know my victories and my World Champion title has enabled me to be influential in areas other than sport, my contribution has been organising Soviet chess players under one single identity. I have also been able to unite sportsmen in other games. And, most important of all, I knew for certain that my loss to Karpov—about whom I have still not changed my attitude—would be interpreted as a loss for democracy in its struggle against communism. So, I was quite emotionally involved in this match.

Isn't having so much pressure on your mind a little inconvenient and doesn't it make you psychologically weak? Tense? Nervous? Prone to error?

Oh yes, it does. I commited a lot of errors in this battle. I, in fact, sometimes wonder how I could really make those stupid mistakes. It was absolutely unlike me. Afterwards, when I could not figure out any other reason, I slowly began to realise, it was just the tension, the pressure on my mind. Winning had never before been so important to me...and when you play with that kind of mentality, you suffer. You may win in the end, but the pain that you suffer is excruciating. And so close you get to the edge of ruin, before reverting back to victory, it's incredible!

There was a tremendous undercurrent of emotion involved in this game...Because I knew my loss would be interpreted as a loss for democracy in its struggle against

What do you think was the attitude of your opponent towards this match? Sometimes it seems he is almost reconciled to his status as the number two...

Oh, no. That's not true. He is a quiet man, but he is fiercely ambitious. If you got this impression that he has accepted my supremacy, you were wrong. He is a volcano...a dormant one—calm outside, but fire within. Now he is very keen to be the best player ever. Maybe, that's why he also was under a lot of pressure, and became error-prone.

But former champion Boris Spassky has alleged that Karpov and you must have prearranged some matches, especially the draw in game 19? That certainly could not have been done by two men

Winning had never been so important to me...and when you play with that kind of mentality, you suffer. You may win in the end, but the pain that you suffer is excruciating...

who had so much at stake, who were so keen to win... Well, Boris Spassky is suffering from what we can describe as obscurity syndrome. It often happens to forgotten champions, and they start making such silly, nonsensical allegations. Their aim: prominence, a little more attention from the public, to their stale, quiet life of loneliness. I can give you a classic example. When I was younger in the Seventies and the Spassky-Fischer match was the hottest topic of debate in the whole of Soviet Union, Botwinnik often said that Spassky sold the match to Fischer; that Spassky lost the World Championship because he was bribed by Fischer. He was saying because of a disease that infects some ex-world champions. Botwinnik was feeling pushed aside. He was suffering from feeling unimportant, outside the spotlight. And he was also jealous about the money that Fischer and Spassky earned. In Botwinnik's time, no one used to get that kind of cash. This time I think, Spassky was simply doing a Botwinnik.

BY WILLIAM RHODES

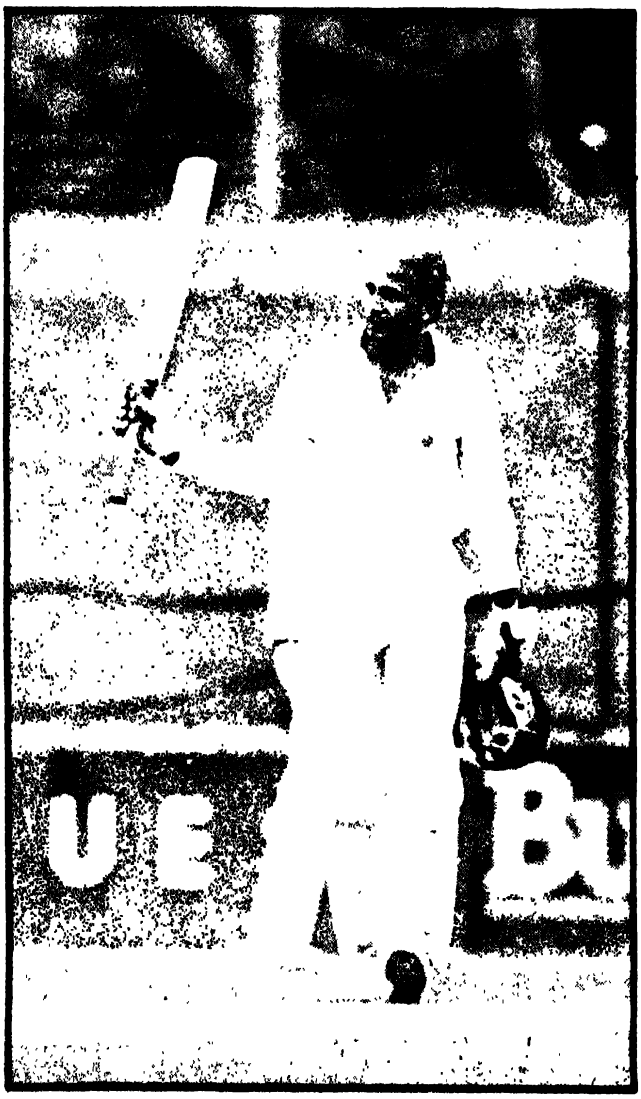


Kasparov: 'Politics is my next goal.'

PHOTO FEATURE

Ashes to Ashes..

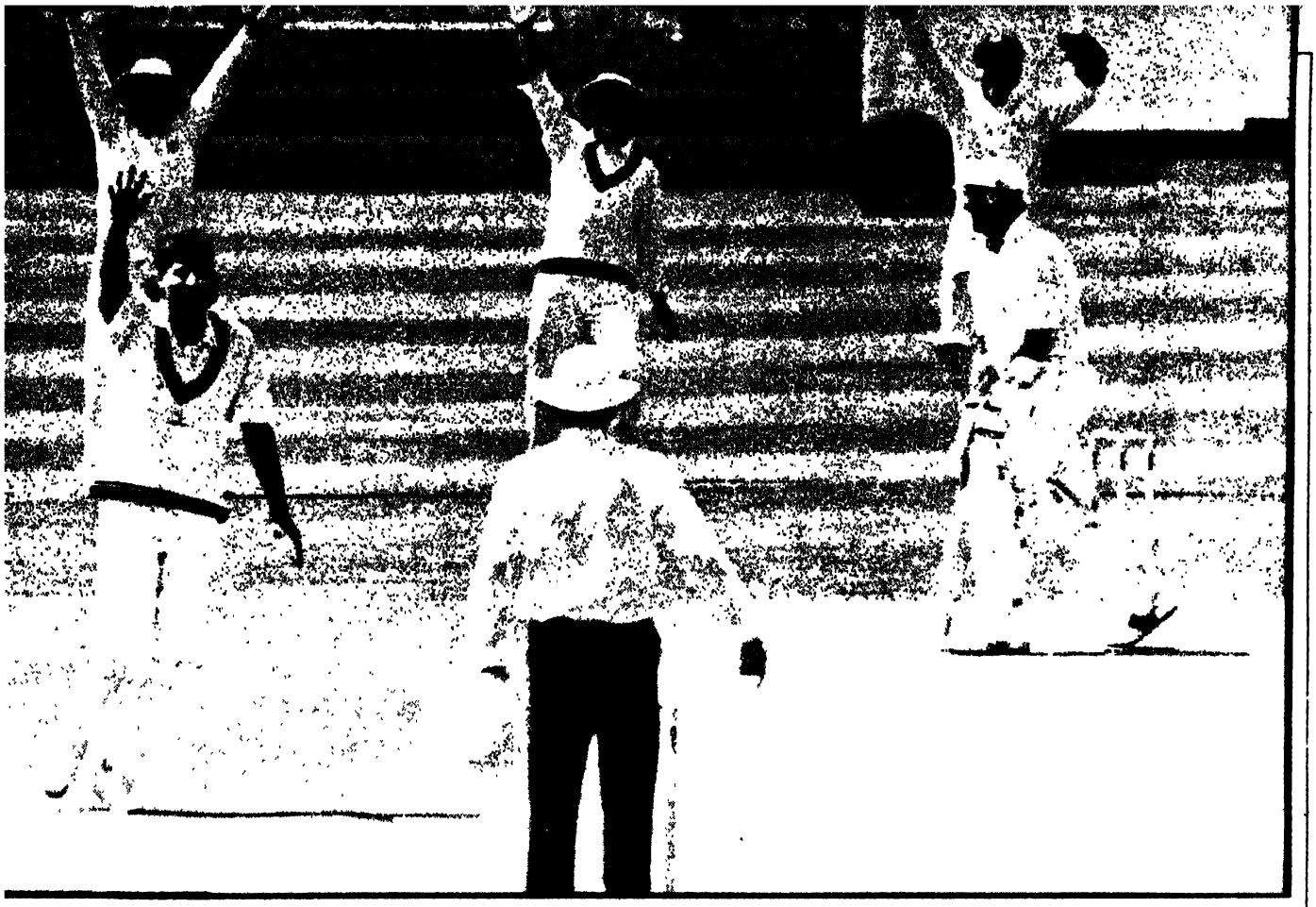
...Australia is best. Having won the coveted urn in England two years ago, they retained it when the third Test at Sydney ended in a draw





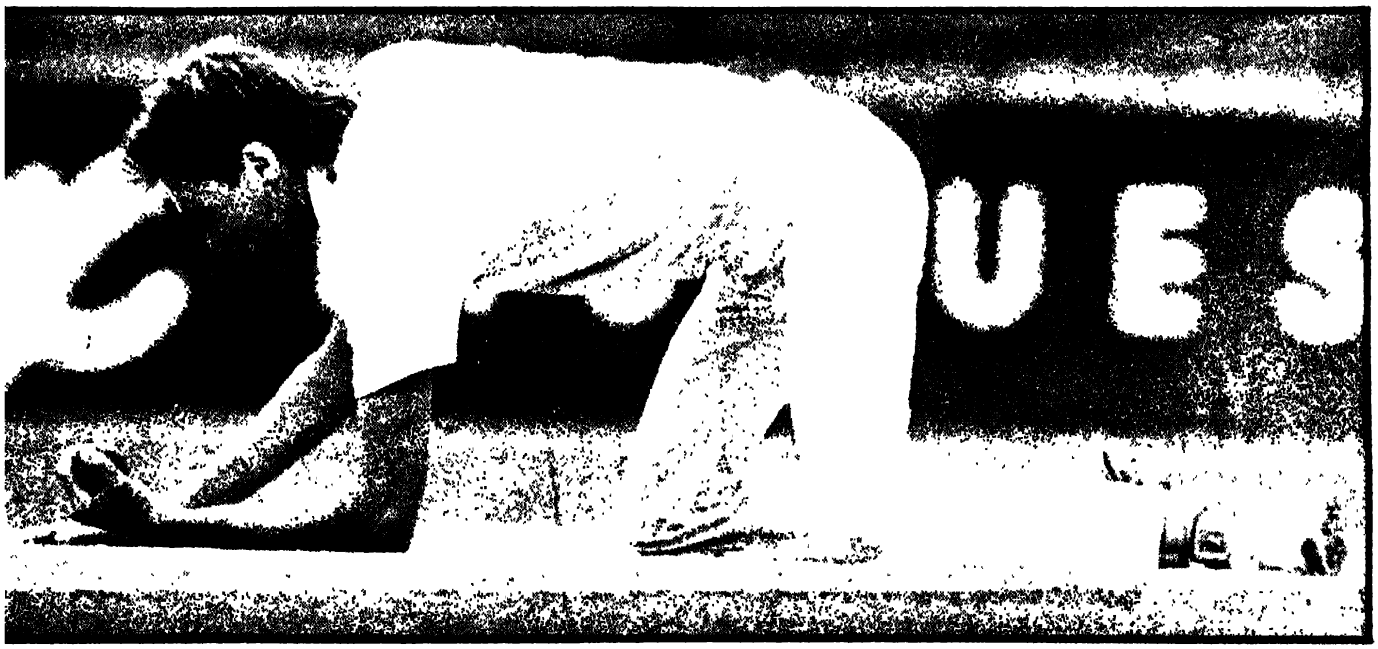
Greg Matthews' batting practice paid off when he launched into the English attack and helped himself to 128 runs

David Gower acknowledges the applause for his hundred...but it went in vain. With three centuries from his last four Tests, Gower is the man to watch



The two men who were the undoing of all England's hopes. Terry Alderman, that killer with a smile, kept the English batsmen pinned down with his unerring accuracy (above) while a rejuvenated Bruce Reid varied his line and length intelligently to rake in the wickets (below)

PHOTOGRAPHS: PATRICK EAGAR



GET BACK

To Where You Once Belonged

1991 will witness three important sporting comebacks. Bjorn Borg, Buster Douglas and Ben Johnson. After serving out their terms in the wilderness, will they last the pressure?

By what perimeter or level of margin do we gauge a sporting comeback? According to the average—even passionate—follower of sport, comebacks are associated with people who went out prematurely. Not with the satisfaction of having achieved all their goals People with something to prove.

What happens if these erstwhile champions decide to make a comeback... To resurrect their careers? Will they last the pressure?

The topic itself should make for interesting debate



"BJORN BORG is a very nice man and I wish him all the best. The problem is, however, that he hasn't been around for eight years so I don't see how he can compete on a respectable level. I would be very surprised if he could break into the top levels of men's tennis. He may be able to play the occasional really competitive match but not on a consistent level..."

These are the words of Ivan Lendl who finished 1990 ranked No. 3 on the ATP computer. Lendl by this statement has managed to put the wisdom attached to Bjorn Borg's comeback into its proper perspective.

Eight years ago, at the age of 26, a cold, unsmiling, ruthlessly efficient tennis machine by the name of Bjorn Borg quit the tennis circuit. Today at the age of 34, he is coming back. Is it a hunger for more titles (he has 65), or the ignominy of financial collapse? Either way there are mixed reactions to this move: the fans are purring in anticipation, while the top players in the circuit are questioning the validity of his decision, which, by too many standards, appears ridiculous. John McEnroe, for example, after taking off twice for six months, could never again find a formidable foothold in the circuit, except for the rare occasions when he found sporadic bursts of his own brilliance. As Stefan Edberg, current world No. 1 said, "I find it difficult to get into my groove even if I take a two week break."

Borg in his heyday won five successive Wimbledon titles and six French Open trophies. He now has to cope with the irony of his comeback by asking for a wild card entry into several of this year's ATP tournaments. Moreover, it seems as though Borg has failed to comprehend the drastic evolution that the game has undergone since the time he quit. He is returning armed with a prehistoric weapon: a wooden racket! This, in sharp contrast to one of those lethal graphite contraptions that are now universally used in the professional circuit.

Ivan Lendl, who dabbles in this new kind of armament himself is nonplussed by the audacity of Borg's move, explaining that: "I wonder if he could even find a suitable manufacturer now. I'm not sure anyone makes them (wooden rackets) anymore. It would surely be tremendously expensive to bring them back into production."



But not all touring pros are trashing Borg's decision to return. There are a few who are keen to give him a chance. Like Jonas Svensson, a fellow Swede. Svensson said that Borg looked to be in great shape and very much wanted to be part of big-time tennis. "I don't think he would be contemplating this if he wasn't hungry." Yet Svensson added a note of caution, saying, "But the 800th player of the world can look good when you're hitting. Actually playing matches is very different."

Which brings us to the financial factor. Is Borg coming back for the money? Many believe that he has forced himself back, because of his fast dwindling wealth. Tax demands, an expensive divorce settlement and the collapse of his fashion empire with an expensive lawsuit to boot, have eaten into his $ 50 million fortune.

Eight years ago, so intense was his dislike for the game when he retired that he made no bones about stating it during his farewell speech. "I am nauseated by tennis," he had said. Today he says just the opposite, "Tennis is beautiful." Those who have seen Borg lately say that he has changed a great deal since his playing days. He is fresh and cheerful and no longer the saturnine, humourless yet revered tennis machine of the 1970s.

Borg has failed to comprehend the drastic evolution that the game has undergone since the time he quit. He is returning armed with a prehistoric weapon: a wooden racket! This is in sharp contrast to one of those lethal graphite contraptions that are now universally used

He has been given a fresh lease of life by his previous agents, the International Management group, with whom he has signed up again But one stubborn reality remains. at 34, with a wooden racket, does the Swede really believe he can contend with a 120 mph. Becker serve His racket may be reduced to splintered firewood. And his legend to pulp.

Borg is not the only isolated case of athletes attempting comebacks in 1991. Adding strength to this debate will be James 'Buster' Douglas and Ben Johnson.

James 'Buster' Douglas is a broken man. Both in body and spirit. The town that accorded him a hero's welcome after he beat Mike Tyson, today despises him. He is branded a quitter. In fact, public opinion has turned so unfavourably against him, that Douglas has announced a return to the ring. It is a last ditch effort to salvage some pride. Douglas is



Is Ben Johnson a gullible young man? Evidences suggest that he is. Neither a comfortable conversationalist nor an intelligent one, his former coach Charlie Francis once said, "If Ben had not been a successful athlete, he would have been a bum."

going to try and make his fans forget the words of referee Mills Lane, who commented after the fight with Evander Holyfield that, "He (Douglas) could have got up " The mark of a loser.

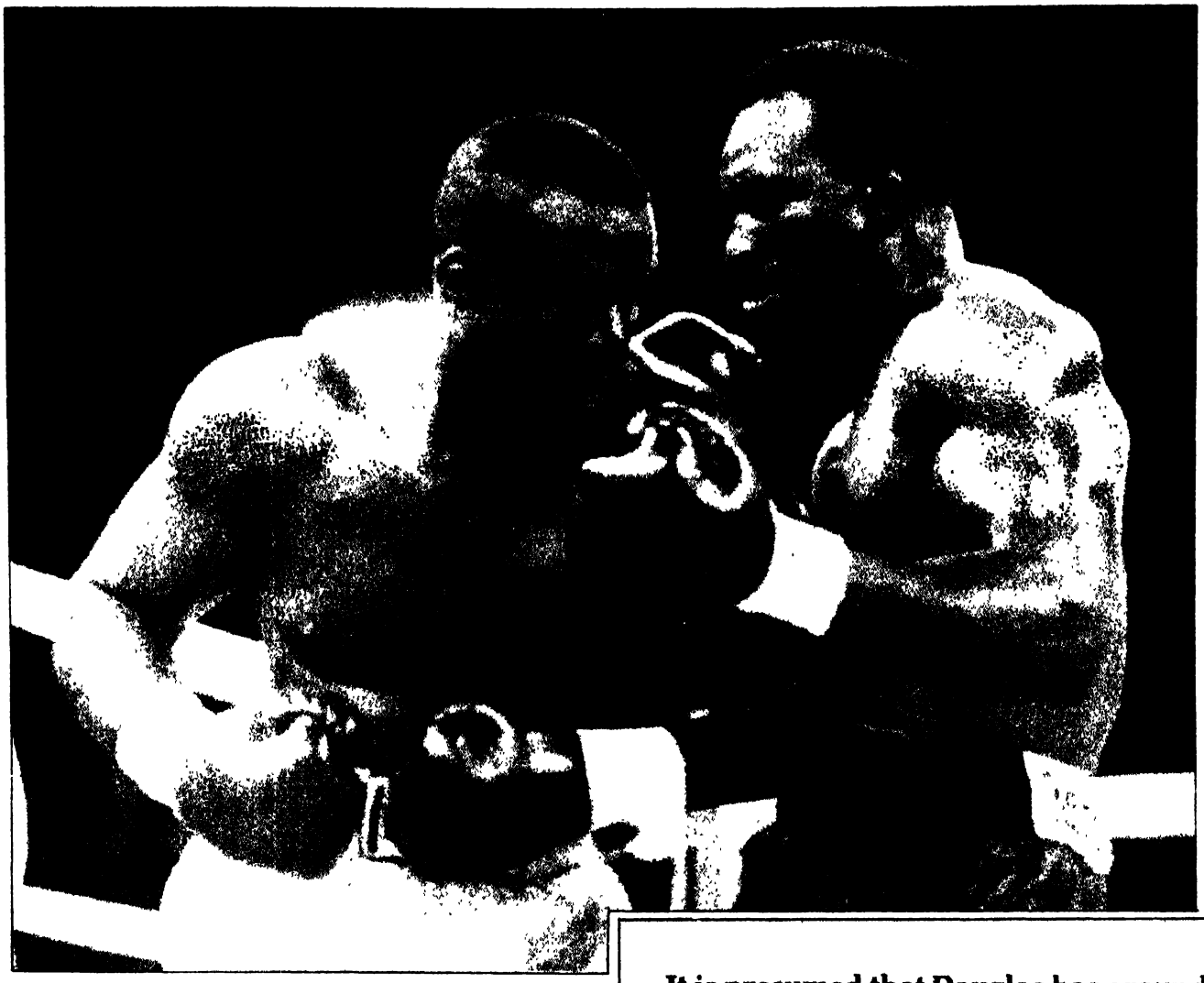
The Douglas that fought against Holyfield was not the same fighter the world had seen against Tyson in Tokyo. Douglas then, weighed in at a trim 107 kg. And he was good. In sharp contrast, against Holyfield, he looked as if he had climbed out of a bottle of jelly, wobbling and shaking all over. His weight had ballooned to an enormous 119 kg prompting comedians to joke that there were more sightings of Elvis Presley in fight gyms. That was on the professional front. On the personal front he was embroiled in litigations with Don King. By the time D-Day arrived, Douglas was an embarrassing 122 kg, his lack of commitment obvious.

It is presumed that Douglas has around $ 7 million to sustain him. The tax-man took away one-third of his $ 24.1 million purse. King took his cut and Johnson his. A further 15 percent went to his under-employed trainers. Today when Douglas returns, he will be earning peanuts, a result of his lack of commitment. Nobody wants to touch him.

But it isn't money that is prompting a comeback. He has plenty of it. According to Larry Nallie, his close friend and business manager, "What Buster really seeks is forgiveness for treating the title so lightly."

Ben Johnson is seeking forgiveness too and would have already run his first comeback race by now (while we are going to press). Appropriately at an indoor meeting at Hamilton, Ontario.

Branded as the most famous sporting cheat,



Johnson's return will generate as much media hype and interest as his disqualification in Seoul. Is Ben Johnson a gullible young man? Evidence suggests that he is. Neither a comfortable conversationalist nor an intelligent one, his former coach Charlie Francis once said, "If Ben had not been a successful athlete, he would've been a bum."

Johnson's comeback timings are now being carefully monitored. His new camp says that his return will be just as explosive as his past. Loren Seagrave, his new coach, claims, "Johnson is running training times as fast as those he ran two years ago."

But Johnson's comeback to the track is not going to be as smooth as sceptics are claiming it to be. The face of athletics, as in other sports, has been changed by acute professionalism. Today it is unthinkable for a sprinter to return to top flight competition at the age of 29. Johnson, however, insists he will overcome all problems, saying, "They don't know who they're dealing with. I'll fight back, age doesn't matter. Thirty years old is perfect for a sprinter. I'm very confident about making a successful comeback."

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There are those who think that Johnson is still doing drugs. Johnson claims that it is because of increased weight training. But those who want to, will always view Johnson as the 'Olympic cheat' who benefited from having taken drugs.

The comeback clock has begun ticking. And these three men could fast be running out of time. One, an almost penniless champion. The second, a condemned loser. The third, an unforgivable cheat. Perhaps 1991 will be the year of their dreams and not unending despair ●

It's Kerala Police Again

A shock defeat inflicted by the doughty JCT team in the initial cluster B match seems to have been just the vital tonic for defending champions Kerala Police to bounce back with renewed vigour In spectacular fashion they beat Bombay's Mahindras to retain the 15th edition of the Federation Cup played at the floodlit Jawahar Municipal Stadium Kannur (Cannanore)

Mahindras however deserve credit for their brilliant performance this season In fact going by statistics alone Mahindras had a dream run finishing runners-up in the Durand and Rovers Cup as well as winning an invitational tournament at Mysore

How did Kerala Police succeed? Pitted against



Kerala Police receiving the Federation Cup from Chief Minister Nayannar

East Bengal Mohun Bagan and Salgaocar in the quarterfinal group league the first test came against triple crown winners East Bengal But the Calcutta giants They played hard and within eight minutes scored twice In spite of East Bengal's Bikash Panji managing to salvage some of the eroding image, Pappachan was definitely the man of the match He not only scored the first goal but also did the spadework for the second Interestingly the Champion Club of India had beaten East Bengal last year at Thrissoor by an identical margin

Mohun Bagan was next The bubbling confidence and the cohesiveness put into the game by Kerala Police did not make a dent and they had to settle for a goalless draw In the meantime Salgaocar winners of the Federation Cup twice played for a 1-1 draw against Bagan and

JOSE



JCT versus Kerala Police in the semi-final. The Phagwara team lost in the penalty shootout

a goalless draw against East Bengal. The prime question was: who would qualify for the second semi-final berth from the group, Bagan or Salgaocar?

East Bengal managed only a draw against Bagan and went out of contention . a pathetic performance better forgotten Bagan's luck balanced precariously for a semi-final berth because Kerala—or for that matter other formidable soccer States– have little sympathy for any Calcutta side. The rivalry intensified greatly as 'operation manipulation' saw to it that a 3-3 verdict was enough for the Goan team to remain in the fray. And Bagan thrown out.

In the much-lauded Kerala Police-Salgaocar match the home team took a convincing 2-0 lead but Roy Baretto reduced the margin. All of a sudden the local side



DENNIS

drifted away from their aggressive play, allowing Salgaocar to get into the act: Arnold Alphonso neutralised the lead and Baptist helped Salgaocar to forge ahead. This drama was enacted in the span of a few minutes... and moments later Pappachan scored to level 3-3. Was this a pre-meditated game?

While the federation secretary gave the impression that the match was pacey and exciting, a baffled Bagan left the scene with a bad taste souring the mood. It was for the first time in the

P.K. Banerjee inaugurates the 15th edition of the Federation Cup

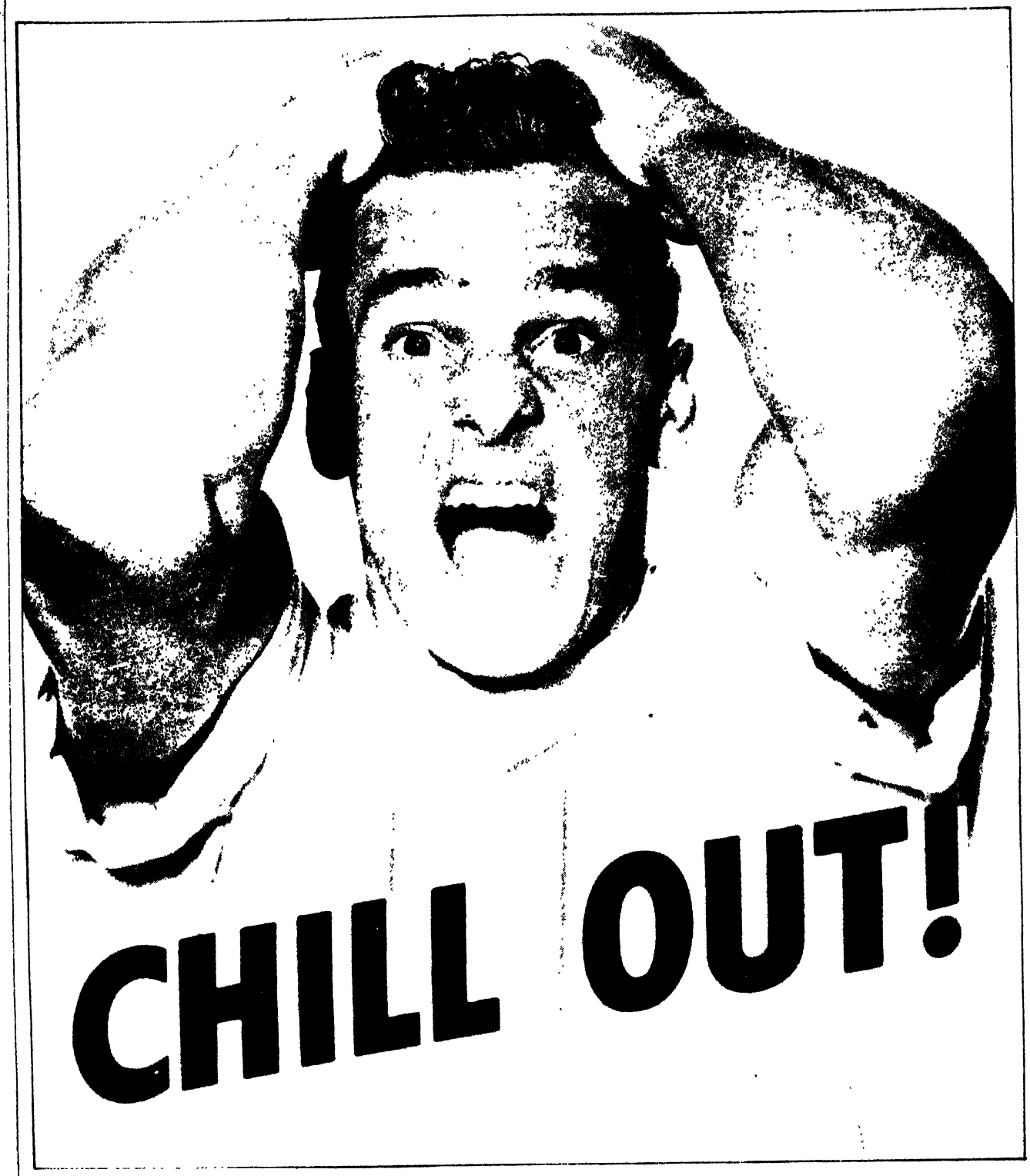
Federation Cup that no Calcutta side figured in the semi-final.

This episode also proved that others can play the 'pre-plan' game which Calcutta had practised openly. Can one really blame them for what they did? Can PSEB forget what Mohammedan Sporting and Mohun Bagan did to them in the Airlines Gold Cup a couple of years back? This is, but one instance that the wounds still fester.

When Kerala Police met the Phagwara team for the second time, they found, to their surprise, a tough resistance coming from the millmen. JCT approached cautiously. With Pappachan pinned, the cops raids had become a rarity. Neither side could break the deadlock. Eventually only the tie-breaker managed to see the home team through to their second final, against dark horse Mahindras who had made their maiden entry.

Going by both the teams' performances it looked as though the match was going to be a tough one. Mahindras had a psychological edge having beaten the cops in the Rovers Cup in Bombay. But Kerala Police were not going to repeat the mistake. They planned their game well; played with an all-out attitude that sent the Mahindras game out of tune; and scored two goals. Mahindras had to be content with the Fair Play Trophy.

M.P. Suresh, Kannur



CHILL OUT!

1) Do people realise easily that you are angry?
2) Do you get mad if you are kept waiting?
3 Do you say anything to your partner if he/she is late for a date?

IF your answers to these questions are: 1) You bet, they do. 2) You better believe me. 3) Man, do you want me to buy you a watch? Then folks, you better take notice and take 'heart'. Otherwise you might end up without one.

People who are aggressive and unduly hostile may be intensive care patients in the making. They're the guys who mutter and curse if the line at the petrol pump on a Saturday night is too long,they're

THE HEALTH COLUMN



the ones who lean on the horn if the person before them hesitates for a nano-second after the cop gives the signal. As psychologist Theodore M. Dembroski of the University of Maryland puts it, "He's the hostile man, the one who gets angry over everyday frustrations and expresses those feelings in rude, antagonistic ways."

These characters are identified by psychologists and doctors as the Type-A personalities. They are ambitious, urgent and impatient. They also increase the probability of a heart disease by 21/2 times!

Why is this mode of behaviour so lethal?Well, the reason is that chronic anger and hostility are harmful because they cause physical stress, harassing the heart into sickness. Angry reactions pump adrenalin and other stress hormones into the blood stream. These in turn cause fat to be dumped into the blood, driving up the cholesterol level.

A person who is angry becomes more alert, his pupils dilate, his blood pressure rises and his heart pounds almost as though it's going to throw itself out of the ribcage. Being stuck in this aroused condition for long,harms the coronary arteries and wears out heart-muscle fibres. That is why this behavioural mode is lethal.

No one is born a hot head. Doctors believe that hostility is the end result of a heap of bad feelings and poor self-esteem. Type A's are of the belief that no one cares a damn for them and so they should not care about anyone else. They are forever running with a chip on their shoulder. They set goals before them and these are regularly updated and modified. Interruptions in a Type A's pursuit of ever-escalating goals cause hostility because they interfere with his process of self appraisal.

This hostility trait—though difficult to change—is not impossible. Type A's create too much of stress by trying to do too much. Hence do not juggle with too many appointments in your diary. And do not get caught yourself in the 'report card' syndrome i.e. evaluating every action of yours and its reactions. Evaluate, but do so logically, and give yourself some room for mistakes and corrections. Do not set parameters for yourself that are logically impossible.

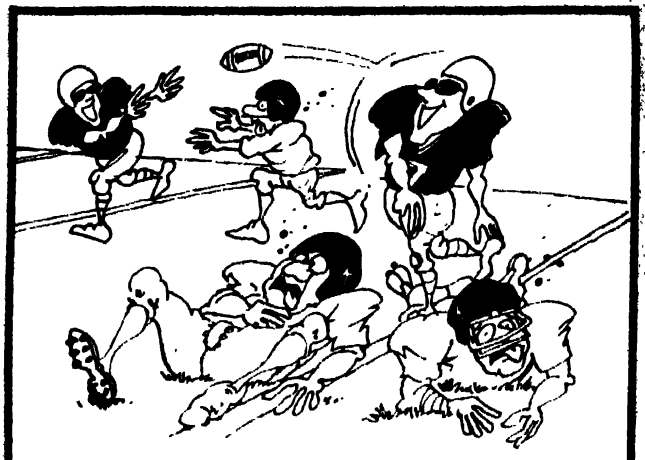
Learn to listen, to use non threatening words and more important to see the other's point of view. Remember, quickened pulse, pounding heartbeat, shortness of breath and sweaty palms are signs of anger. Take a deep breath and calm down, before reacting. Teach yourself to think that 'I need not blow up.' Learn to realise that what feels like a personal violation may just be frustration. And do not expect others to praise and acknowledge you all the time. Give them some room for inconsistencies and mistakes.

The occasional feeling of hostility towards your fellow person is normal. Everyone gets cheesed off once in a while and lets off some steam. But if you are one of the Type A characters and take a hostile approach to life's little insults, it's a hard way to live. It may also be an easy way to die.
Remember—perfection-alism is the world's biggest con game.

SPORTS HALL OF SHAME — BY NASH & ZULLO



THE **NORTH CAROLINA TAR HEELS'** 14-6 SUGAR BOWL LOSS TO THE OKLAHOMA SOONERS IN 1949 TASTED MIGHTY BITTER — ESPECIALLY AFTER THE GAME. WHEN THE LOSERS FILED OUT OF THEIR LOCKER ROOM, THEY DISCOVERED THEIR BUSES HAD LEFT WITHOUT THEM. THE ABANDONED PLAYERS WERE FORCED TO HITCH A RIDE TO THEIR HOTEL IN THE OPEN BACK END OF A TRUCK!



FOR THE 1950 ORANGE BOWL, KENTUCKY COACH **BEAR BRYANT** BROUGHT HIS POWERHOUSE TEAM TO FLORIDA TWO WEEKS EARLY TO PRACTICE TWICE A DAY IN THE HOT HUMID WEATHER AND ON A FIELD COVERED WITH SANDSPURS. MEANWHILE, UNDERDOG SANTA CLARA ENJOYED A LEISURELY TRAIN TRIP FROM CALIFORNIA AND SPENT ONLY THREE DAYS IN MIAMI PREPARING FOR THE GAME. KENTUCKY WAS SO TIRED FROM BRYANT'S EXHAUSTING PRACTICES THAT THE HEAVILY FAVORED WILDCATS WERE UPSET 21-13!

THE FUNNY SIDE OF GOLF

DEFINITIONS STROKE.
A "STROKE" IS THE FORWARD MOVEMENT OF THE CLUB MADE WITH THE INTENTION OF FAIRLY STRIKING AT AND MOVING THE BALL



DEFINITIONS: WATER HAZARD
THE MARGIN OF A WATER HAZARD EXTENDS VERTICALLY UPWARDS AND DOWNWARDS



PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK

It may look like Mr James Scott Connors, but it ain't. There are other players too on the circuit who believe that every ball can be chased down, and Johan Kriek is one of them. A man who pursues tennis with "a passion", Kriek was known for his lightning feet and thunderous serves. As well as, for breaking 11 rackets in a dressing room once. But then, that's another story

TOMMY HINDLEY



DEFIANT!

BY DAVID POWELL

HOW long should we go on believing an ageing great sportsman who keeps saying that he has one more big performance left in him when the facts suggest otherwise? How long before his words are interpreted as a desperate attempt to stay in the public eye?

If Daley Thompson misses a medal in the world championship this year, will anyone have faith in his inevitable cry that he can regain his Olympic decathlon crown the next year? The defiance was heard after he lost his world title in 1987, and again in 1988, when he was fourth in the Olympics.

There is nothing left of Thompson's empire, save his world record. But the empire was once so vast that we might return the favour for the pleasure he gave us by



"I was a pain in the neck when I was little...and I was always arguing with my mother. So they sent me to boarding school."



giving him the benefit of our doubt now. "If I win in Barcelona...when I win in Barcelona," he said recently.

Peter Matthews, editor of *The International Track and Field Annual*, is one who is keeping faith, retaining Thompson in the list of biographies for this year's annual because he is "likely to compete".

Last year Thompson had lost his Commonwealth and European titles to injury submissions. Perhaps he would have lost them anyway, but being tripped on the way to the ring was hard to take. More defiance: "If this knee gets anywhere near back to where it used to be, and the other boys keep performing as they are at the moment, I don't think I'll have a problem," he said last summer.

Besotted by the decathlon, he once said he wished he could do one a week. Now, 16 months have passed since his last one, and he retired from that at half-time. Meanwhile, age has become his eleventh event. He will be 33 come the world championships. The average age of the top ten decathletes in the world is 25, and not one was born within four years of Thompson's birth.

Not that his behaviour gives away his age: that banana smile still breaks out with each mischievous remark, no matter if it is at his own expense. Who was it, do you suppose cried "decathlon" from the sidelines when Steve Cram, being interviewed for television, was asked to name the events in which Britain had not had much recent success?

Away from the public gaze—a sports hall in Frodsham is hardly the maker of Olympic dreams, but this man was trying—Thompson got down to some serious talking. "I have never felt any need to

Daley Thompson lost his Commonwealth, European and Olympic titles. In fact, there is nothing left of the decathlete's empire, save his world record. And yet he's adamant about making a comeback



look back," he said. "I am inspired by the things I still want to do. I have never thought I have achieved the things I should have. If I win in Barcelona...when I win in Barcelona...I should have won the Olympics four times."

In Seoul he was 182 points behind the gold medal winner, Christian Schenk; it was the difference, arguably, between good fortune and bad, his pole having snapped on his opening height, aggravating a thigh injury.

"Can you...?" The question went unfinished. "Yes, I can."

"Cannot" is a word Thompson learnt to do without from an early age, when his parents left him to fend for himself by packing him off to boarding school at the age of seven. "I was a pain in the neck when I was little...and I was always arguing with my mother. So they sent me to boarding school."

A trace of self-doubt is evident,, though. "I don't think I feel any different to how I used to. I think I am training with as much effort as I used to. I don't put as many hours in but my judgment is that what hours I do put in I use more wisely. The only thing I am having any trouble with is the long jump because I am having to relearn the skill. I haven't done it for two years."

"If this knee gets anywhere near back to where it used to be, and the other boys keep performing as they are at the moment, I don't think I'll have a problem,"
—Thompson

The knee which required surgery for calcification and put him out of the European championships no longer troubles him, he says. Attending hospital as a patient was hard for Thompson to accept. "I've never been one for doctors, and hospitals were for visting other people'" he said.

He is past the need for rehabilitation and into full flow. "I've been training seven days a week, four or five hours a day, and getting on the track three times a week. I must have a wicked chance in Tokyo because I don't even have to be as good as I used to be. I don't think the event has moved on at all. The things I am doing in training seem to be going OK, but it is hard to assess because I have not had any competition. I need a test of fire."

First, though, he must stack the logs. He has plans to go to the United States in February for training. He offers no clues as to when he might reappear in competition. If I get to America on the Tuesday and there is a competition on the Wednesday and I decide to do it, then that is what I will do."

Frank Dick, his coach, says Thompson will be doing "a comprehensive programme indoors and out". The world from Dick is that the athlete is "sprinting great stuff in training." But, as Thompson acknowledges, "competition is the test of anything". Tokyo and Barcelona await.

Courtesy The Times

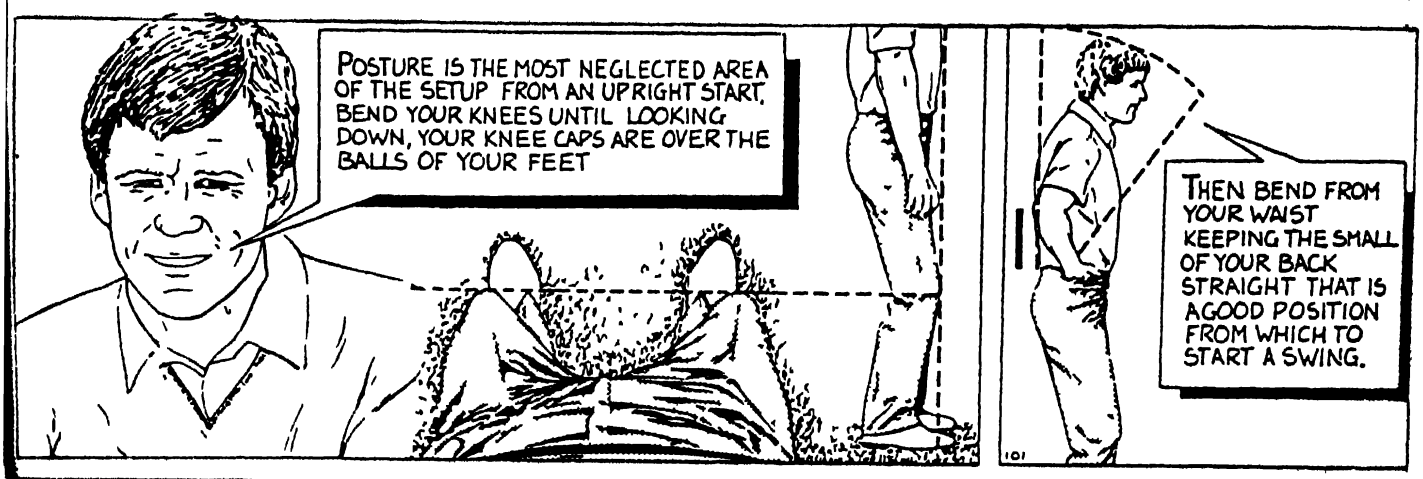


PHOTOGRAPHS COLORSPORT

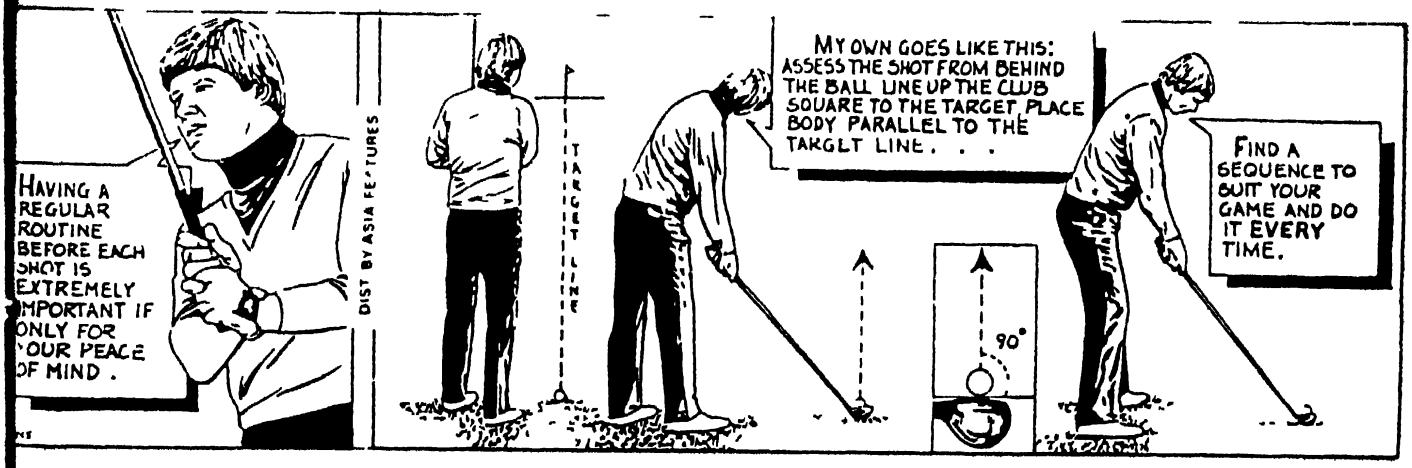
THE FALDO FORMULA

FROM TEE TO GREEN

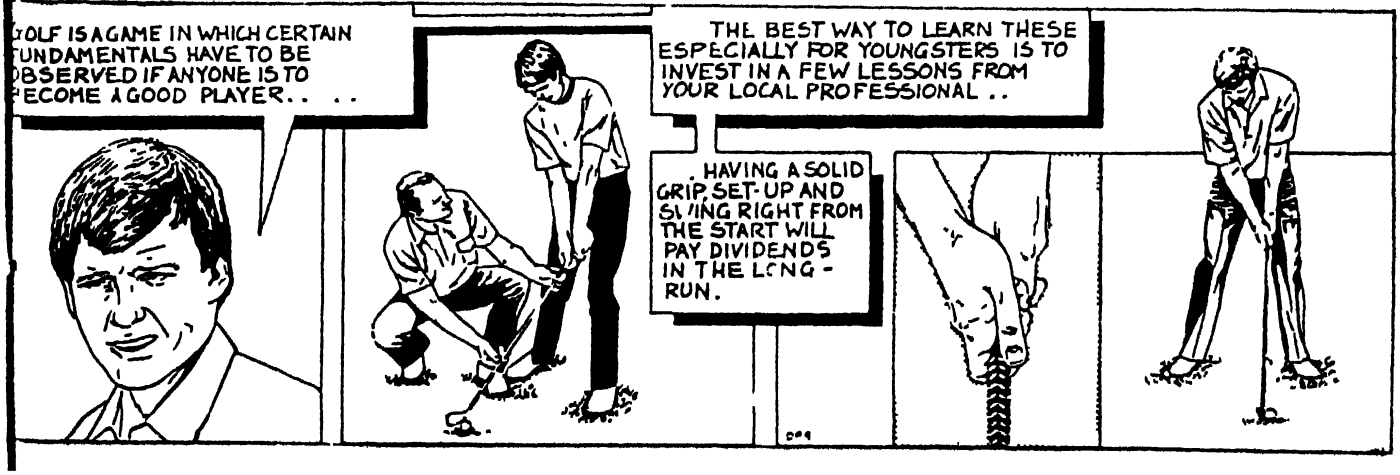
Bend your Knees



Develop a Routine



Early Lessons





SATELLITE TENNIS: FIRST LEG, BOMBAY

Paes Succumbs to Russian Torture

WHEN the first leg of the Indian Satellite circuit began in Bombay, the only point of consideration was whether Leander Paes would qualify for the Masters Now, after the Satellite, people are wondering if he will win the Masters on debut just as he came to the final of the first ever ATP tournament he entered

It seems that the coaching of Enrico Piperno has paid dividends. However,the one area of weakness is Paes' second serve. The improvement is being monitored After the final against the Soviet Union's Vladimir Gabrichidze, Paes thought he could win a baseline duel or two and wasn't too concerned about his groundstrokes and hence eager to come to the net

The only dissenting note was that the Soviet player was not unnerved by the pace Paes generates or his charges to the net Gabrichidze. who is among the top five Davis Cup players of his country, made Paes run round in circles

The returns were so well angled that Paes found it hard to play his favourite volleys. Paes was broken in the seventh game of the first set when he was 30-love up A fine lob and a backhand return of serve saw Vladimir open up the game Paes had a break point in the second set but Gabrichidze came out with a serve and volley to calmly save it.

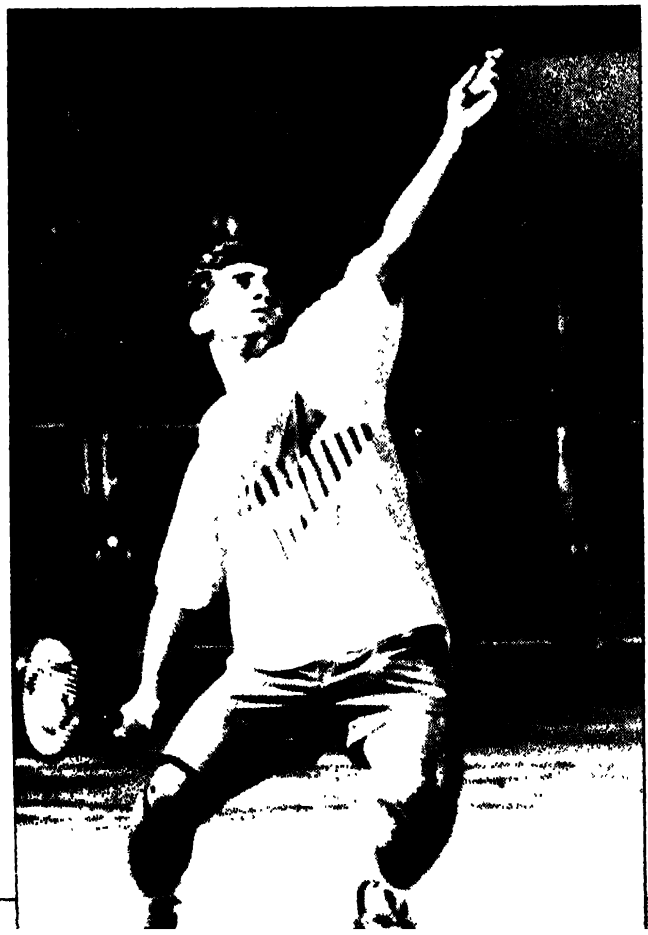
The Soviet has such a solid game that it will hard to beat him on this trip He was semifinalist twice last year and won the Indore leg of the Satellite. But he has not won the Masters. This could be his year.

He hails from Tibilis in Georgia, which gave to the world, Alexander Metreveli, the famous Soviet tennis star. A self made man Vladimir began from the age of nine,has had little formal coaching and learnt on the job. Five foot six and 22 years old, he has a bright future.

The Indians show was heartening. Rohit Rajpal beat the Indian national runner-up Piperno, for the first time in the pre-quarters. Rajpal's performances in the Satellites in Malaysia. Indonesia and Africa has sharpened his play. Rajpal reached the Masters in all three.

Rajpal had a loss of concentration and lost to Massimi, K.G. Ramesh lost to Cica. Asif Ismail took a set against Vasudevan,but unforced errors saw him losing the match.
Vasudevan lost to the eventual winner with whom he teamed up to enter the doubles final. Alas, Vasu had a knee injury and was half the force he was in the final won by the Indian pair of Ferreira and Rajpal.

P.V.J. Kar



Vladimir Gabrichidze: brilliant form in Bombay

CALCUTTA

Junior State Badminton

ANABIK MUKHERJEE and Amrita Banerjee kept their reputation intact as they clinched the junior boy's and girl's titles, respectively, at the 55th junior state badminton championships

It was a day of one-sided matches on the concluding day at the Durgabari courts. Both the boy's and girl's finals were tame affairs. Anabik, among the top three juniors in the country, steamrolled pastTapas Biswas 15-1, 15-2 in the final.

It was almost the same story in the girls' final National champion in her category, Amrita beat Isha Bhattacharya 11-8 in the first game and then whipped her opponent 11-1 to wrap up the match.

Anabik's brother Arindam won the sub-junior title beating Sabyasachi Sikdar.

Amrita did one better when she took the sub-junior girls' singles crown also This time it was Sujaya Mukherjee who was the victim of Amrita's onslaught She won the final match 11-9, 11-6.

There was Mrinmoy Pal who also landed a double in the championships. Mrinmoy beat Saugata Mukherjee to win the mini boy's singles and then teamed up with Arup Baidya to beat Arindam Dasgupta and Priyam Chatterjee 15-9, 15-7 in the doubles.

Sarajit Das and S. Dutta Roy stopped Anabik and Tapas in the junior boys doubles final, one of the better matches on the final day.

The mini girls' singles title went to Anupama Majumder who beat Srikanya Mukherjee 11-5, 11-1 in the final.

Junior State Athletics

THE junior state athletics meet was a championship of records. As many as 18 records were obliterated in the 67 track and field finals which were gone through at the SAI-Netaji Subhas Complex at Salt Lake.



ARUN BANERJI

The winners of the junior state badminton championships pose for the camera

Almost 600 competitors vied for honours in the three-day championships which served as trials for selection of the state team for the forthcoming junior - national meet.

The inclement weather did spoil the opening ceremony on the first day, but that did not dampen the enthusiasm of the athletes. Six records tumbled on the first day and this included five from field events.

Seven entered the record books on the second day and the highlights were the three-km walk for girls under 15 years and the five-km walk for boys under 16 years.

Both existing marks were rewritten by big margins. Pradip Biswal of Pioneer SA clipped off at least ten minutes in the five-km event as he clocked 27. 52.4 seconds to hit the gold medal. North 24 Parganas' Rakhi Mondal timed 16: 46.9 seconds to win the three-km race. The previous record stood at 23: 08.7 seconds.

Apart from the two walking records, four marks were set from track events. Unseasonal showers did a world of good to the cinder track at the SAI complex in Salt Lake and the athletes went off in full steam. Among the noteworthy track records on the second afternoon included the 3,000m for boys under 16 years The winner was Tilak Pal of Nadia, who won the gold with a timing of 9: 11.7 seconds, an improvement of five seconds on the previous record.

The final day's events produced five state marks and among the record breakers was Sikha Sarkar of North 24 Parganas. It was yet again a walking race which provided the day's best record as far as margin was concerned. Sarkar bettered the five-km event race for girls under 18 years by a good seven minutes when she breasted the tape in 30:15.8 seconds.

All records on the final day came from the track. K. Meena of Burdwan DSA set her second record of the meet when she rewrote the 1,500m mark for girls under 18 years. Meena timed 4: 41.1 seconds to win three races. She had clinched the 800m record on the second day.

North 24 Parganas finished the best unit in the championships. They swept all the team titles at

stake and three individual —Narayan Dhali. Amita Sikdar and Sarama Biswas—group champions.

Soumitra Bose

NEW DELHI

North Zone Inter-School Cricket

SARDAR PATEL VIDYALAYA retained the Thums Up North Zone Inter-School Cricket Championship beating Salwan Boys Senior Secondary School, Rajinder Nagar by five wickets in the final at the National Stadium ground.

Put into bat, Salwan made 176 for six in the allotted 40 overs with the help of a disciplined, yet aggressive 87, by opener Sanjay. The target looked within the easy reach of Sardar Patel Vidyalaya, the way they blasted the Salwan opening attack to cruise to 77 without loss. But suddenly, their wickets fell in a heap, losing four wickets for the addition of only 24 runs.

But a responsible unbeaten stand between Rahul (46 not out) and Adarsh (12 not out) saw to it that Sardar Patel reached the victory post without further hiccups, with three overs to spare.

Test all-rounder Kapil Dev gave the prizes.

The umpires, who officiated the matches, have shortlisted 30 players out of which two will be selected for the scholarships to be awarded by the organisers, Parle Exports.

Novy Kapadia



Sardar Patel Vidyalaya were the winners of the North Zone Inter-School cricket championships

KANPUR

Inter-Region Volleyball

BANDA SPORTS HOSTEL won the Inter Region Volleyball Championship by defeating the Allahabad Sports Hostel 3-1 in a match played in the famous Green Park Stadium here. The championship competition was jointly organised by the Sports Directorate of U.P. and State Volleyball Federation.

In the semi-final the winning team defeated Lucknow Sports College 3-1 while in the other semi-final match, the Allahabad Sports Hostel vanquished Faizabad Sports Hostel 3-1. Sanjay Rai and Javed Akhtar stole the show for the Banda side.

15 teams participated in this championship which lasted for three days.

Kailash Agarwal

RANCHI

National Karate

HOSTS Bihar clinched the CMPDI Cup in the sixth National Karate championships held here recently. Maharashtra claimed second place. About 250 participants took part in the championships.

The results:

Under-35 kgs kumite: Sushil Devagade (Maharashtra)

35-45 kgs kumite: Rajan Sarkar (Bihar).

45-55 kgs Kumite: Durjay Singh (Bihar)

55-65 kgs kumite. Shyam Sunder (New Delhi)

Girls Open Kumite Alka Pandey (Maharashtra)

Open Kata. Vijay Singh Munda (Bihar)

Black Belt kumite. Bala Prasad (Bihar)

Full Contact Kumite: Bala Prasad (Bihar)

Anil Kumar Singh

Inter-University Tennis

B.I.T., Mesra won the 1991 Eastern Zone Inter University tennis tournament held at B.I.T., Mesra in early January. Altogether six universities participated in this tournament with B.I.T., Mesra defeating Jadavpur University, Calcutta 3-1 in a best of five matches final.

B.I.T. top seed P.S. Krishnan and Jadavpur top seed Sayandev Chakravarty comfortably won the opening singles. Krishnan of B.I.T. outclassed S. Banerjee of Jadavpur in straight sets 6-0, 6-0 while Chakravarty of Jadavpur made short work of B.I.T.'s Anil Kapoor 6-0, 6-2, in less than an hour each.

In the doubles P.S. Krishnan

and Anil Kapoor of B.I.T. combined well to beat the slightly erratic Jadavpur pair of Sayandev Chakravarty and S. Banerjee 6-0, 7-6 (9-7).

Krishnan won the first reverse singles and the tie for B.I.T. getting the better of Chakravarty 6-1, 6-2. Though the score may suggest otherwise, it was a tough match,with both the players delighting the crowd with their superb allround court play.

The Chief Guest Dr. H.C. Pande, Director, B.I.T., Mesra gave away the prizes. Mr. Ramesh Mishra AITA technical official was the tournament referee.

Sapan Chaurasia

RAJKOT

State Games for the Deaf

THEY might well be unfortunate from birth, but when it comes to performing on the sports fields the deaf mutes showed they are blessed with rich talents Nevertheless, the seventh State Games for the deaf and dumb schoolchildren at Ahmedabad saw some remarkable feats achieved by these innocent kids And the ones who dominated the event were the boys and girls of Rajkot's Mrs. Chhaganlal Shamji Virani School (MCSVS).

Bubbling with a perfect joi de vivre, the MCSVS children returned home with an impressive tally of 39 medals--19 gold, 7 silver and 13 bronze. It was a fine display by any count, taking into view there were as many as three hundred players from twelve schools of Gujarat of which thirtyone belonged to MCVSV only.

GANDHINAGAR

Inter-District Football

IT was a sheer stroke of luck, more than anything else, which helped Baroda defeat Ahmedabad, the holders, 3-2 in the final of the 13th Gujarat State inter-district football championship at Gandhinagar. It was left to the penalty shootout to decide the fate of the tie after the two teams failed to score a single goal in what was ninety minutes of mediocre play.

For Ahmedabad, the forward line failed to check. But, then, there was no assistance from the midfielders either. They repeatedly fell back and gave too many opportunities to the Baroda strikers to take the initiative.

On the other hand, Baroda had its moments, especially in the first half. First of all, a number of corners were forced to make life miserable for the Ahmedabad footballers. And, it was Dipak Sharma who stood like a mountain in Baroda's defence, permitting only a handful of balls to get past him. Thanks to V. Velu and Supat Sotat, Baroda's half line also was working nicely.

Ahmedabad got some of the best chances in the second half, but they muffed them. Not only was there some lack of coordination among the Ahmedabad players, but the presure was also telling upon them.

The irony was inescapable that such an encounter had to go into the tie-breaker to settle the issue. V. Velu, Supat Sotat and Shouvik Maitra netted for Baroda, while Anil Oza and Premkumar converted for Ahmedabad.

There were prizes galore for those who performed outstandingly. To Rajkot's Anilkumar went the 'footballer of the tourney' award. Baroda's defender Dipak Sharma was named 'player of the final'. Baroda's Shouvik Maitra was chosen as the 'best half' and the 'best defender' respectively. Ulhas of Ahmedabad was judged the 'best goalkeeper'

Haresh Pandya



The Chhaganlal Shamji Virani school were the overall champions in the State Games for the deaf and dumb

SATARA

Youth Basketball

MAHARASHTRA defeated Madhya Pradesh 41-40 to win the 8th National Youth championships held at Satara in Maharashtra recently.

In the boy's final, Andhra Pradesh defeated Tamil Nadu 50-46.

Dharmesh Yashlaha

Carry On Kapil

SOME people want Kapil Dev to call it a day from the Indian cricketing scene. This should not deter the ace allrounder In fact, he should face up to these criticisms and show the world that he still has a lot to contribute to Indian cricket He has always faced up to the bouncers thrown at him earlier on and now he should actually display the mettle that he's made of. Failure surely should be thought of as a stepping stone to greater heights. We, the cricket lovers of the country were always with Kapil and he surely cannot let us down.

SHREEDATTA MITBAVKAR, Goa.



Happy B'Day Kapil

This cartoon of Kapil Dev was sent by *Mr. Myshkin Manra* of Delhi as a tribute to Kapil Dev on his 31st birthday It is a token of gratitude to Kapil from all his admirers for the sterling work he has put in for Indian cricket

Cover transparency of Mohd. Azharuddin by Nikhil Bhattacharya, of Sachin Tendulkar by Patrick Eagar, and of Kapil Dev by Utpal Sorkar.

Who's the Con?

THIS is with reference to the story entitled 'Dropped' regarding Videocon's sponsoring the Asia Cup cricket tournament (*Sportsworld* 2 Jan, 1991).

As regards the legal action on untenable grounds threatened by Videocon I would like to give you a lucid picture about the unwarranted controversy triggered by the sponsors.

The first contract between Radiant Sports Management (RSM) and Videocon was signed on December 10 and the second on December 17 , after the Pakistan team withdrew from the Asia Cup. However a third contract was signed between The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) on December 23. This contract was signed by BCCI as I had empowered the BCCI to do so on my behalf as there was a gory death (of my sister) on the 22nd morning. In this third contract which the BCCI signed with Videocon on behalf of RSM, the 'Highlights of the matches' did not even figure in this contract.

There were four main issues on which Videocon stated that its a sponsorship commitments were not met by RSM.

A) Highlights of the Asia Cup matches be shown the same day. The highlights did not figure in the December 17 contract let alone the December 23 one as stated above.

B) That the Asia Cup was not known as the Videocon Asia Cup: Every ticket for the four matches, passes, gate passes, offical badges, complimentary tickets, carried the name 'Videocon Asia Cup'. Furthermore the press-both English and vernacular-had called the tournament the Videocon Asia Cup. In the light of the above if the Asia Cup was not called the 'Videocon Asia Cup' then what else was it called?

C) President of India to inaugurate the tournament: Given the busy schedule of the President of India, it is a tall order to consider it imperative for him to inaugurate a cricket tournament Videocon would probably expect him to sell their televisions It is not correct on the part of Videocon and RSM to put the President, a third party, into a contract. The President's secretariat has taken a dim view of the name of the President of India being dragged into a controversy like this and on this count some action is planned against Videocon by the President's House/Secretariat.

D) Curtain Raiser on television: A curtain raiser is invariably sponsored by the sponsor of the tournament/championships. For the Videocon Asia Cup, M/s Videocon backed out of their commitment. I had got Videocon's story board-approved by Doordarshan for the above in half an hour instead of the customary one week. Moreover M/s Videocon backed out of sponsoring the highlights and about 20 sports they promised to Doordarshan. It was Videocon that had backed out of this commitment and not RSM, but they are making me out to be the culprit.

As for Videocon, they appeared on Doordarshan's live telecast (four in all) as many as 989 times for 3-4 seconds. If you compute by Doordarshan rates for category A programmes (i.e. Rs. 50,000 for ten seconds) then the mileage Videocon got from Doordarshan alone would be in order of about Rs. four crores. This is apart from four highlights and coverage on the National News bulletin.

Aushim Khetrapal
Executive Director
Radiant Sports Management

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. With what sport is 'Martini and Rossi International Tournament' (in New York) associated?
2. What are the specifications for the water in a regulation swimming pool?
3. How is 'hurdle' connected with diving?
4. What are the diving boards made of?
5. Who is known as the 'European of Bridge'?
6. Who invented the game of Contract Bridge?
7. Which all rounder cricketer of England earned the nickname "Barnacle"?
8. What is common to these former English cricketers? Ted Dexter, Colin Cowdrey and Bob Woolmer.
9. What is common to Wally Hammond, Mike Procter and Zaheer Abbas?

ANSWERS

1. Fencing.
2. It must be at least 4 feet (1.2 metres) deep and have a temperature of about 78 f (26C)
3. The 'hurdle' is the last step of the diving. It is actually a short jump which takes the diver to the edge of the board on platform.
4. Aluminium springboards have replaced the earlier wooden ones.
5. itlOEly Culbertson.
6. Harold S. Vanderbilt, an American millionaire.
7. Trevor Bailey.
8. None of them was born in England. While Dexter was born in Italy, the other two were Born in India.
9. They all played for the Gloucestershire County.

CHESS

The Mango Ice Cream Variation is one of the most exotically named systems around. Apparently Nigel Short bet Tony Miles a mango ice cream that he would not dare to play it.

Short lost the bet, but Miles lost the game. Since then despite a decade of heavy analysis no one has been able to come to a definite conclusion about this system. Here is the stem game.

White: Browne Vs Black: Miles Tilburg '78

1 c4 eb 2 d4 b6 3 e4 Bb7 4 Bd3 f5. This is the critical position. White must now sacrifice material to keep the initiative.

5 ef5 Bxg2 6 Qh5+ g6 7 fg6 Bg7 8 gh7+ Kf8. This is the setup both want. (See Diagram) Presumably it is lost for either white or black but nobody knows for sure. White cannot get enough play with 9 hg8=Q+ Kxg8 10 Qg4 Bxh1 11 Bg5 Qe8 and black consolidates.

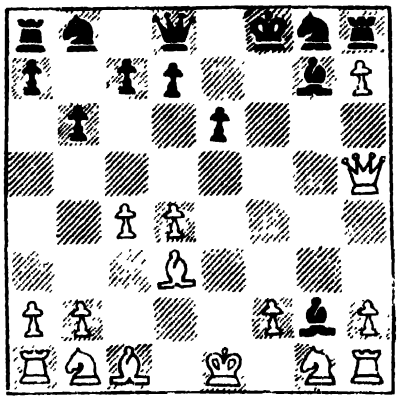
9 Bg5 Nf6 10 Qh4 Nc6 11 Ne2 Bxh1 12 Nf4 Kf7. Black has also tried 12—Nb4 13 Bg6 Qe7 14 Nh5 Nc2+ 15 Bxc2 Qb4+ 16 Nd2 Nxh5 17 0-0-0 and 12 —e5 in later encounters. The latter move is supposed to be best.

13 Bg6+ Ke7 14 Nh5 Qf8 15 Nd2 e5 16 0-0-0 Nxd4 17 Rxh1 Ne6. Whatever the theoretical merits, in practice white's attack is very strong.

18 f4! d6 19 Ne4 Nxg5 20 Qxg5 Bh6 21 Qf4 Bg7 22 fe5 de5 23 Rf1 Kd7. Black has to abandon the knight and start this desperate evacuation.

24 Nexf6+ Bxf6 25 Nxf6+ Kc8 26 Be4 c6 27 Qh3+ Kb7 28 Bxc6+! (1-0). There is a mate after 28- -Kxc6 29 Qd7+ Kc5 30 Qd5+ Kb4 31 Qb5.

Devangshu Datta



BRIDGE

The trouble with playing against the best players in the world is that they sort of keep coming at you all the time. This means that they give you more problems at the table than the average sound international does and so a set against them is always more exhausting. Take a look at this hand from last year's Bermuda Bowl semi-finals. In both the matches, one team, Brazil and USA, the two ultimate finalists, stopped accurately in game, making. Their opponents, Poland and Australia respectively, went all the wav to six clubs:-

Dealer West — E-W vul

NORTH(dummy)
♠ Q 7 6 4 2
♡ 5 2
◇ Q J 8 3
♣ J 10

WEST
♠ K J 10 3
♡ K Q 10 7 3
◇ 10 9
♣ Q 8

EAST
♠ 8 5
♡ J 9 8 6 4
◇ K 6 5 2
♣ 9 3

SOUTH
♠ A 9
♡ A
◇ A 7 4
♣ A K 7 6 5 4 2

Though the slam is highly optimistic, it makes as the spade king is with the opening leader, the trumps 2-2 and the diamond ten-nine doubleton Winning the heart king lead, both declarers, Balicki for Poland and Klinger for Australia, cashed five or six trumps before leading a low diamond to the queen Most Easts would have taken their king and that would have been the end of the defence for the fourth diamond would have taken care of the losing spade in the South hand. However, the two Easts, Marcelo Branco of Brazil and Kit Woolsey of USA. had not won world championships for nothing. They smoothly followed with a low diamond as if they have never seen the diamond king in their life. Balicki fell for it, leading a small diamond to the ace, going down. Klinger, however knew enough not to believe his expert opponent—after the king held, he continued with the diamond *jack* from dummy, letting it run when East followed low, to chalk home his slam. All this looks quite simple on paper but few players would duck the first diamond and fewer still would duck without giving up the show.

Santanu Ghose

FITNESS

Get Back In Shape, Ladies



Side Trimmers

THIS one's specially for you ladies. If you've been accompanying your husband or boyfriend during all the year-end revelry, then you're sure regretting it now. Unless of course you're one of those people with heavy-duty self-control and manage to stay away from the high-cal munchies. But if you're like us, then you're sitting there regretting it all.

But, never fear. We're going to give you some exercises to trim that tum. Something that'll get those flabby abdominals firmed up again, letting you slip into all those fashionable outfits your've been busting your paycheck on.

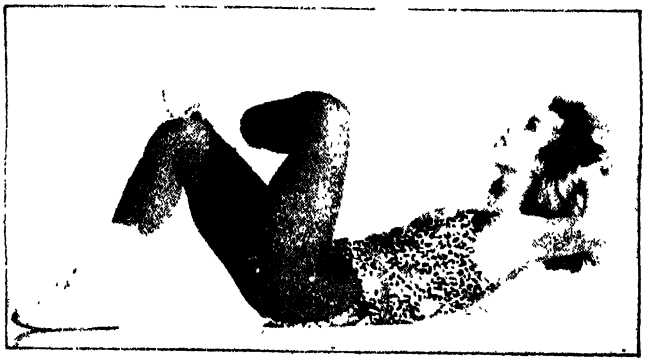
The first one is called the Abdominal Flattener. Lie on your back, arms stretched out on the floor at your side and palms firmly on the floor. Then lift your legs up, knees slightly bent. Once you've got that done, then try lifting your toes toward the ceiling by using the lower abs to push the buttocks a couple of inches off the floor. Don't jerk. Stay in control of the entire movement, doing it for a minute.

The next one is the Twisting Waist Trimmer. This is great for those horrible love handles that protrude from the side of your waist. Standing with your feet about shoulder-width apart, bend the knees ever so slightly and hold your hands out in front of you. Then, slowly—and carefully at first—rotate your upper body to the left. C'mon, as far as you can go. Then repeat the same to the right. Once you get the hang of it, work up a tempo. Not only will it firm up the waistline, it'll also give the back muscles a workout.

Now to really attack those love handles. Side Tummy Trimmers are aimed at the obliques—those elusive muscles that run along the side of your abdomen—and are done off your back, one leg bent while the other is folded and rests on the knee of the bent leg. Lock your fingers behind your head and raise your head and shoulders off the floor while you twist your upper body and touch the opposite elbow to the folded leg's knee. Once you're done with one side, switch legs and repeat to the other side.

And finally, a variation of the sit-up called the Waist Trimmer. Lie down, one knee bent and the other leg folded to rest on it. With the fingers locked behind your head, lift your head and shoulders off the floor by using just the abdominals. Don't let your arms pull your head up, since that would be cheating.

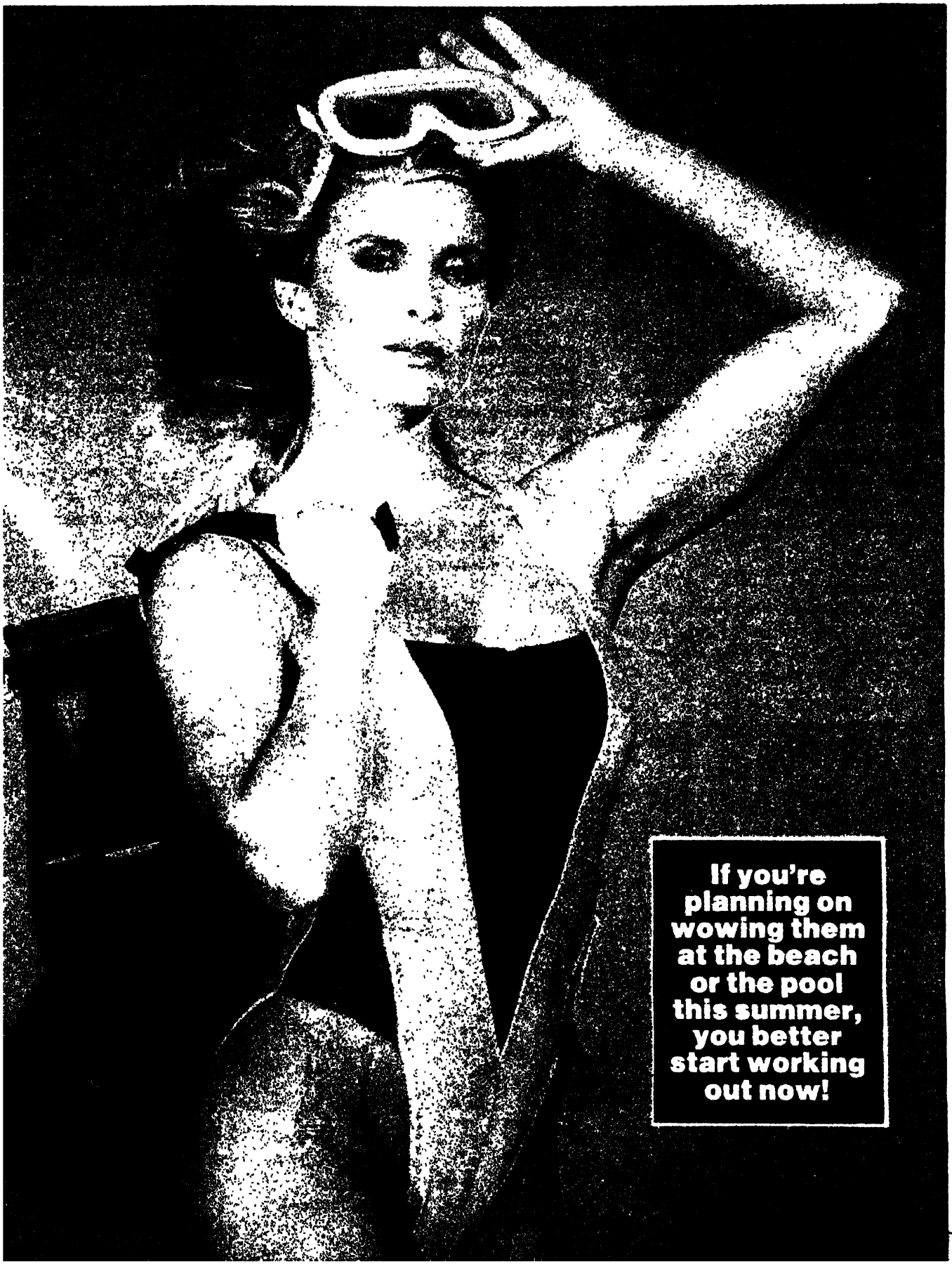
C'mon, ladies, go for it. If you're planning on wowing them at the beach or the pool this summer, you better get started now.



Waist Trimmer



Twisting Waist Trimmer


If you're planning on wowing them at the beach or the pool this summer, you better start working out now!



Ross Deas gives Twilight Lady an affectionate pat



Birds of a feather...the volunteers

IT HAD TO BE

IF numbers are significant on the race course, the winner of the third classic of the season, the Calcutta Oaks, proved it. Twilight Lady ran with the number seven on its saddle and was drawn one. With the bookies, it also closed with 7-1 odds. In a seven-horse classic event, better known as the Ladies' Derby, this Lady was the last name in the book; it *had* to come first.

It's a very impressive argument in hindsight, but the Lady surprised even its jockey, Nicky Bird, who came into his own after a rather forgettable season.

The 2,400 metres Grade I race is also a kind of run-up for the 'real' Derby of the same distance, though ladies are not considered stayers in the normal course. The hot favourite was naturally Kabuki, who had won the first classic, the 1,000 Guineas, in great style with a sensational burst of speed in the straight. Nick Connorton was riding Kabuki again, but the whispers on the course were whether Kabuki would weaken in the longer distance.

The well groomed *Twilight Lady* showed a clean pair of heels to her rivals in the 'Ladies Derby'

The whispers turned out to be true. Kabuki seemed to be in trouble at the 800-metre marker. Connorton's whalebone was out, but she could accelerate only that much and no more. And she came a tame fourth.

Twilight Lady, the bay filly by Common Land out of Scruples, was lying fourth till the bend when it slipped through along the rails. She showed a smart turn of



Twilight Lady (Bird up) winning the Calcutta Oaks from Cisitalia (Burke up) and Dancing Dissident (Fallon up)





he sponsors, GEC Alsthom

Mrs K.S. Brar, wife of the OGC-in-C, Eastern Command, and (right) Mrs Lynn Deas, wife of Ross Deas, owner of Twilight Lady

'THE LADY'



foot the moment she saw the gap widening between frontrunners, Cisitalia and Dancing Dissident.

Twilight Lady assumed command 250 metres away from home and never looked back. Cisitalia (10-1 odds) and Dancing Dissident (8-1 odds) couldn't have had their eyebrows arched very much to see her going away because they were rather poorly supported themselves.

On the victory lap, trainer Haskell David and jockey Bird were beaming a little disbelievingly, but the spectators were as stunned as them to respond with any mighty applause. Applause and ecstasy of the kind was shown by one of the owners, Ross Deas. (The other owners, D. Khaitan, C.K. Pasari and J. Chitlangia, were in comparison to Mr Deas, very delighted.)

Twilight Lady it was with the Calcutta Oaks sash across her. And how well groomed she looked even after that 2,400 metres.

ANIL GROVER
PHOTOGRAPHS ANIL GROVER



Golf champ Lakshman Singh: on a different course

Sentouki (Connorton up) winning the George Williamson Indian Produce Stakes in a start-to-finish style from Nostalgia (Bird up) and Romantic Memories (Bajran Singh up) with Tip Top (Burke up) bringing up the rear in the four-horse feature event

THE



Gloomy skies, fading light and a chilly drizzle weren't enough to dampen spirits at the Calcutta race course on New Year's day. A packed card of 10 races, sponsored by the Macneill & Magor Group, saw the grounds equally packed with celebrities and socialites, desperado punters and my-sari-is-better-than-yours types, many of whom couldn't say why Nostalgia and Romantic Memories were the names of two different horses in the feature event, the George Williamson Indian Produce Stakes.

The four-horse event of 1200 metres was won by the three-year-old colt, Sentouki (Nick Connorton up), start-to-finish, ahead of the strongly fancied fillies, Nostalgia and Romantic Memories. The owners, Mrs and Mr Sumit Gupta and Mrs and Mr Amit Gupta, took home the handsome trophy and prize money of nearly Rs two lakh, trainer Bharath Singh proving that Sentouki's essay in the Breeders' Cup ten days earlier was no flash in the pan.

NEW YEAR CAME RACING IN...





The foreign touch of class



To cope with the swelling number of betters, a special counter for ladies

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHS: ANIL GROVER



Heike Drechsler: flying 'high' on dope

'UNITED' AGAINST DRUGS

German Revelations

AND have we got some startling revelations for you this week! After the usual nosying around we came up with some sensational information given by the German magazine Stern. The mag had obtained proof of anabolic steroid use by many of East Germany's most celebrated athletes and revealed their names. The info was based on documents provided by a certain Dr Manfred Hoppner, deputy director of East Germany's sports medical service.

According to the doc. there were strict limits on the quantity of dope that was to be used annually. The men were not allowed to take more than 1,500 mg of the drug Oral Turinabol (OT) and women 1,000 mg. Drugs like Vasopressin and Piracetan were used first on rats and then on athletes. Further, documents indicate that...

In 1981, when she was 16, long jumper Heike Drechsler took 650 mg of OT. Her dosage was increased to 750 mg in '82 and 835 in '83.

In 1989, in Italy, shotputter Ulf Timmerman took 10 mg of OT a day. He raised it to 15 mg and finally 20 mg.

Ten days before her first event at the 1989 European Swimming championships, Kristin Otto's routine drug test revealed her testosterone level to be three times higher than the acceptable level. The other athletes who are high on the doping list provided by Dr. Hoppner are ace decathletes Torsten Voss and Christian Schenk.

Various eminent sportspersons handed out their respective opinions on this issue. The best one came from Charlie Francis, Ben Johnson's former coach. "I don't call it cheating," he said. "My definition of cheating is doing something nobody else is doing."

MERA BHARAT MAHAAN!

Ramesh Krishnan Beimaan?

FIRST it was the Amritraj brothers. Now it's Ramesh Krishnan. After a fruitful period of playing truant with the tennis officials of the country the law of averages seems to have caught up with this shirker.

There is a distinct possibility that Krishnan is not going to be considered for a berth in the Indian Davis Cup team by the AITA when India meet Thailand in Bangkok next month.

The secretary of the AITA, R K Khanna had tried to get in touch with Krishnan who is currently based in the USA. In fact, Khanna had also quizzed him vis-a-vis his availability for the Davis Cup but there seems to have been no positive response from Ramesh. Interestingly enough, the treasurer of the AITA, Ramesh Desai revealed to the *Illustrated Weekly* recently that the AITA had been in constant touch with Ramesh's father but even Krishnan Sr. is yet to give a concrete reason as to why his son is not playing.

Krishnan has indulged in a lot of hedging



Why all this hedging? Bangkok seems to be a nice enough place for a Davis Cup reconciliation.

WITH the loss of his status as world No. 1, Jahangir Khan has also lost his head. He is given, nowadays to frequent escapades with the squash authorities.

Recently, Jahangir was slapped with a fine by the International Squash Players' Association (ISPA) for withdrawing from last month's world championships at Toulouse without prior notice.

The Khan instead of paying the measly fine of $500 lashed out at the ISPA saying, "I will not pay the fine until my appeal is heard by the ISPA." He also claimed that he was a



Money, the story of Carl Lewis's life

PRIVATE EYE



WE LOOK WHERE WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO!

COMMERCIAL CARL

Morally Downright

SOMETIMES it's hard to figure out whether Carl Lewis is the morally upright athlete he claims he is. Investigations conducted on the international athletics scene, reveal that he is not. In fact, it's hard to figure out who's the better man: Ben Johnson or him.

One of the leading athletes in the US in the last decade, Lewis had issued a press statement saying that he will not be going to the Pan American Games due to be held at Havana in August.

He said that he preferred to concentrate on the world championships in Tokyo that would be held two weeks after the Pan-Am Games.

Fair enough. But that's not quite how Lewis' manager Joe Douglas, put it. "I don't consider it (Pan-Am Games) a major meet. It's not that important internationally. It's what I call a charity meet—no appearance fees."

Now with Douglas revealing the reason for not participating, don't you think we're right?

SQUASHING AUTHORITY

In-Laws Or Out-Laws?

victim of jealousy.

Jahangir threw back charges-saying that he had phoned the ISPA well in advance to notify them of his withdrawal from three tournaments, due to ill health. He criticised the ISPA for having playing members as its president and chairman. "A playing member is jealous," he said. "I am a victim of jealousy."

Meanwhile, to get rid of all this tension, Jahangir has gone and got married. The lady is the daughter of a top Pakistani Squash player. Her name is Seemi Jawaid and her father was a three time British amateur champ and three time British Open Squash finalist. There seems to be a battle with new squash authorities coming up. Only thing is this time it's his father-in-law.

Jahangir: fighting the squash authorities



EUBANK KNOCKS OUT BENN

Karron Tames Eubank

WORLD middle weight Champ Chris Eubank scored another upset victory when he jumped out of the ring and into the waiting arms of his long-time girlfriend Karron Stephen-Martin and subsequently entered into holy matrimony.

Eubank, famous both for his punches and his whacky sense of humour, proposed to Karron live on TV from the ring after taking the world middleweight title from Nigel Benn, last year. Karron, 25, who was watching the fight at their home in Hove, near Brighton, which they share with their three year-old son Christopher immediately accepted when he phoned.

As Eubank kissed her on the steps of St Peter's Church, Brighton after the wedding, he said: "This is better than any fight-there's no pain involved."

Karron sure knocked him out.

Eubank and Karron after their wedding



freewheeling

THE other day I had an encounter with the GOC-in-C, Eastern Command, Lt-Gen K.S. Brar. And I, not the big gun, was shooting. Like mad. You don't get too many chances to take a shot of the top brass, and Lt-Gen K.S. Brar, at that. So, I went trigger happy.

The security around a man of his stature and authority was obviously tight and omnipresent. A tough target. So, I had to use guerrilla tactics to get past them and reach the special box he was seated in, at the Royal Calcutta Turf Club course. Perfect. And I would be well paid for shooting him. (The deal hadn't been clinched, but I knew my shady customers well.)

As soon as I entered the race course, I whispered into my friend's ear. "Has the guy come in yet?" Suitably impressed by my *sotto voce*, he low-decibeled in return, "Which man?"

"Brar Saheb!" I hissed through my teeth. I didn't want anyone to hear and beat me to the draw. "Oh," he decibeled at an even lower level. Quickly, there was a shadow over my left shoulder: tough, black, tall and handsome after a fashion, wearing blue jeans, a multi-coloured T-shirt and pretending to look like any other punter. His totally blank, uninterested expression was as much of a giveaway as his mean look. He wasn't following me for nothing; he had heard something that sounded like "Brar".

I unzipped my bag slowly, even while walking towards the special box in the stands, and a pair of big, black hawk eyes stepped into my bag. What could be inside?

Then, I found the General, sitting in the box with his wife and other family members. He: smart and executive looking, with a thick crop of straight grey hair. She: slim, svelte and every other adjective Khushwant Singh uses for every lady who walks into his line of vision.



Anil Grover



It was now or never. I squeezed the button. And the affable Mr Brar turned, put down his binoculars and smiled. "Thank you", he said. Cheese!

I walked up the steps slowly and was jammed by a security guard in a grey safari suit. "I don't know," he shrugged off my casual-sounding question, and jerked his left thumb over his left shoulder. "See that man in a suit like mine, near the box? Ask him." I did. Ditto reply. He arched his mean eyebrow towards a real natty Sikh in a navy blue suit, who looked straight out of the silver screen. "Ask him." I did again, but this time showing him the press card I was carrying.

The rich baritone and sheer class would have had Amitabh Bachchan clearing his throat. "The gentleman in the extreme left seat," said Mr Baritone Singh, "that's Brar *saheb*". He had meanwhile monitored me, my equipment, everything, in one quick look, head downwards.

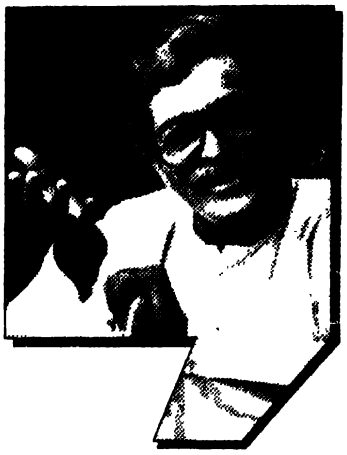
In two minutes Lt-Gen K.S. Brar, PVSM, AVSM, VrC, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Command would get up, walk down and go on the tracks to present the massive Army Cup (almost larger than the Army chief himself) to Messrs V.K. Chaudhuri, H.H. Sookias, B.M. Varma and Harish Gorsia, proud owners of the three-year-old chestnut colt Sandbagger, who had charged through 2,000 metres a minute ago with jockey Burke jubilantly smiling at trainer John Stephens.

It was now or never. I squeezed the button. And the affable Mr Brar turned, put down his binoculars and smiled. "Thank you," he said. Cheese!

Anil Grover



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Age of Entry (Completed Years)	Retirement Age (Running Age)					
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25	47	44	41	38	35	33
31	88	81	75	69	64	59
44	426	378	338	303	273	247
50	1335	1073	889	753	648	564
55	-	-	-	-	-	1517

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Bestsellers

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PILOT



Pilot Hi Tecpoint 05 by Luxor.

BALL POINT PENS



Plastic barrels:
Left to Right
Ranger, Monarni
and Trendy.



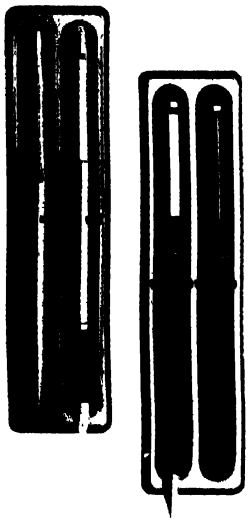
Metal barrels:
Left to Right Jotter, Crola,
Sterling Chrsmatic and Goldline

MARKERS



Left to Right Luxor Excel
2-in 1 Marker, Monarni
Oil Magic Twin Dual Marker,
Excel Metal Body Permanent
Marker in fine (bullet)
and broad (chisel) tips.

GIFT SETS



Left to Right Sterling and Vintage.
Also available gift set
of Crola

CHILDREN'S RANGE



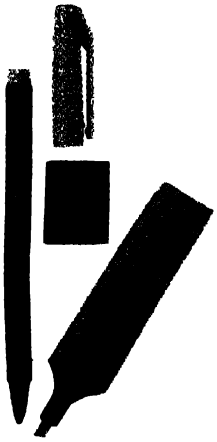
Left to Right
Luxor Disney Funset
Colour Pen,
Luxor Bambino Colourset Pen,
Disney Inoxcolour Plastic Crayons,
Luxor Donald Duck Magicset Colour Pen,
Luxor Sign Pen,
Luxor Mickey Mouse Sketch Pen
and Luxor Colour Pen

MICROTIP/ FINE WRITING PENS



Left to Right Hi-Roller,
Finewriter,
Graphic 05
and Stylo microtip

HILITERS



Left to Right Luxor
Fluorescent
Textliter
and Luxor
Fluorescent Hiliter.

Vital tips
for exciting writing

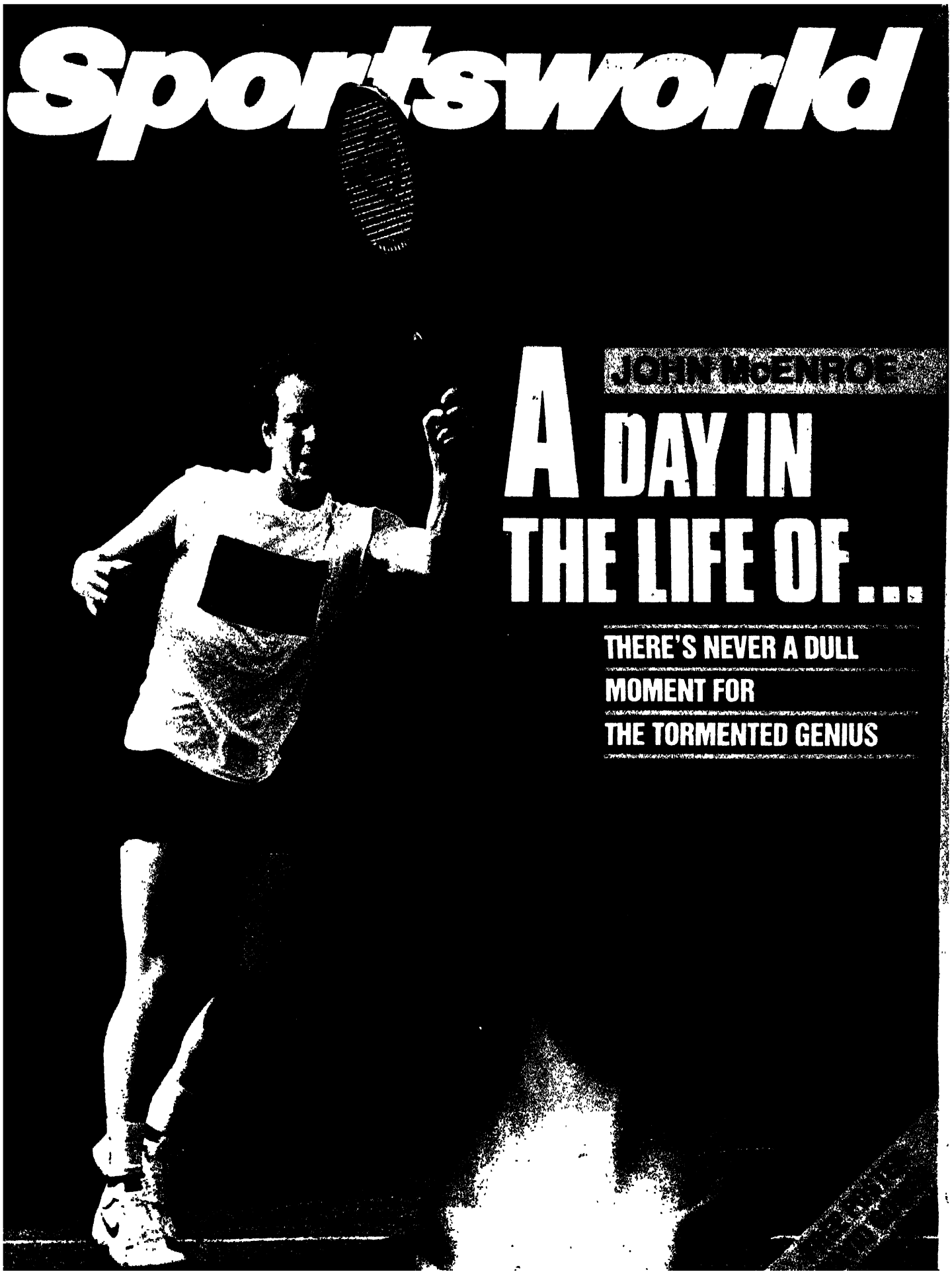
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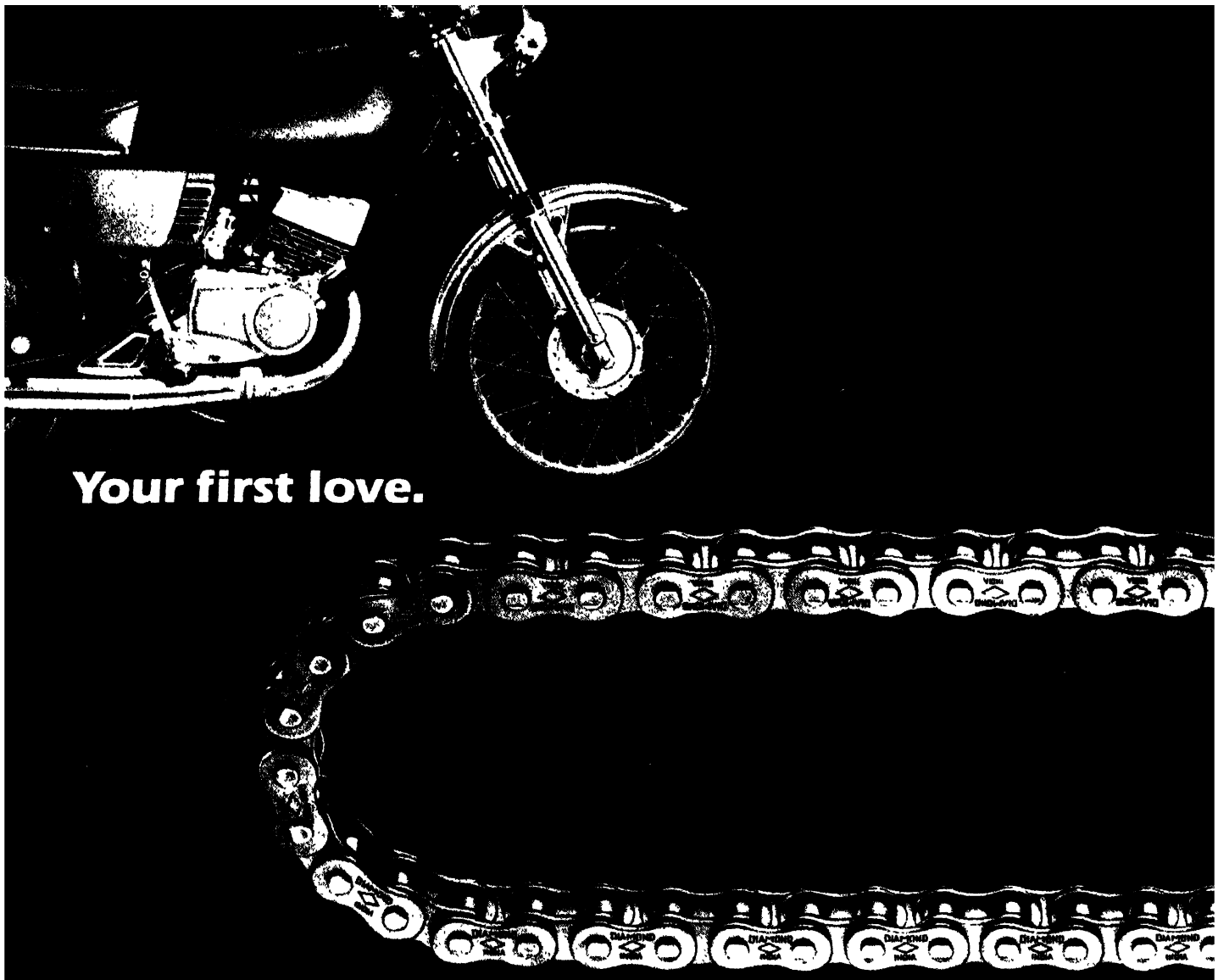
Sportsworld



JOHN McENROE

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF...

THERE'S NEVER A DULL MOMENT FOR THE TORMENTED GENIUS



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VOICES

"I am not God—I do not hold all the solutions but if I could give a message it would be to bring fair play back to our business. That goes for the players, coaches and crowds. We cannot afford to be criticised for this and that year after year."
LENNART JOHANSSON, President of European Football Union (UEFA) in his new year message to the soccer community.

"In which telephone booth?"
TYSON when informed that Buster Douglas wanted to 'take him on.'

"I put everything in my game. I want to win every point. If I can't do that, I am always trying to move my opponent around and setting up the next point. It is the way I play."
LEANDER PAES, evaluates his game style.

"Well there's only one word—disappointing. My wait for breaks will continue. There's no question of that feeling. It's a fact. And I'm learning to live with it."
W. B. RAMAN on his frustration about not making it to the Indian XI, though he was in the squad.

"Our boys are getting things too early and too easily. They are not ready to make any sacrifices. They are grabbing whatever benefits are coming their way. They do not know what is the meaning of working hard."
KAPIL DEV, forwards the reason behind the dearth of fast bowlers in the country.





TOMMY HINDLEY

"If there is a player who can come back, he is the one."
At last someone feels that Bjorn Borg does stand a chance. He is none other than the U.S. Open champ, PETE SAMPRAS.

"I won the World Championship in the final minutes of the year. But I do not forget that the year (1990) started with a tragedy."
KASPAROV, referring to the thousands of Armenians who had to flee Baku after ethnic clashes with Azerbaijanis. He decided to sell the $1 million trophy and distribute the profits to the Armenians.

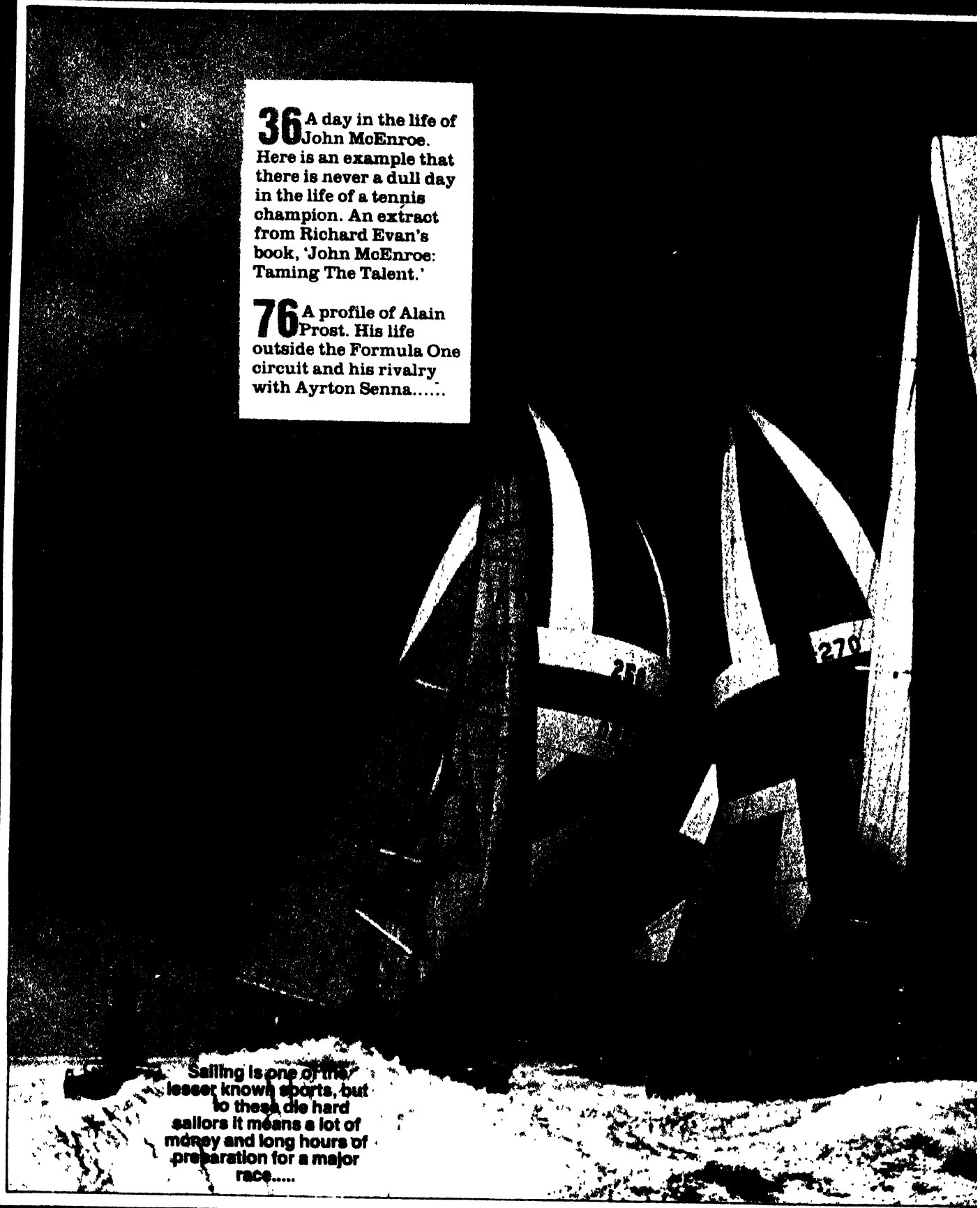
"This year I hope they are ready for me. I've put a lot of thought into my decision but I think you will see me there this year and I hope people are ready for it."
ANDRE AGASSI on his plans to play Wimbledon this year. But he does not plan to change his image to suit the dress code of Wimbledon.

"I usually don't get excited over a first round win but this is probably the most important first rounder ever. When you have five faults in a row it makes you want to have a lobotomy right there."
PAM SHRIVER, former No. 3 after her first comeback victory against Isabel Cueto in the New South Wales Tennis Open.

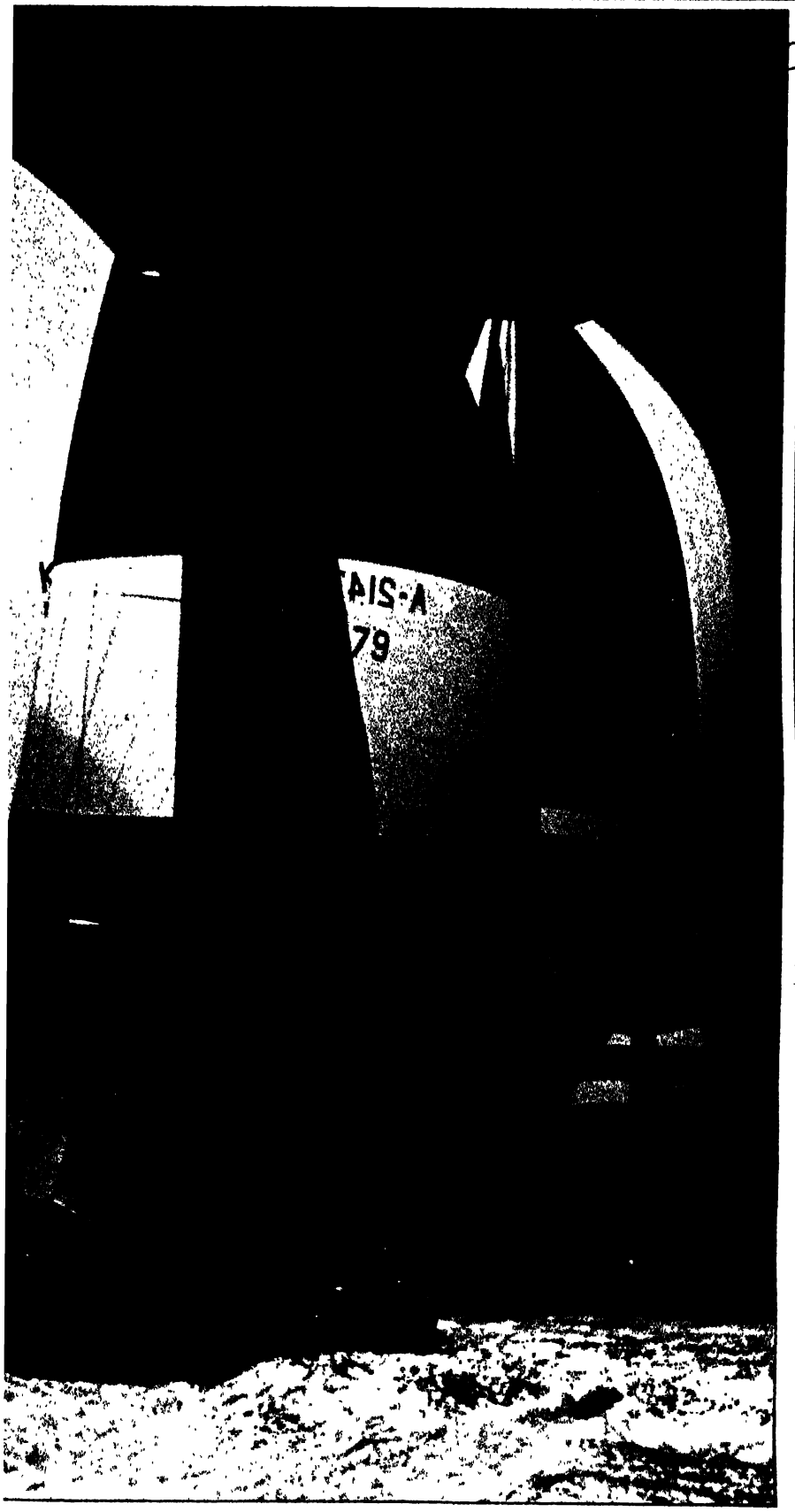
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Sailing is one of the lesser known sports, but to these die hard sailors it means a lot of money and long hours of preparation for a major race.....



Sportsworld

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PRIVATE EYE

WE LOOK WHERE WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO'

ENGLAND'S MAJOR PROBLEM

Message In A Bottle

ENGLAND'S sporting problems have reached such a point that even the Prime Minister has decided to step in. The new Prime Minister, that is, Mr John Major. Major advised England's much belaguered cricketers to adopt a monastic lifestyle so that they could reverse their fluctuating fortunes in Australia.

Not that the advice has helped. The Englishmen have lost the Ashes and don't even figure in the World Series Cup final: New Zealand have that honour.



Even John Major's messages didn't reach the Englishmen on time

Major, a keen cricket supporter said that the players, "should abstain from *every* kind of indulgence and even take cold baths. The Prime Minister proposed to communicate the idea to the English management. "I am proposing to telegraph the advice to Graham Gooch," he said.

The British Posts and Telegraph must have lost the message cos' nothing good has come out of it.

THE HEIGHT OF AMBITION

Growing In The Backstreets

MEET DAVID THOMPSON. He's a British kid and the kind of guy who's going to climb dizzy heights. This of course has got nothing to do with his height. David at the age of 14 is 6ft 2in tall.

David is a very special kid. He's also black and boys of his race are not really given special privileges in the Queen's England. Nevertheless, he is exactly the kind of cricketer the English team would love to have among their ranks. His is the kind of cricket that is played in the back streets of Brixton. David grew up playing that kind of cricket and it has now become a passion for him. He is going to be one of the beneficiaries of a £200,000 fund of the Surrey Cricket Youth Year. This is a programme which is to recruit young and talented black fast bowlers for the English cricket team.



Thompson's backstreet dreams are slowly coming true

They have a patron in none other than PM John Major. David plays the game well and was talented enough to be chosen for the Ernest Bevin

DYING TO WIN

Giv'en It Good

MIKE TYSON sure misses being the world champion, nowadays. In fact, he's real impatient to get a crack at the title. After our usual bit of looking around for information we heard that he was in Mexico City, recently. The champ—should we call him that?—is real mad at Holyfield for fighting Foreman first. He is prepared to 'kill' Holyfield for it, according to the latest.

Tyson said of Holyfield, "I don't know if he's scared. I won't say that. But he could make a lot more money fighting me than Foreman. And if I fight him, he's dead. I'll kill him."

He also did a little

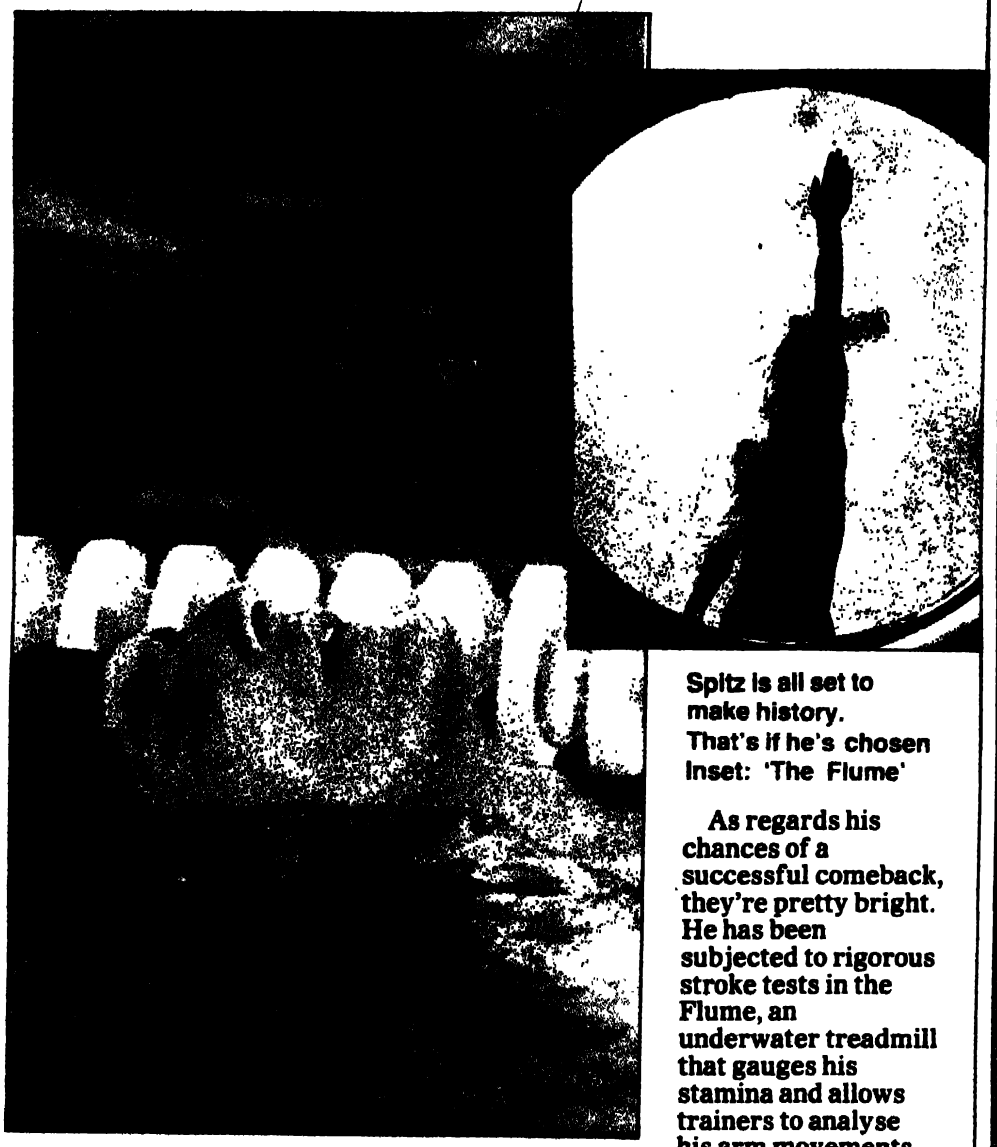
School. He plays for the Surrey Under-14s and is being coached by Geoff Arnold of Surrey who many rate as the best in the country. The boy has the high classical action of a top-class bowler and pace to go with it.

So devoted is David to the game that he can be seen playing away at the 'Pen'—that's what the ground at the Brixton tenement is called—with a chest cold and the wind howling through the flats. "He's hyperactive," said his father. "No worries about him outgrowing his strength. A good day for him is to play two games of football with cricket in between. But I have to remind him of his studies."

Surrey isn't too interested about his academic record. If he can make it to the England team as a class bowler, studies be damned. He's the one they're backing for the next Ashes series. For what? To open the bowling, of course!

PERFECT SPITZ

Elder Strokesman



Spitz is all set to make history. That's if he's chosen Inset: 'The Flume'

EVERYBODY knows by now that Mark Spitz is working on a comeback. In 1972, he set the pool on fire when he swam his way into the record books with seven gold medals. Today at the age of 39—and with some very good swim times behind him—Spitz is all set to try and set Barcelona on fire in 1992.

As regards his chances of a successful comeback, they're pretty bright. He has been subjected to rigorous stroke tests in the Flume, an underwater treadmill that gauges his stamina and allows trainers to analyse his arm movements. "They told me that my stroke was close to perfect," Spitz said.

Yes, it's going to be exactly 20 years since Spitz had his first date with destiny in Munich. This time he'll be coming along—if he is chosen—as the eldest strokesman of the US swim team. Barcelona seems to be coming one stroke at a time.

Tyson: Spending the rest of his days in frustration



bit of showing-off in front of the Mexicans (the 'I-know-it-all kind'). When they asked him about the scene in the Gulf, however, he declined to comment. But when they asked him if he really beat up his ex-wife Robin Givens he said through an interpreter· "She deserved everything she received."

Everything except the alimony you had to pay. Right, Mike?

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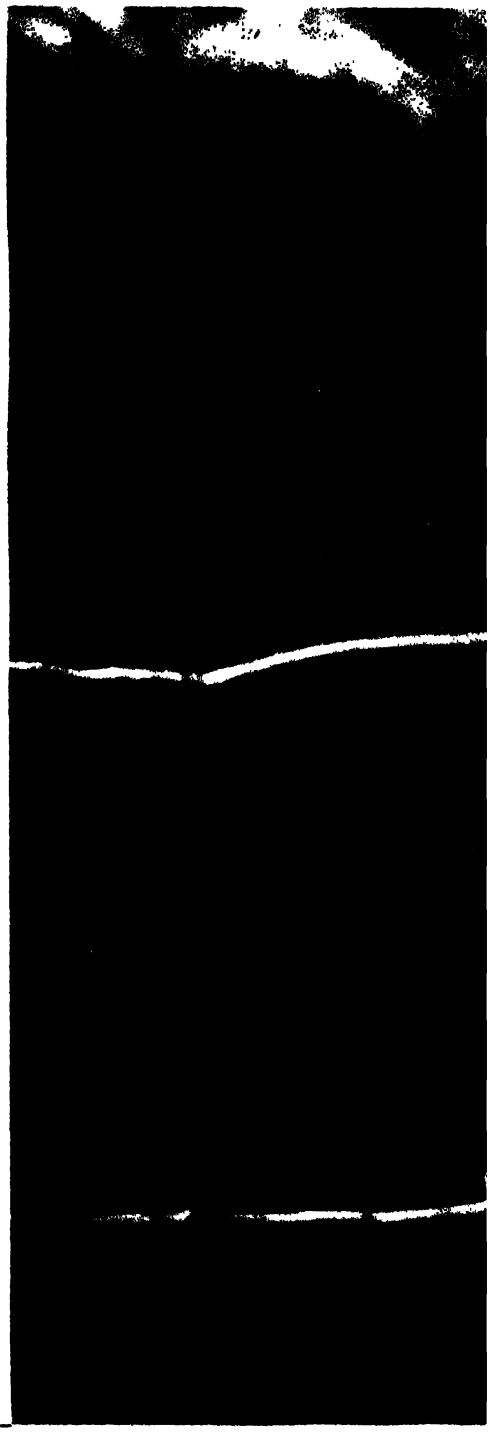
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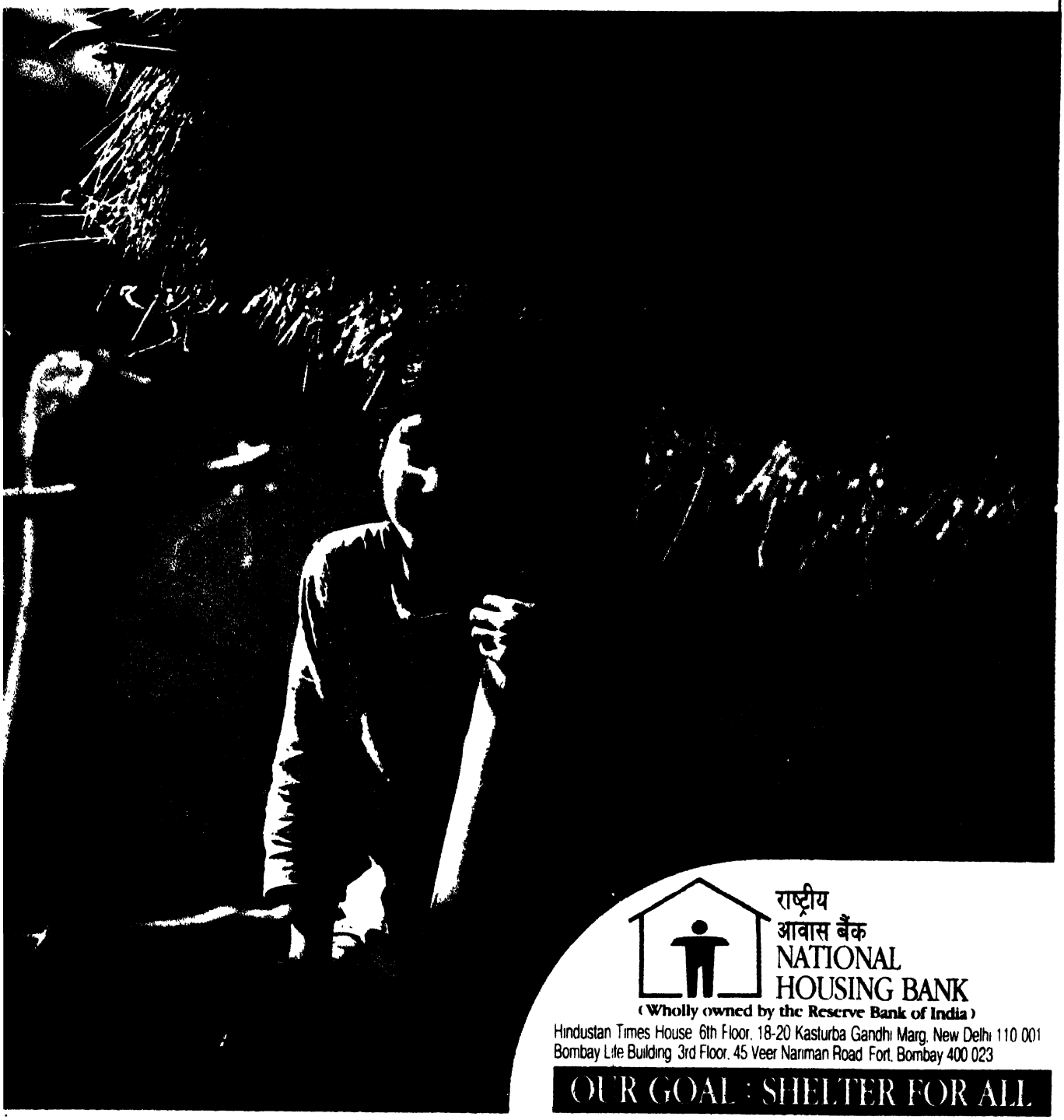
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OUR GOAL : SHELTER FOR ALL

VINI, VIDI, VICI

Bobby Robson's team from the Netherlands conquered the hearts of football fans in the country while exposing the poor standard of Indian football





The PSV Eindhoven players meet Mother Teresa

By BOBBY ROBSON

THAT winter morning in Calcutta began with a novel experience. I had never seen a white tiger before: neither did I know such a creature actually existed. So, when early that cold Sunday morning we went to the zoo, which was so close to our hotel I was pleasantly surprised to see a white Indian tiger basking in the caressing winter sun.

In the afternoon there was another surprise in store for me. The massive Salt Lake Stadium bursting with excitement with about 100,000 people cheering, hollering, and waiting expectantly for the match to begin. I never expected to see so many people and so much enthusiasm for just an exhibition match. I was impressed.

In Eindhoven we too have a nice stadium, though its capacity is only about 28000. But, for even an Eindhoven match not more than 25,000 people gather over there. Even fewer people come to see a match with our main local rival Ajax Amsterdam. So, for me and the boys in my team, it was really mind-blowing

In fact, I had heard a lot about Calcutta even before landing here. They said that Calcutta still possesses the cream of the country's footballing talent. Players over here use their brains more than their counterparts in the rest of the country. They have got more skill, and they have a better perception of modern football than others.

Of course, I must say, I was also told not to drink a drop of water in this city. If I did, I would get jaundice, they said.

But now I think I can tell you with confidence all that was sheer nonsense.

It was so sad that after hearing so much about Calcutta's football no one could really impress me as a player of international standard. The previous two matches we had played 4-2-4, but keeping Calcutta's reputation in mind, we switched to the 4-3-3 system, using an extra midfielder. But, in the end, it all seemed so unnecessary.



Robson surrounded by admirers after PSV Eindhoven's arrival in Calcutta

SANTHOSH GHOSH

WE reckoned that since your coach must have watched our previous two matches, he must have by now seen

through our gameplan So, it was imperative for us to change our strategy

In Delhi and Bangalore, I could not field Jerald Fanenberg, because of his ankle injury. But at the team meeting in Calcutta he said he was fit, and I immediately decided to take him in the team. For, he is my main schemer. He is extremely intelligent, can figure out the opponents' gameplan instantly. I calculated that he would be able to lure out one defender from the Indian side, creating, in the process, a wide gap for us to exploit. The two wingers Kalusha and Ellerman was supposed to get help from Bossman, hovering around a little behind them to make use of the gap in the Indian defence.

I was worried when in the first fifteen minutes my plan did not work. To have 100,000 people cheering for you is an electrifying experience. It can inspire even an ordinary side to a rare level of excellence And when we realised the Indian eleven was drawing on that vast, rousing, inexhaustible source of inspiration, we decided to change the pace of the game, slowing it down to retain our control on the match.

Fanenberg again was the man in charge for this. He has often done this before me Our club officials also have tremendous confidence in him. Like Gullit, his mother is Dutch, and father Surinamese. But unlike Gullit, he will never change his club or go out of Holland for



TAPAN DAS



greener pastures. All PSV players are superbly looked after by the club For instance, Fanenberg has got a contract that entitles him to a post-retirement annual pension of $20,000 till he is 60 years old. When someone has his future so well secured, he can give his life for the club. And as expected it was Fanenberg who eventually brought about the game under control, paving the way for the first goal in the 25th minute through Ellerman.

We did not have to look back again.

THE day before the match an Indian coach wondered why we were taking the exhibition matches so seriously. Why shouldn't we? After returning to Holland, we would be right back into the thick of the league championship. So, I had told the boys we were not here on holiday It had to be business as usual In the ten days that we were in India I put my boys through more than twelve practice sessions

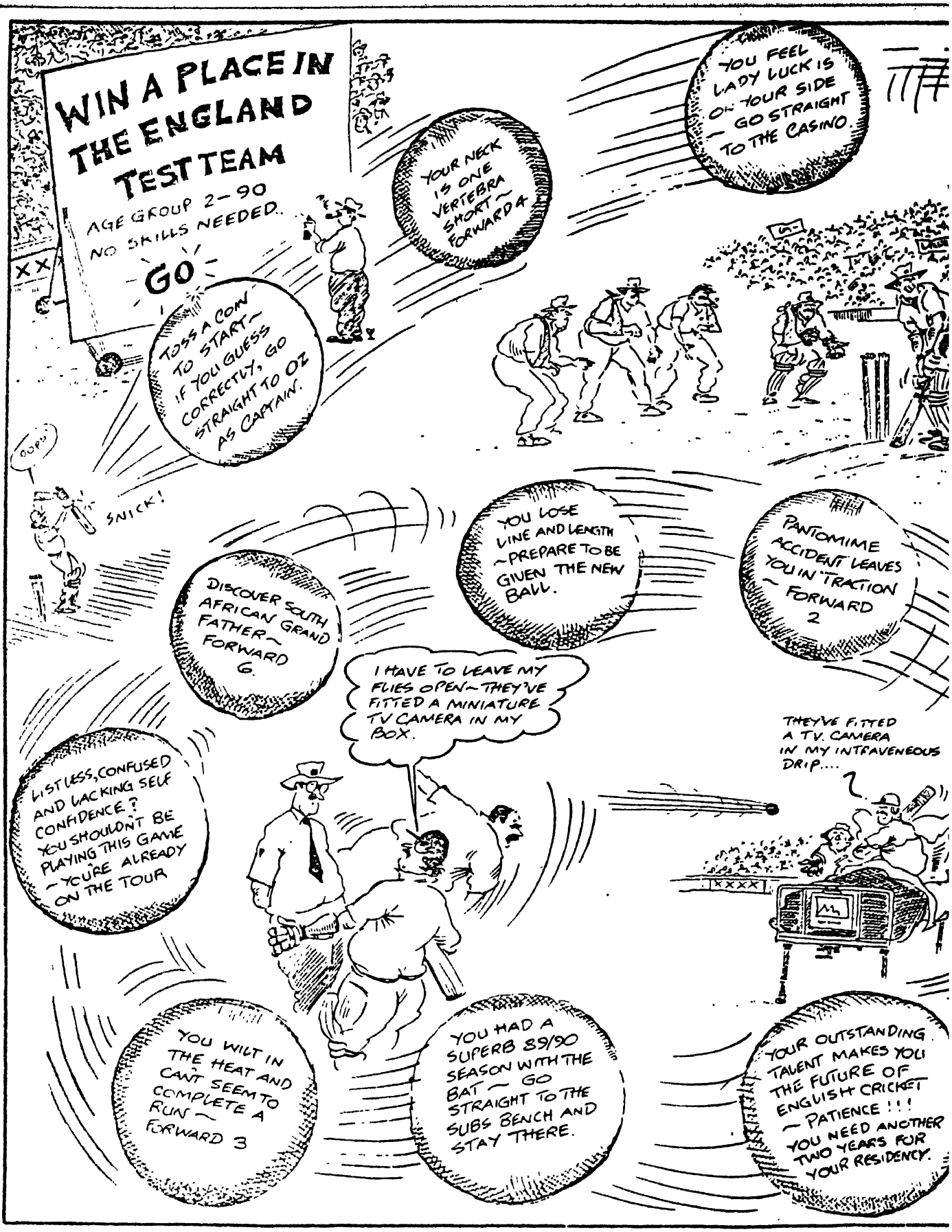
So, you can realise how serious we were.

Ever since I became coach of Eindhoven, the club has played eight exhibition matches. We lost only once, in Barcelona. Even though that's quite an impressive track record, on Sunday evening, immediately after the Calcutta match, I received phone calls from Eindhoven asking why the goal margin was not as big as the previous matches. And I had to explain it all. Can you believe that?

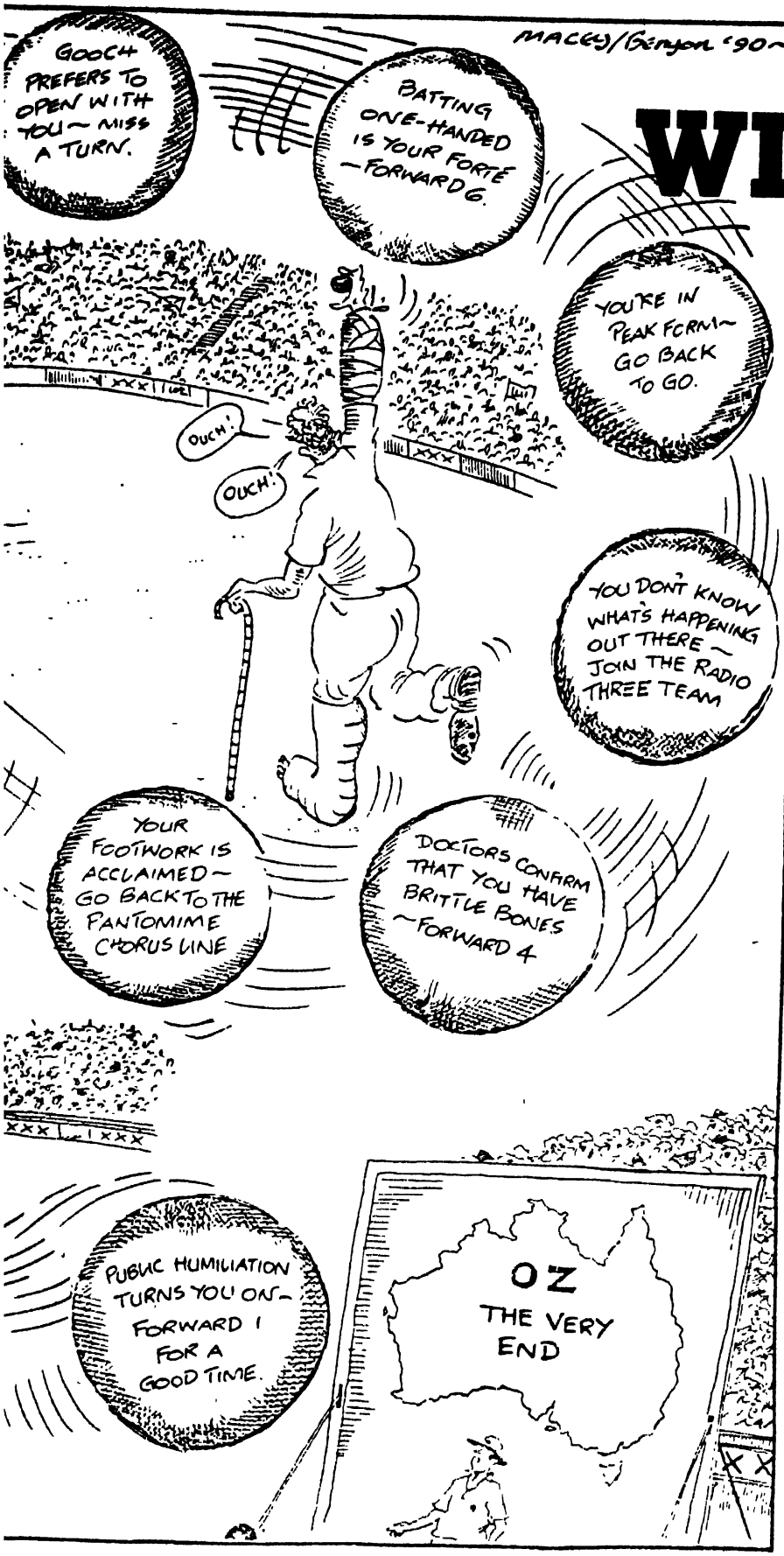
It seemed in India a lot of people expected us to show total football, simply because the idea itself is traditionally associated with Dutch soccer. What they did not know is that total football still remains more a concept than reality. The only man who had the vision and the resources to put it into practice was Rinus Michels. But then one must remember in his time he had players like Johan Cruyff, Neeskens in their prime. In fact, he had eleven complete footballers in his squad. Where can you find such players now? Some of Michels' boys sent risky passes even in their own defence zone. But that kind of football is no longer in vogue. In fact, we cannot afford to play that system anymore.

You must have noticed that none of my boys ever resorted to rough tactics in any of the matches. On the other hand one of the Nigerians in the Calcutta match even spat on one of my players. That was not fair. Whenever I send my boys into the ground, I tell them play well, play beautifully. Entertain the connoisseur.

Coming on such a short and hectic tour, it is impossible for me to diagnose your problems. But I think there are serious organisational lapses on the part of those who rule the game. I suggest you give a lot of emphasis on school football, like England does. Make soccer compulsory in schools just as we have done. For, that is where talent begins to blossom.


WIN A PLACE IN THE ENGLAND TEST TEAM
AGE GROUP 2-90
NO SKILLS NEEDED.
GO
XX
YOUR NECK IS ONE VERTEBRA SHORT — FORWARD 4
YOU FEEL LADY LUCK IS ON YOUR SIDE — GO STRAIGHT TO THE CASINO.
TOSS A COIN TO START — IF YOU GUESS CORRECTLY, GO STRAIGHT TO OZ AS CAPTAIN.
OOPS!
SNICK!
YOU LOSE LINE AND LENGTH — PREPARE TO BE GIVEN THE NEW BALL.
PANTOMIME ACCIDENT LEAVES YOU IN TRACTION — FORWARD 2
DISCOVER SOUTH AFRICAN GRAND FATHER — FORWARD 6.
I HAVE TO LEAVE MY FLIES OPEN — THEY'VE FITTED A MINIATURE TV CAMERA IN MY BOX.
THEY'VE FITTED A TV. CAMERA IN MY INTRAVENEOUS DRIP....
LISTLESS, CONFUSED AND LACKING SELF CONFIDENCE? YOU SHOULDN'T BE PLAYING THIS GAME — YOU'RE ALREADY ON THE TOUR
YOU WILT IN THE HEAT AND CAN'T SEEM TO COMPLETE A RUN — FORWARD 3
YOU HAD A SUPERB 89/90 SEASON WITH THE BAT — GO STRAIGHT TO THE SUBS BENCH AND STAY THERE.
YOUR OUTSTANDING TALENT MAKES YOU THE FUTURE OF ENGLISH CRICKET — PATIENCE!!! YOU NEED ANOTHER TWO YEARS FOR YOUR RESIDENCY.

WIZARDS IN AUS



A board game ridiculing the England cricket team for their failure during their recent tour of Australia



'BREAKFAST WIMBLEDON'

YOU may not even miss R. Tanner, absent from Wimbledon after 11 generally productive years, but for early awakening tennis degenerates in America, and the folks responsible for televising the Big W back to the States, he will forever be enshrined as St Roscoe.

St. Roscoe's call of nature—a wrong number as it turned out—was the answer to the big-dollar prayers of the NBC-TV task force just five years ago when Wimbledon made its first



significant impression on the colonials of North America. Until Roscoe Tanner's gallant five-set holding action, against the champion Bjorn Borg in the 1979 final, Americans could take Wimbledon on telly or leave it alone—mostly the latter. Although the final has been beamed to the United States for more than 20 years, it was, prior to 1979, delivered in a limp taped-and-condensed form, seen five or six hours after the fact on a Saturday afternoon. By the time the telecast appeared the result was generally known. As my Uncle Studley says "This is as thrilling as marrying a woman after you've lived with her for a couple of years."

The delayed concept may seem as ghastly to you as it is, and possibly unbelievable that Wimbledon wouldn't be seen live. But the tournament, despite its pre-eminence, wasn't considered commercially strong enough to risk showing as it happened: that is, starting at 9 a.m. in the Eastern US and 6 a.m. on the West Coast.

Presenting tennis at those hours on a Saturday morning seemed as reasonable as piping a Golda Meir documentary into Damascus. The viewing audience would be about the size of Twiggy's waistline. True, American TV sets are extremely well attended on Saturday mornings, but then the fans are juveniles and the fare cartoons. Could tennis possibly go up against Loony Tunes and survive? As likely as Tom devouring Jerry, was the conventional thought.

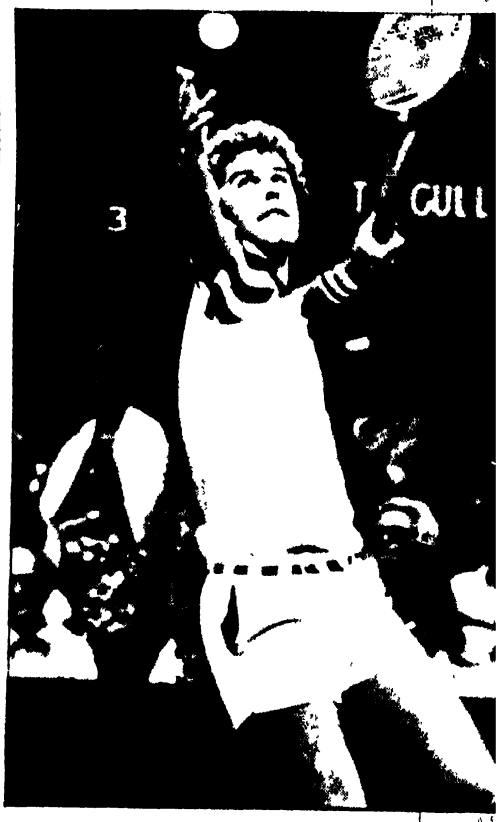
Yet the executive producer of NBC Sport at the time, a big, young, persuasive guy, named Don Ohlmeyer, boldly believed otherwise. Ohlmeyer felt that the immediacy of allowing Americans to eavesdrop on a Centre Court battle in progress, and watch every stroke, would overcome the obstacles, chiefly the American sporting public's unfamiliarity with Wimbledon and indeed life in all places at such an unsympathetic hour on a non-working day.

Nevertheless, Ohlmeyer sold it to his superiors, and a minion, Robert Basche, coined a phrase that has entered the American sporting lexicon: 'Breakfast at Wimbledon'.

THE only consoling thought when Tanner came through was his American origin. But he had the charisma of a cigar store Indian and visions of a quick knockout...

But what kind of breakfast? A beigel and a cup of coffee would have been more than enough to get you though last year's dawn execution of Chris Lewis by John McEnroe. A final such as that would probably have finished off 'Breakfast at Wimbledon' before it got out of the frying pan in 1979.

What NBC desired was a match as long and satisfying as a good old English breakfast of kippers, porridge, eggs, sausage and bacon, plenty of toast and marmalade, bolstered by innumerable cups of tea—a match to linger over (garnished with innumerable revenue-yielding commercials), and one that might even intrude on lunch.



Tanner is also remembered for his big serves

But despite the lack of enthusiasm at upper network levels the commitment was nevertheless made to an innovative Wimbledon-as-is production. However, as the climactic Saturday neared, with Borg the archangel of Centre Court looking more divinely



Roscoe Tanner saved Wimbledon as far as the American TV viewers were concerned

anointed than ever, Ohlmeyer and his NBC brigade began to sweat and grope like Bjorn's victims. Naturally we wanted Bjorn on one side of the net aiming for his fourth successive title, but nobody was cheering Roscoe Tanner on to the other spot.

Early first choice was Jimmy Connors, but, strangely, he got seeded third, to be squashed by Borg in the semis. Second seed John McEnroe would have been fine, but Tim Gullikson evicted him in the fourth round. A rematch of the glorious 5-set 1977 semi, Vitas Gerulaitis's near miss against Borg, would have been well received, only Pat Dupre got rid of Vitas at the outset. NBC had allotted six hours of time to the broadcast, and Tanner was hardly anybody's idea of a time-killing antidote to the Swede.

The only consoling thought when Tanner came through was his American origin. But he had the charisma of a cigar store Indian and visions of a quick knockout, audience withdrawal, and all that time to fill made the NBC camp tense as the traditional 2 p.m. starting hour approached. Tanner, in his little orphan Annie coiffure, as tightly permed as ourr nerves, didn't have a prayer to put the fight on Borg. But does any saint-to-be arise knowing this will

A lucrative pay day for doubles winners Ray Moore (left) and Roscoe Tanner. The left handed Tanner also served his way to the $22,880 singles prize

be the day he earns his wings?

Apprehension was the theme as Donald Dell and I, the commentators, walked towards the broadcast booth with Ohlmeyer. Puffing on a cigarette, the boss said to Dell (who was also Tanner's agent), 'Can your guy at least win a set?'

'I woldn't bet much on it,' Dell replied frankly. Tanner's wrongness as a finalist wasn't the only problem. Ohlmeyer had just learned that the All England Club wouldn't budge on the starting time for his grand experiment. customarily the players marched on at 1.50 with the first ball to be struck in anger at two precisely. That was no good for NBC, scheduled to come on the air at two, with about five minutes of build-up, plus the necessary and lucrative commecials.

Ohlmeyer had assumed the AEC would be amenable to a five-minute delay, which has since been granted. Wrong, said the clubbies.

But Saint Roscoe saved the day, at both ends. Dell got to him a few minutes before the walk-on and explained NBC's predicament. 'Tie your shoes a lot just after the knock up', was one suggestion. Roscoe improved on that. As he and Borg were making the walk from the changing room, St Roscoe stopped, saying he heard a call of nature which couldn't be put on hold. Could they deny a condemned man his last wish? He vanished to a loo where he remained, though the call was wrong number, for the crucial five minutes.

But he wasn't finished with his patriotic stint on behalf of the homeland network. Once the match began tardily, but with the requisite precis fully shown, Roscoe began to play like a saint. When Tanner won the first set the cheering from the NBC production unit could be heard in Calais. It was going to be a match, not a slaughter so much so that



the Yank damned near won in five sets.

'Breakfast at Wimbledon' was a critical and financial success, and got tastier with the McEnroe/Borg epics of 1980/81 and Connors' five-set unseating of McEnroe in 1982. By the time we at last got a clinker in Lewis-McEnroe, 'Breakfast at Wimbledon' was so well established that the men's final was moved to Sunday and even the Ladies' final gets the live treatment on Saturday

It's a double breakfast portion now, but we wouldn't be doing it at all if Saint Roscoe hadn't held off a couple of dragons—traditional start and Bjorn Borg—five years ago. ●

RECIPE FOR AN AMERICAN WORLD CUP:

SHAKEN, NOT STIRRED, WITH A TWIST



An open letter to the United States of America, host of the 1994 World Cup

Time is short, but the soccer ball is still rolling your way. Despite abundant rumours that plans to play the 1994 World Cup in the United States will be abandoned and the tournament diverted to Italy or Germany, I believe the show will go on.

Indeed, it would be absurd to say at this stage that much good will not spring from this union, born of the lure of corporate dollars rather than of the values of the world's most popular game.

Now is a time to hold our nerve, to trust in American flair for the big occasion, for salesmanship and organisation. It was never realistic to expect a nation of 250 million, with no roots in the game and no regular outdoor league, to warm to an event still beyond its horizon.

When the World Cup has drawn closer, and when the feel for a major happening has shaped up, then will be the time to gauge enthusiasm. But I will be astonished if the your immigrant population alone does not flood the ticket market.

We are not, after all, such alien races on this



The referee not only points to the penalty spot but also sends the player off

planet. Americans may not have grown up with soccer, but where their forefathers came from this simple, addictive, resilient game was and still is a part of life.

THE fact is that our baby will, for one month in the baseball season of '94, be in your hands. Please care for it

I'm confident that we can do a trade. If we rather backward people in the arts of presentation come with an openness to learn, will you try to share the ethos that makes soccer the No 1 passion in 165 nations?

To achieve this two-way pull, we might have to ask you to take, with a large pinch of salt, the utterances of soccer's international governing body, FIFA. Its president, Joao Havelange, and his men are entrepreneurs. They feel it is their duty to keep chasing an ever bigger marketplace for ever more millions of players, and profits.

Fine, business is business. Not so fine is the bargaining Havelange keeps attempting with the basic tenets of the game. He advocates splitting playing time into four quarters (to enhance U S television advertising rights) and enlarging the goals (to pander to those who reduce a game of 11 versus 11 into a simpleton's O K Corral shootout)

Both changes are crass The first would destroy the rhythm and pattern of a game of two halves; the second would presuppose that goals are the game.

They are not. Goals are the end product of a sport pitting attack against defense— a game that, we are told, 15 million young Americans play despite the fact that the pledged U S major outdoor league for 1992 appears remote

But those youths, and certainly many Americans, thoroughly appreciate that soccer has an almost primitive feeling of touch and movement It is a bewitching thing to behold a great player in the outfield attempting to impose his will on that round ball at his feet (hence football, not soccer) Dribbling the ball, controlling it, passing it, and challenging are embodied in a contest, team against team, scoring or not.

THAT is why, from Brazil to Bulgaria, from China to Cameroon, a skilled 0-0 match can be recognised as more rewarding than a slapdash game heavy with goals but light on quality.

So why did U.S. observers in Italy last summer report that so many tied matches represented a boredom America simply could never sell? Partly because FIFA's concept and its timing brings out the worst in teams

That view should, if honesty prevails, be brought home to Havelange at the end of this year FIFA has put Michel Platini onto a working group seeking ways to overcome negative play. and Platini, a visionary of the outfield before retiring to manage the French national team,

FIFA's FAIR-PLAY FOUL-UP

ONCE again questions have arisen of just what is a professional foul and when should it be punished by a player's expulsion?

FIFA might well be bending their minds to this problem. The current furore over the professional foul began last month by the sending off of the Arsenal centre-half Tony Adams at Luton. It shows no sign of abating.

Many years ago now, the English League bravely and constructively introduced—unilaterally—a new dispensation. If a defender brought down a forward who, in the view of the referee, was going through to score, then automatically he was sent off.

The so called "professional foul," an absolute euphemism, would no longer be available to a cynical and beaten defender. Chop a man down, and the offender would be banished.

It all seemed a little too good to be true, and so it proved. Joao Havelange, the durable but forever controversial and criticised President of FIFA, a man whose original sport was water polo, heavily interviewed.

The Football League he decreed had acted without FIFA sanction and must repeal their new law immediately. There was nothing for it, alas, but to obey.

So for many years past, the professional foul has still been available to the cynical defender. A forward who has used his speed and skill to get through a defence can be brought down within sight of a goal, and all he will gain is a generally unproductive free kick.

Things suddenly and unexpectedly changed on the eve of the 1990 World Cup. All at once, and with absurdly scant notice, Havelange and his FIFA cronies decided something must be done about dirty play.

The rule against the professional foul was taken abruptly on board. Players who offended in this manner would, in the World Cup, be sent off. Well, as we all know, some of them were, some of them were not. Matches like that between Egypt and Holland showed the wildest anomalies.

So did the opening game between the Cameroons and Argentina when Michel Vautret, for long a valued and respected referee, seemed totally to lose his bearings under the new FIFA instructions, sending off a Cameroon player for a foul on Claudio Caniggia of Argentina which seemed almost trivial.

The World Cup over, FIFA embodied the new dispensation into the laws of the game. In future, if a referee deemed that a defensive foul had thwarted a player who was going on to score, he was off. Inside or outside the penalty box, it made no difference.

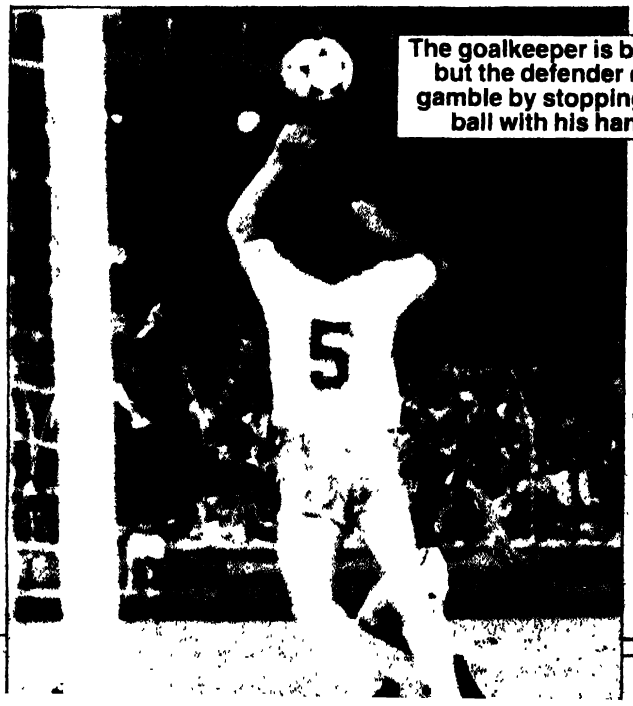
This was the great departure from the English rule. A foul in the penalty box should automatically mean a penalty which, for the Football League, was sufficient punishment in itself. Not for FIFA. If the referee thought a foul in the box had prevented a goal, then off went the offender.

As Tony Adams went off at Luton.

Arsenal second in the League, were a goal up against Luton. Ian Dowie, the Luton and Northern Ireland centre-forward, got past Tony Adams on the appalling plastic pitch. Adams could not turn in time—who can, on that ghastly surface?—and when he did manage to recover, brought Dowie down.

Philip Don, the referee, not only gave penalty to Luton, from which they scored but sent Adams off into the bargain.

There was a lot of sympathy for Adams, a lot of criticism for Don. But was either justified? Theirs not to reason why, you might say about referees. For the new FIFA ruling is crystal clear. When an attacker is fouled, and the referee thinks



The goalkeeper is beaten but the defender can gamble by stopping the ball with his hand

he is in a position to score, then inside or outside the penalty box; the offender must be expelled.

Mr Don is one of the younger English referees in the English League and in my view very much one of the better ones. He has plenty of guts, as he showed a couple of weeks earlier at Liverpool when he refused the home side a penalty against Manchester City in front of the notorious Kop.

Liverpool at Anfield have gained from many a contentious penalty, but Mr Don most emphatically wasn't going to have it. What he did at Luton was his duty, no more, no less What we have to ask is whether such a duty is fair and rational?

I don't think it is. Let us take up one of the most manifest anomalies in the FIFA ruling—handling the ball does not constitute a foul which demands expulsion.

Why not? Presumably the sub-text must be that it is not, in itself, violent. Yet it is an appallingly unfair and cynical kind of foul. A ball is sailing into the net, the goalkeeper is beaten, and a defender on the goal-line punches the ball away.

In Rugby Union, there is such a thing as a penalty try. When the referee thinks a try would have been scored had a foul not been committed, it is within his remit to award a try. But a soccer referee cannot award a goal.

So the defender has a good chance of profit from his sin. For the award is not that of a goal, but that of a penalty kick—which may or may not be converted.

The penalty kicker may put the ball outside the posts, or over the bar. The goalkeeper may bring off a save. In either case, a certain goal has been averted. And the offender, the man who has handled the ball, still stays on the field. Justice? A mockery of it.

Havelange has never shown much sensitivity or insight into soccer. He does not seem really to understand it. Had he done so, he would long ago have incorporated the professional foul rule invented by the English League, he would have given the World Cup '90 referees decent notice and he would have thought out the problems of fouls inside and outside the penalty box.

For what of a foul in the box when the player did NOT se[illegible] in a position to score? A penalty kick, in all conscience and all cases, is surely punishment enough. The whole point of the professional foul was to punish offences on the edge of the box.

Syndicated by P A News Features

BY BRIAN GLANVILLE

opposes the myopic remedy of enlarged goals. During the World Cup, he threw his arms into the air in Bologna and lamented. "These guys are too tired. It is too hot and humid, the World Cup is held at the wrong time of year."

His point, from personal experience in Mexico four years previously, is that squeezing a 52-match tournament into an invariably sweltering summer month is sheer purgatory.

Players are worn out after 10-month seasons for their clubs. They arrive injured and with their energy at its lowest. And then, because FIFA's World Cup is a 24-team TV shindig, they are grilled under the sun and become cautious because the system favors survival.

Will Platini dare tell FIFA what he said in Bologna? Could FIFA negotiate a new time slot with clubs that pay millions wages to players so that the showpiece is held at the beginning, not the end, of the season?

Even if he does, there is no way rectification will arrive by 1994. Already, 32 American cities are offering stadiums from which FIFA will select 11, the stadiums will then need "minor" modifications, such as grass fields.

Then there is the vexing problem of the unwanted U.S. television rights. At the start of last year, FIFA had boasted that "incredible but true, football has set the U.S. alight." The reality was that, when the U.S. team opposed Italy's team in Rome, not 1 million American households tuned in to watch.

FIFA's formula is television-advertising sport. Crucial to that is perimeter advertising that, after interminable wrangling, will be ruled by a new company, "World Cup '94 Marketing Inc. Revenues." The profits will go 50-50, to World Cup USA 94 and ISL, the Adidas-controlled marketing partner of FIFA.

And who will try to make America competitive at its own jamboree? Franz Beckenbauer, the team manager of 1990 champions West Germany, has flirted with taking on the task. But, as the year ended, he said, "I don't mind a challenge, but I don't fight a lost cause. It was in my mind to join the American World Cup effort but when I paid a visit I saw that it's already too late to build a team for '94." Beckenbauer has often waxed and waned on this subject, that seemed to be a pretty definitive statement.

The latest rumor [illegible] suggests that Liverpool's team manager, Kenny Dalglish may coach the U.S. sequel. Dalglish says nothing. Indeed, he is a private individual rarely willing to divulge his team's lineup an hour before a match. A winner, for sure, but with the American open door to the locker room in mind it may be worth checking why this story wasn't leaked on April 1.

BY ROB HUGHES

V. ANAND

Ready For Battle

PARTAB RAMCHAND, MADRAS

VISWANATHAN ANAND is phlegmatic by nature Nothing ever seems to unduly disturb or excite him One would think that there would be some change in his demanour or his lifestyle on the eve of his World Candidate's match against Alexey Dreev of the USSR After all, for all that he has achieved in the past, this is his biggest challenge yet In fact, simplistically put, he is only four opponents away from playing Garry Kasparov for the world title Yet for India's only Grandmaster, the Candidates match could well be just another game played at home with mother Sushila who has played such a great role in nurturing her talented son's early interest in the sport

That does not mean that Anand has not prepared adequately or is complacent He has made a careful study of his opponent's game as well his own having worked assiduously with the help of his present second Ferdinand Hellers of Sweden, and his former second Holland's Van Der Wiel But in his own cool, calm and calculated manner, a trait that has become his hallmark, he asserts, "There is no change in my lifestyle. I will take it as it comes"

Anand is neither a pessimist nor an optimist he is a realist Asked about his chances he refuses to make predictions "I have prepared well and I am confident It is really difficult to go any further than that,for both me and Dreev are first time candidates".

Indeed they are, and that is what makes this tie among the most intriguing among all the other matches to be played around the world at about the same time Dreev born in December 1969 is only six months older than Anand. As per the latest FIDE list (January 1, 1991) Dreev is ranked 17 to Anand's 14, and his ELO rating is 2625 to Anand's 2635 These facts alone appear to ensure a keen contest at the Hotel Trident in south Madras over the next week or two

Anand and Dreev have met twice on the international circuit but that was a long time ago, when both were sub-juniors In the World Under 16 Championship at Paris in 1984,Anand and Dreev played a draw Later that year in Finland during the World Junior Championship, they again played a drawn game Dreev, incidentally, finished second in that competition

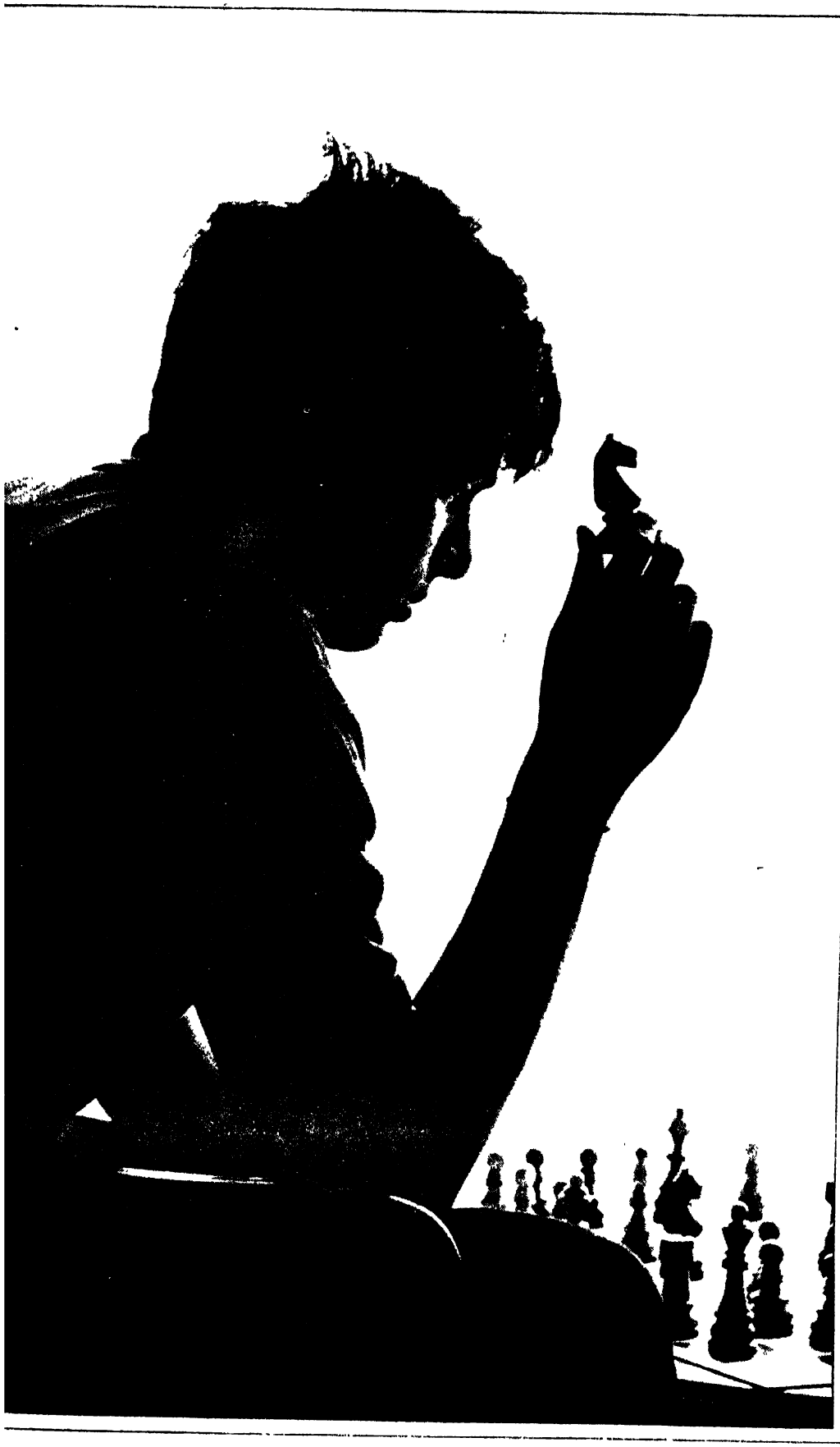
Will playing at home be an an advantage? "I suppose the plus and minus points all balance out in the end and the net result will be neutral" Said Anand "It will be an advantage since parental support will be on hand I know almost everybody The atmosphere and surroundings will be familiar On the other hand I will be under some pressure playing at home and I am aware that people will expect me to win I will try not to think about such things, try not to put pressure on myself and say to myself that I just want to win"

Madras,of course, is perhaps the right place to hold such an important event Not only is it Anand's hometown but also the chess capital of the country When FIDE granted the match to India at the Chess Olympiad at Novisaad last month, the Tamil Nadu Chess Association secretary, DV Sundar was quick to act On the TNCA's request the AICF allotted the match to Madras

It is the first time that a Candidates match is being held in India and only the second time in Asia Not unexpectedly, Sundar is excited about the prospect "We have left no stone unturned to make the organisation of this important event a success. we have a budget of about Rs 12 lakhs and three or four sponsors have ready come forward to meet the amount "

Madras : ready Go Anand!●

To put it simplistically, Anand is only four opponents away from playing Garry Kasparov for the world title. Yet he is so composed, that this Candidates' match could be just another game played at home with his mother Sushila



THE RULES

THE Viswanathan Anand -Alexey Dreev World Candidates Chess tie to be held in Madras from Jan 23 is only one among the seven matches to be conducted at about the same time in various cities in the world.

The Six other pairings are: J. Timman (Netherlands) 2630 vs R. Huebner (Germany) 2620 from Jan 23 at Sarajevo (Yugoslavia), V Ivanchuk (USSR) 2695 vs L Yudasin (USSR) 2645 from Jan 23 at Riga (USSR), B Gelfand (USSR) 2700 vs P Nikolic (YQGO) 2620 from Jan 23 at Sarajevo V Korchnoi (Swiss) 2615 vs Gyula Saz (Hungary) 2605 from Jan 23 at Wijk Aan Zee (Netherlands) N Short (England) 2635 vs J Speelman (England) 2610 from Jan 23 at London S. Dolmatov (USSR) 2620 vs EA Yusupov (USSR) 2605 from Jan 23 at Wijk Aan Zee (Netherlands)

The rules each match will be over best of eight games (till last year it was best of six games) The winner of a match is the first player to score 4 5 points If the scores are level after eight games, a new draw of lots will be held and two sudden death tie break games will be played If the scores are still level then another draw of lots will be held before two further sudden death tie break games are played Two tie break games will be played every day at a time limit of 60 moves in 45 minutes and 20 moves every 15 minutes thereafter If the scores are still level after the second series of the tie break games, the players will draw lots to determine the winner

INTERVIEW

DUTCH COURAGE!

World champions Holland sent an under-21 team to play in the Indira Gandhi tournament held at Delhi. Their coach Ger Eikelboom explains the importance of long-term planning

Why Holland are world champions and India languishing in world hockey was evident from the 5th Indira Gandhi international hockey tournament at Delhi. The Dutch are meticulously planning for the future while we don't look beyond our nose They used the tournament to prepare their team for the 1993 Junior World Cup and nurture talent for the next senior world cup in 1994. They sent an Under-21 team to gain valuable international exposure in the tournament at Delhi Such long term and systematic planning is a mirage in Indian hockey. In India, junior teams are only formed when an international age group tournament is around the corner

Sportsworld: Why did Holland send an Under-21 team to Delhi, knowing that it would jeopardise your chances of winning the tournament?

GER EIKELBOOM: In Holland we prepare for the future Our aim is the Olympics and World Cup We treat other international tournaments as opportunities to experiment and build for the future We would have liked to bring some of our senior players. However, they have had a tiring and busy schedule last year, the World Cup, BMW tournament and Champions trophy. So we decided to give them rest and look to the future We knew that with an Under 21 team, it would not be possible to win the Indira Gandhi tournament, but we are looking for long term gains

What is the average age of your team?

A. The average age of the team is 19. This team is being prepared for the European Under 21 championships in 1992 and the World junior championships in 1993. So five of our players are in the 18-19 years age group and others in the 19-20 age group Most of our players are teenagers, as we want them ready for big time hockey by 1992-93



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Since when have you been with this squad?

We assembled a squad of 30 juniors in June 1990. This squad has been chosen from amongst them Most of our players are students. I chart out individual assignments and physical fitness schedules for each player They train with their clubs. On Sundays we try and play a match with top Dutch club teams. Prior to this tournament we trained as a squad thrice a week.

Do your famous football clubs support hockey?

No, we have separate hockey clubs. The best known and most popular are Kampong of Amsterdam and Bloemendal. Both clubs have about 1,400 boys and girls as members. Priority wise, hockey is not all that popular in Holland. It would rate 10th in the popularity list. So we do not have many youngsters playing hockey. Our aim as coaches is to nurture effectively the best talent we have.

As a coach what do you emphasise on for the players?

I lay a lot of emphasis on skill, especially trapping, accurate passing and running with the ball. Physical fitness they have to develop on their own. Tactics are taught later.

Your impressions of Indian hockey?

Indian players are very skillful but the organisation of your game in India does not seem to be good. Talking to Indian players, I gather there is a lot of regionalism in selection of the Indian team.

Why is it that Holland have so many exceptional penalty corner experts?

(laughing) Paul Litjens and Floris Bovelander are role models for young Dutch players. Every club in Holland has at least one good penalty corner expert. Competition is intense. In my club, Hattem, we have a penalty corner expert Kooke who is of international class but cannot get into the Dutch team. ●

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Which are the only two father-son combinations to have played one-day International cricket?
2. In a biathlon relay, if a participant fails to hit a target, what is the penalty?
3. In water-polo, what is the minimum depth of water required?
4. "An old Indian proverb, related to me by William Walker, says that, If X and a cobra confront you on the road, you kill the most dangerous one first: in this case X. Though not qualified to uphold this as an axiom or dispute it as slander, ever since I witnessed their fervour in a Test match in 1956, I have placed X among the world's most volatile cricket watchers." Sure enough, the author Ray Robinson is half-joking. But who is the X this humourous cricket writer is referring to?
5. What is known as 'Boot Hill'?
6. Who is the only African to have won Wimbledon?
7. Who forms the primary club?
8. Which Indian wicketkeeper, called on to bowl casually in a Ranji Trophy match, performed a hat-trick?
9. He is of Indian origin, has played Test cricket for the West Indies and is the captain of the US cricket team. Who is he?
10. What is clay pigeon shooting otherwise known as?
11. In the 1964 Olympics, yachting had a very special winner. Who?
12. What is Octapush?
13. What is so special about the 1960 Wimbledon singles final?
14. "Cricket? It civilizes people and creates good gentlemen. I want everyone to play cricket in Zimbabwe. I want ours to be a nation of gentlemen." Who said this?
15. He has played the American football league and is perhaps the only US President to have watched Test cricket. Who is he?

ANSWERS

1. Don Pringle (East Africa) and Derek Pringle (England); Colin and Chris Cowdery both England.
2. An extra lap of 200 mts has to be run.
3. One metre.
4. The cricket fans of Bengal.
5. Short leg in cricket.
6. Jaroslav Drobny (Egypt). He is a native of Czechoslovakia.
7. Those who have been out first ball in any type of cricket.
8. Prabir Sen (Bengal).
9. Sew Shivnaraine.
10. Trap shooting.
11. The Greek King, King Constantine.
12. Underwater hockey.
13. It was the first time two left handers-Neale Fraser and Rod Laver were involved.
14. The Zimbabwean President, Robert Mugabe.
15. Dwight Eisenhower.

THIS QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY:
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RATING TEST

Above 15: Wish you were part of our team
Between 10 and 13: Not too bad.
Below 10: Sportsworld reading recommended.

All answers sent in by the contributor

GARY LINEKER AGE NOT

The striker whose goals took England to the semi finals in Italy has his sights set on 1992...despite his 30 years

GARY LINEKER has just turned 30. He does not look it, any more than Cliff Richard looks 50, and likewise shows no sign of diminishing powers; indeed it is a measure of his quality that he has come to be taken for granted.

The last season proved it. What caught the country's imagination? Gazza and his tears. But Lineker was England's saviour, if any individual can be so described. There would have been no post-World Cup boom but for his earning and converting the penalties that averted defeat by Cameroon; however much we may have warmed to the Africans, headline writers like nothing more than a wallow in "shame"

This is not to understate Paul Gascoigne's contribution—his pass made the second penalty in the quarter-final, and his inspired run through the Belgian ranks had done much to get England that far—merely to recall the realities. It is pertinent to add that Gascoigne and his 30 million sympathisers would not have been able briefly to contemplate bitter-sweet implications but for Lineker's goal against the Germans.



Yet Lineker is expected to score. While one always hesitates before using the word "great" about a contemporary footballer, in my view 1990 sent Lineker to the hall of fame. Ten goals in 11 matches at the highest level, the final stages of the World Cup, brooks little argument. And it may surprise admirers of his happy-go-lucky image to learn that he returned from Italy disappointed at having failed to top the charts in successive tournaments; that

AR



would have been a first.

Despite a tendency towards cheerful philosophising which suggests he may have been put on earth as an antidote to Shanklyism—"We didn't play very well," he said after the 1988 European Championship, "but it's not as if we committed a crime or anything"—Lineker remains intensely ambitious.

Gary Lineker has just turned 30. He does not look it, any more than Cliff Richard looks 50, and likewise shows no sign of diminishing powers; indeed it is a measure of his quality that he came to be taken for granted

He wanted the fuel of the England captaincy, which Graham Taylor provided, and admits already to be "burning" with a desire to lead his country in the 1992 finals. "We are strong enough, and young





If someone like Peter Beardsley had been enlisted to assist Lineker at Tottenham, things might have been very different for the club

enough," he says, "to do very well."

His prospects must be kept under review, because 31-year-old strikers are historically thin on the high ground, but current evidence indicates that

What caught the country's imagination? Gazza and his tears. But Lineker was England's saviour, of any individual can be so described...

Lineker's travels have equipped him with sufficient knowledge to compensate for fading pace. Two goals in his first three matches as England captain, while adjusting to the tactical demands of partnership with Steve Bull against Hungary and Poland and a new attacking formation in Ireland, were encouraging enough.

If only Tottenham provided a more stable base. Shortly after he arrived from Barcelona, Chris Waddle was sold to Marseille for £4.25m. He sought reassurance, and was told the money would be ploughed into the team. Had it been—had, say, Mark Wright been added to the defence, and Peter Beardsley put alongside Lineker—Spurs might be plausible candidates for the championship. Instead they are looking for investors.

Torino, who offered £3m for Lineker after the World Cup, were resisted but he is prepared to move abroad again. A frequent victim of Johan Cruyff's designs at Barcelona., he said recently: "I certainly wasn't put off by my experiences in Spain." This was on Desert Island Discs: Lineker, whose range of

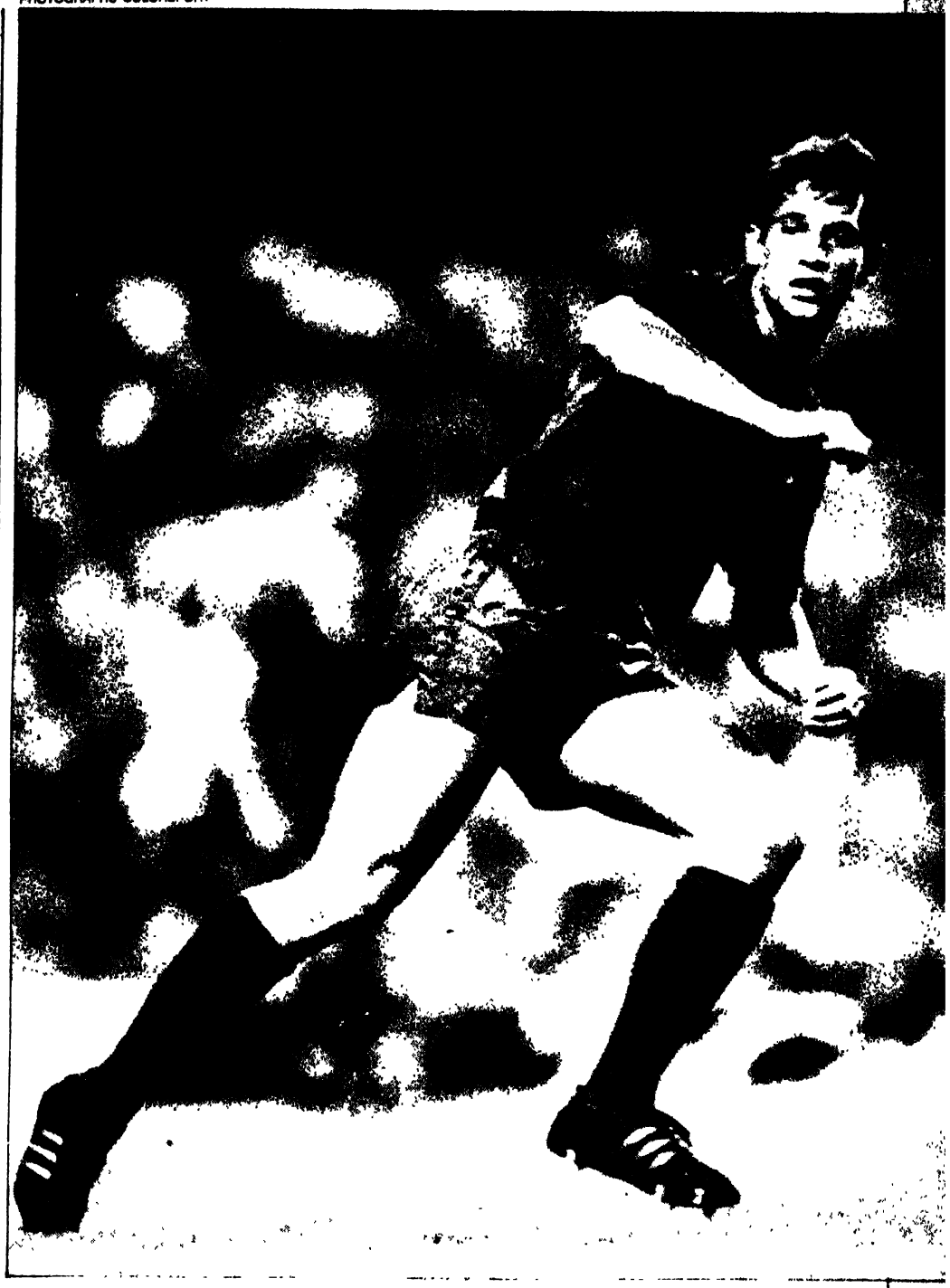
conversation is broader than one is accustomed to encountering in football, has been popping up in places where you might expect to find a Brearley, or at least a Coe.

At the Oxford Union, speaking against the motion that "It is better to commentate than participate", he gave the example of sex. He charmed the all-party Parliamentary committee on football and was not at all put out when the mother of a peer, upon being introduced to the captain of England, inquired: "At what?" Later, at the bar, he surprised the attendant, who happened to be from Bilbao, by outlining the party's requirements in Spanish.

Lineker took full advantage of life in Barcelona, where he and his wife Michelle politely declined invitations from British residents in favour of integrating into Catalan society. His agent, Jon Holmes (a model for a profession infested with amateurish opportunists), regards him as a dream client whose prosperity should survive his boots' consignment to a glass case.

Most players who enter football management have little choice if they want to remain rich and famous. Lineker may be tempted, but the signs are that he may find his way to a leading administrative role, following the path of Franz Beckenbauer, who is being groomed (not that the Kaiser needs much of that) to take over as chief executive of the German FA.

PHOTOGRAPHS: COLORSPORT



In the meantime there is a lot of football to be played and a hankering after medals to be satisfied: a couple, obtained at Barcelona, hardly reflect his career. But he will continue to balance ambition with a sense of fun. How did it feel, Sue Lawley asked to take those momentous penalties against Cameroon? "Like a duck," he said. "I was calm on the surface but flapping like hell underneath." ●

Most players who enter football management have little choice if they want to remain rich and famous. Lineker may be tempted...

So, the basic question: how good is Ajay Jadeja? As good as anyone else, says Kapil Dev in support, and you can't get a better 'reco' than that in Indian cricket.

THERE was a time the services Ranji team was a major force in domestic cricket. A formidable combination of talented players, Services regularly contributed players to the Indian team and reached far in Ranji Trophy. Persons like Hemu Adhikari, Gadkari, Surendranath, Muddaih were accomplished players and then there was Bal Dani, a tiger, who even as a national selector continued to lead the Ranji team!
Unfortunately the days of prosperity for the Services have long passed.



Navjot Sidhu: celebrity status

SERVICE BREAK

Unfortunately the days of prosperity for the Services has long passed. Today, it is at best a mediocre Ranji side struggling desperately to stay afloat. It has never qualified for the Ranji knockouts, none of its players is anywhere near Indian selection...

It has never qualified for the Ranji knockouts, none of its players is anywhere near Indian selection-in fact, it is only the odd name that strays into the Duleep side. Whereas the team once evoked respect, even terror, among adversaries.

They are a most 'garib' side, sneered a Delhi player. Any of Delhi's better clubs would defeat them. The Services players are honest triers, they work very hard, but don't have it in them to compete with professional cricketers. Just look at their performance. Perhaps, it is no disgrace to be slaughtered by Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, but how do you lose to Himachal Pradesh? That too by permitting them almost 350 runs in the fourth innings of the game. In a tight situation, regardless of the opposition, they just cave in.

The reasons for Services' decline are easy to find. Says Gajendra Singh Shakawat, secretary, Services sports board, an off-spinner who played in Duleep Trophy: "The traditional nurseries of Services cricket like the NDA have dried up. The inflow of talent has stopped." The army itself, as a career, has lost attraction and the problem becomes more acute because job opportunities for cricketers have grown phenomenally.

What then is the way out for the Services? There are no clear answers. But a realisation has sunk in that things must improve and you can't lie there waiting to be smashed. We will try and get some good cricketers, said Shakawat, and in the mean time continue to work hard. Play more tournaments, gain experience and put up a better show. What about playing a pro? I asked. He was non-committal. Let's see was all he said.

IS North the most difficult zonal side for a youngster to break into? Yes, say most young North Zone players. With much vehemence.

How does one get into a side, they ask, where (a) Raman Lamba, who toured Pakistan just the other day, can't find a place (b) Vivek Razdan, despite being on two tours, can't make a Ranji side (c) Gursharan Singh, who toured New Zealand not long ago, does not even figure among the reserves (d) Sanjeev Sharma, having represented India 6 months back, is promptly consigned to the dust bin.

Making the North Zone side is more difficult for bowlers. With Manoj, Wassan, Kapil around, and Chetan Sharma trying to dislodge them, chances of a youngster getting in are really remote. Left-arm spin is shut out, thanks to Maninder, perhaps, even today the best bowler in the land of his type. The off- spinner's slot is open, but Kirti squeeze in due to his all-round ability.

The competition for batting positions is also intense. You have established stars like Navjot, Ajay Sharma, Bhaskar, Kirti, Gush, Lamba but talented youngsters are already jostling with them for batting slots. Still, despite the increasing scramble, the race is not as maddening as in the West Zone where the first six Bombay batsmen (Shastri, Rajput, Manjrekar, Vengsarkar, Tendulkar, Kambli) occupy the first 6 places in the Duleep side In a situation like this the rest of the batsmen could merrily take a walk.

Strangely, in contrast to the abundance of batting talent the bowling is barren. Raju Kulkarni, in and out of the Indian team, is around, but it is difficult to recall the rest of the names. The field is open, but only technically because in the west, cricket has traditionally been played on featherbeds. Bowlers, therefore, don't take wickets, they only have their pants pulled down and bottoms spanked'!

Ajay Jadeja is supposed to be the hottest young guy in the zone. But three seasons of indifferent performance have led many to doubt his potential.

So, now, the basic question: How good is Ajay Jedeja?

As good as anyone else, says Kapil Dev in support, and you can't get a better 'reco' than that in Indian cricket. But what is the reason for Kapil's unconditional support? Just look at him, he says, he has got everything.

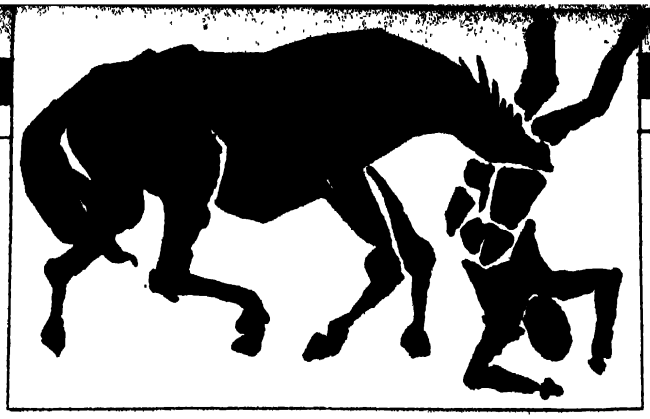
Technique he certainly has. Jadeja at the wicket is unhurried, precise in movement and appears very organised. As someone said: "He looks bloody good. Even while walking up to the wicket, or taking guard or changing positions between overs he has the looks of a good cricketer."

Detractors contend Jadeja's reputation is highly inflated. For all the cricket in his blood (he is very well-connected) his technique, his unmistakable potential, where are the runs? In three years of first-class cricket he is yet to score a century whereas these days even tailenders make hundreds.

By AMRIT MATHUR

THE ASIA CUP

A bag of laughs



THIS is going in just for laughs. A little scene that took place outside Calcutta's Eden Gardens during the Asia Cup finals. The Calcutta sports public are famed the world over and this day was no different.

The public thronged the Eden from the early hours of the morning.

The cops were also on duty. They were for a change, really strict. The mounted police drew awe-filled glances from almost everyone, and like always were turned out smartly. But fate played a cruel joke on them. One of the horses let them down.

Panicking as a result of the cacophony around, our four legged friend bolted. The result was pandemonium. The cop perched on its back was neatly unseated, the traffic went absolutely haywire—a scooterist who—quite naturally—could not cope with the horses sense of direction jammed brakes, skidded and fell off and people ran into each other. The horse stopped in front of a car reared upon his hind legs and bore down on the roof bringing it in. Meanwhile, the events below were being lustily cheered by the crowd that had gathered on the top blocks of the stadium. It appeared so well choreographed that nobody felt bad about it. India crowned an eventful day by winning the Asia Cup.

What a laugh!

STANDARDS COLLAPSE

By eating junk food

THE GERMAN swimming machine has finally collapsed. Both the sports drug scandal and—hold your breath—junk food have been used as reasons for a loss of performance amongst the former East German swimmers, whose achievements, since joining the unified German team, have deteriorated.

This problem mostly concerns the women swimmers. At the 1986 World Championship, the East German women won 13 out of 16 events and broke three world records. Yet at the unified German trials held last Nobember, Heike Friedrich the 200m free-style world record holder swam 8 secs slower than her career best to finish eighth. Anke Mohring was 18 secs slower than her previous 400m free style best.

Some experts have put their previous successes down to a methodical drug programme. But Michael Gross who took over from there seems to have summed it up correctly. Gross blamed it on the social and political upheaval: "Swimmers now do just what they like. Some of the girls have taken to smoking and eating junk food in the training centres. They have to learn how to discipline themselves."

They succeeded previously due to excess doping. Their standards are falling now due to excess eating.

CRICKET IN CHINA

Highly possible

CRICKET in China? Yes, it could happen and if it does it will be solely due to the efforts of one pioneering Chinese: Wang Xiaodong.

Wang, a pilgrim and cricket freak from Beijing, visited Australia as a guest of Sydney's Waverly Cricket Club and joined 10 other enthusiasts at a training camp. "I like cricket," said the 23-year-old athlete as he honed his batting skills in the south west of Sydney. "I want to do what I can to promote the sport in China."

Wang, however, faces a little bit of resistance from his countrymen itself. In Beijing, cricket is not ready to upstage soccer or even table tennis. It is played in China widely by foreigners and Chinese cricketers could probably squeeze into two moderately sized taxi cabs. Wang for example, plays for the Australian Embassy XI.

In Sydney he is learning the art of bowling and (most difficult) translating the existing cricketing rules and terminology into Chinese. Fielding positions like silly mid-on, short-leg and long off will become just numbers. "It's not easy to translate," said Wang. He's also caught up with the concept of the game stopping for tea, and finds it strange. But then for a country which are cumulatively the world's biggest tea drinkers, it might be just the thing, right, Wang?

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK



BCCI President, Madhav Rao Scindia, shows cricketers the right way to do things...

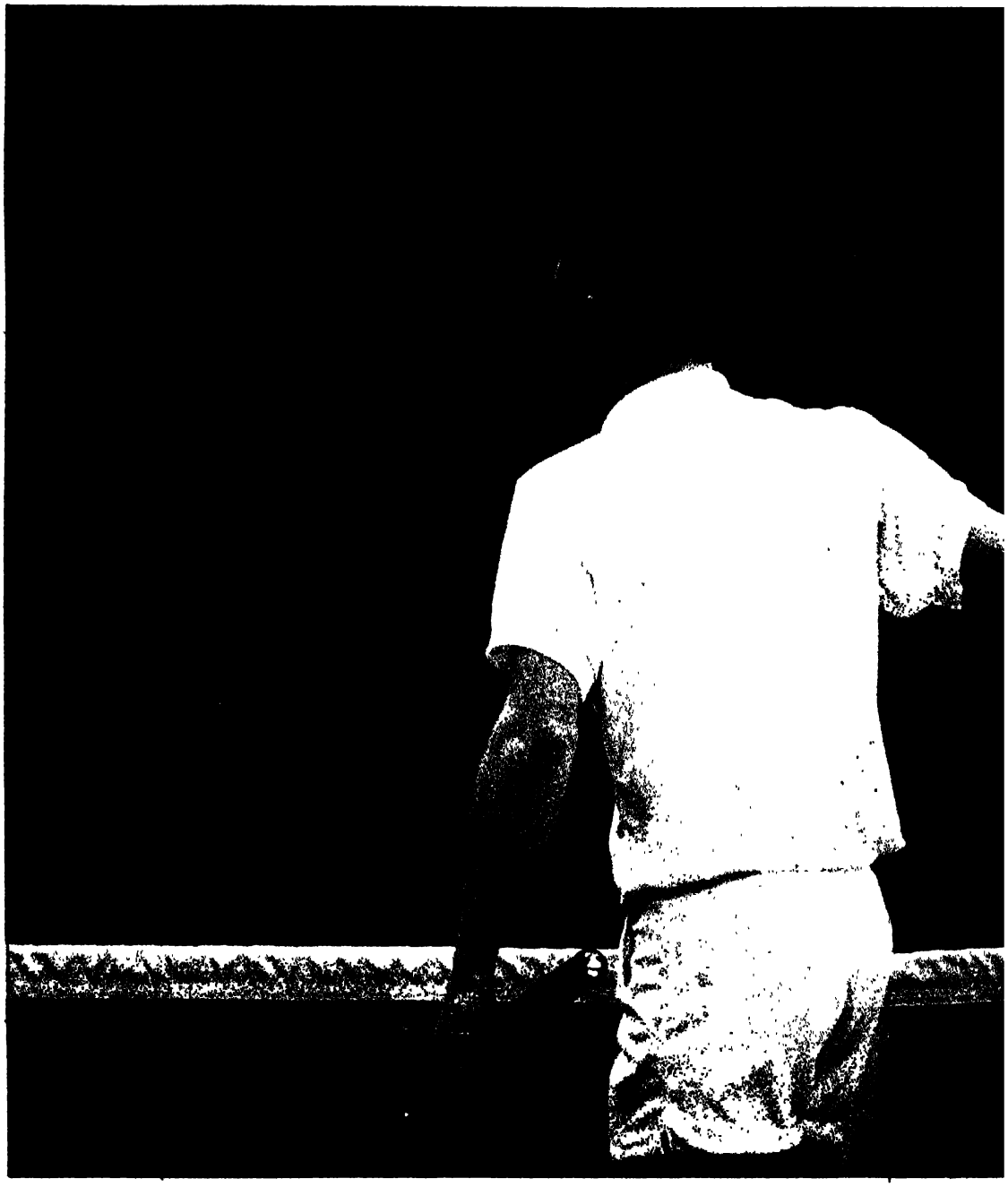
PHOTOGRAPH BY PANKAJ JAIN

JOHN McENROE

A Day In The Life Of...

JOHN McENROE

A DAY IN THE



McEnroe was due to play Becker with whom he shared a birthplace and an uncommon intelligence. One the artist, the other the warrior

LIFE OF...

BY RICHARD EVANS



PHOTOGRAPHS: TOMMY HINDLEY

LET me tell you about a day in the life of John McEnroe; a life in which he admits there is rarely a dull day. The day in question was during the semi-finals in 1989, not in June but October, not at the French Open, which is played outdoors on clay at Stade Roland Garros on the green western fringe of the city, but at the Paris Open, an indoor event played inside the cavernous Omnipalais which tries to be all things to all sports amidst the cubic concrete of that reconstructed eastern end of Paris. Pissarro, were he to try to paint the Quai de Bercy today, would drop his brush and run.

The contrasts did not stop there. McEnroe was due to play Boris Becker, a man with whom he shared a birthplace—West Germany—and an uncommon intelligence, but little else. One the artist, the other the warrior, McEnroe and Becker are startlingly contrasting people.

McEnroe is, above all, a complicated man—complicated to a degree far in excess of the public's comprehension of just how complicated a human being can be. Becker, while many-layered in his personality, would never want to be as complicated as McEnroe. Despite a sensitivity which belies his burly, big-boned features, Boris is not wholly un-German. He likes an element of order and calm in his life.McEnroe may like the idea of such a notion, but he never comes close to attaining it. Never a dull day.

It is quite normal that these two very different people should respect each other. Mediocrity, as Arthur Conan

Becker said, "I have a cough. I can't help it." McEnroe retorted, "You've had a cough for three years. Are you ill?"

JOHN McENROE

A Day In The Life Of...

Doyle wrote, knows nothing higher than itself, but talent instantly recognizes genius. Becker is the huge, all-powerful talent; McEnroe the wispy, waspish genius. You don't need Dr Watson to work that out.

But the respect and recognition is not straightforward. How could it be? Becker is often baffled by his immediate predecessor as Wimbledon Champion and McEnroe is frankly in awe of someone who can hit the ball so hard and so accurately on the points that matter.

Both, however, are professionals, paid to win, paid to beat each other, now as much for their pride as for their pockets. All sentiment is left at courtside. In the competitive arena anything goes, within the laws of the game. Inevitably, some



laws have fuzzy edges, and McEnroe tends to interpret them differently from many people. Those who insist on depicting McEnroe as a villain maintain everything he does on court is a premeditated act to disrupt his opponent's concentration. They think he cheats. Others, who know him better, realize ninety-five per cent of the tirades McEnroe unleashes on court are spontaneous outbursts over which he still does not have total control. In that respect McEnroe has a serious problem—a subject to which we shall return.

In McEnroe's eyes linesmen and umpires create the problems by calling balls out that were in, and opponents cause problems by using something other than their rackets to win matches. McEnroe, searching manically for some method of denting the Becker armour, had decided that Boris was now using unfair methods on court. By coughing.

The grunters, led by Jimmy Connors, had been with us for some time. But Becker had developed chest problems a few years before and the resulting dry cough had stayed with him, becoming a recurring punctuation during interviews and, later on, in matches. In that the cough became most evident in moments of stress, it seemed to have psychosomatic roots. You do not need to be as intelligent as McEnroe to realize that. But in times of his own stress, McEnroe's intelligence slips its leash and races off as if suddenly embodied in a dog of war. Dangerous rationales are let loose.

On this particular undull day McEnroe did, indeed, plot a premeditated act of psychological warfare against his opponent and, in his own mind, felt perfectly justified in doing so. On court, early in the match, he made an issue of the cough. He started, in Ilie Nastase style, by imitating it. Just as Becker would cough seconds before throwing the ball up to serve, so McEnroe started spluttering down his end of the court.

The crowd, all 15,000 of them packed in to every available seat of the Omnipalais, started to titter. Like all French crowds in recent years, they were wholly committed McEnroe fans and were prepared to tolerate their hero's indiscretions—up to a point. But it soon became evident that Becker was being severely embarrassed and he called across the net to McEnroe, saying, 'I have a cough. I can't help it.'

'You've had a cough for three years,' McEnroe retorted. 'Are you ill?'

By now McEnroe was losing some support. It takes a very special kind of personality to turn adoration into abuse, but the New Yorker has always been capable of achieving that in a thrice—another of his special talents.

And so the conflict started within him. Some people see only the snarling face

And so conflict started within him. Some people see only the snarling face ad petulant gestures of a spoiled brat when McEnroe loses his temper. Others realise the turmoil and conflict raging inside

and the petulant gestures of a spoiled brat when McEnroe loses his temper. Others realize the turmoil and conflict that is raging inside—the bull-headed belief that he is right clashing with the deeply sensitive, hopelessly aware human being who knows where this rage is leading; knows it, fears it, hates it and is helpless in the face of it.

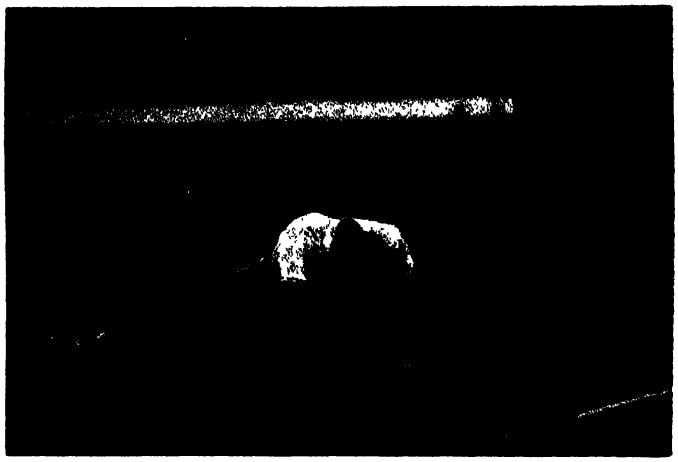
I had seen proof of that just a couple of days before when he had blown up briefly against the tenacious and unsettling Austrian Horst Skoff. Richard Ings, the young Australian umpire who had taken a tough line with McEnroe frequently in the past, gave him a code of conduct warning and immediately McEnroe simmered down, grabbed a hold of himself and got back to work. But the fact that McEnroe, playing some of his best tennis beat Skoff appeared to be of little consolation when I dropped by the locker room after the match. McEnroe was livid with himself.

'There go my good intentions for the week,' he muttered morosely. 'I told myself I wasn't going to get involved here this year. It's tough enough to concentrate out there with all the people whistling and carrying on. But at least they are on my side. I don't need all the other shit. Why do I let it happen?'

The answer hung in the air. Mark Woodforde, McEnroe's doubles partner for the week, looked at me and shrugged. McEnroe's Italian agent Sergio Palmieri, who had heard it all a thousand times before, stared into space. We could all have offered opinions but none of us knew the answer. The real problem was, neither did McEnroe.

Now, playing against Becker, the hurt was boiling up inside him again. He felt he was right in calling Becker's bluff over the cough. It was disturbing, a concentration-breaker—not just for him but for other players as well. They had talked about it. Now McEnroe was trying to do something about it. Didn't anyone realize he was simply trying to right a wrong? Of course not, and even those who did would have challenged his methods. So all hell was breaking loose again and what had been developing into a glorious tennis match was now marred with outbursts of increasing antagonism.

Inevitably there had to be an explosion and Ings, who usually chooses the right moment to intervene but got it wrong this time, triggered it. While spectators, especially those high up in the dark recesses of the huge arena, took their time to settle into something approaching silence, Becker bounced the ball in preparation to serve and McEnroe just stood there. Not crouching forward in his customary receiving stance but just standing there, immobile, with that expression he has mastered of arrogant boredom. Boredom with the in out.



McEnroe-type boredom.

The explosion came when Ings, having counted the seconds ticking away, gave McEnroe a conduct warning for time-wasting. 'You were not in your receiving stance and Mr Becker was ready to serve,' Ings told him as McEnroe stormed forward with that prancing stride he develops whenever the juices are flowing; McEnroe storming the citadel of authority, looking up, hating the need to look up physically to his judge and juror, hating the shakles that were being placed around him; screaming out for the freedom to try and play this magical game to his own level of perfection, without the hindrance of errors and stupidities from fools with rules who

At one set all against McEnroe in this mood, Becker knew every point would be big, every shot crucial

JOHN McENROE

A Day In The Life Of...

"You were not in your receiving stance and Mr. Becker was ready to serve", the chair umpire told him as McEnroe stormed forward with that prancing stride he develops whenever the juices are flowing

didn't know how to implement them.

Much of that was racing through McEnroe's head as he refused to accept Ings' ruling and demanded the Grand Prix Supervisor. Ed Hardisty, a tall Scot who used to referee the tournament in Hong Kong before he joined the tour, came loping out to face the kind of scene that wakes tennis officials in the night. Unlike the incident against Skoff, Ings had come down on McEnroe when the player had the possibility of mounting an argument in his defence. Fatal. As he had been standing in the right place to receive serve, he could argue that he was ready even if it didn't look like it. And that was what he did...argue. The place had erupted into bedlam in the meantime and it was a full five minutes before order was restored. By then McEnroe had been docked a penalty point—which cost him the game—and the tennis was allowed to continue.

For a couple of minutes we had seen a flashback to the Real Terror, the bad old McEnroe of which we had seen less and less in the previous couple of years. The conscious effort he had been making to clean up his act in his new role of husband and father really had improved his behaviour, even if you would not have known it from reading the tabloid press where every sniff and dirty look was translated into screaming headlines every bit as over the top as the player's former outbursts.

Nevertheless, the loss of a penalty point doused the ire like a cold shower and, with another throwback to his unruly but brilliantly successful youth, he immediately started to produce his best tennis of the match, even of the year. By the end it was probably as good as spell of tennis as McEnroe had managed since the beginning of 1985 and, with Becker still battling him at every turn, the second set unlocked a treasure chest of jewels that cascaded over the court, dazzling us, taking our breath away.

From a courtside seat, one was able to appreciate the extraordinary levels of skill, speed and power being displayed. Having won the first set on the tie-break, Becker's first serve faltered momentarily in the second set and, once the arguments were over, McEnroe pounced. Just as he had against Ivan Lendl in his heyday five years before, McEnroe revealed his incredible ability to move forward into the mouth of the cannon and







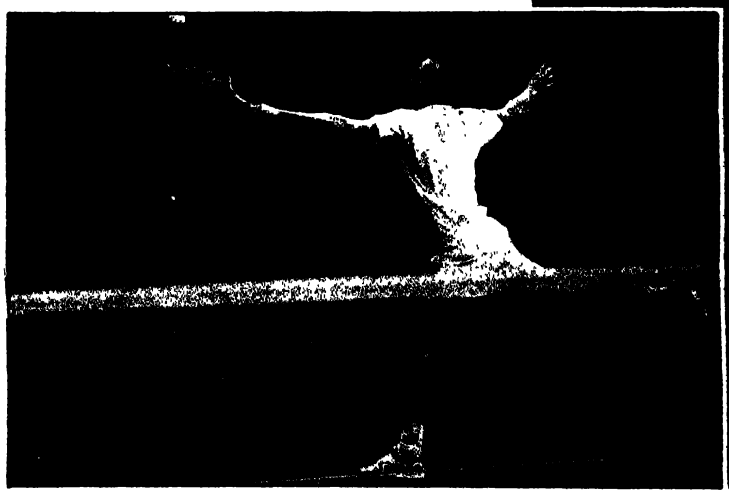
use an opponent's power for his own devilish devices. For months he had been haunted by the spectre of Becker's power; a power increased by as much as thirty per cent above that which was possible with the rackets McEnroe remembers so fondly—the Dunlop Maxplys and the Kramer Wilsons, wood rackets lovingly constructed by artisans for artists.

Now, for the first time, he was finding himself capable of dealing with that power. No longer was he cowed by it; no longer did he feel impotent in the face of the ground strokes that a more consistent and confident Becker was firing from the back court. With these magical hands, he could loosen the wrist, turn the racket head and start guiding the ball about at will before unleashing a little power of his own when the opening appeared. Only on the backhand when he is well set does McEnroe exhibit a sweeping, classic shot. For the most part it is all little jabs and stabs, a touch here and a flick there, even a prod on the volley while lunging for a wide return.

As McEnroe worked his way into the match, puncturing Becker's defences with winning volleys launched by a first serve plucked from the halcyon years or a sudden, jabbing approach shot, the crowd was in ferment. So, too, judging from the comments I heard later from people watching on ESPN sports network (in the States) or Eurosport, were many armchair viewers at home. This was McEnroe back on the world stage, reaching into his past to prove that it was not a close book. The standard of his tennis as he broke serve to close the second set 6-3 was better than he had produced in beating Lendl on his way to winning the WCT Dallas Finals back in April; better than his display against Mats Wilander in the Wimbledon quarter-finals. The sting in the first serve was reappearing, the deterioration in speed barely noticeable now that the body had been fine-tuned again to proper fitness; the touch on the volley as breathtaking as ever.

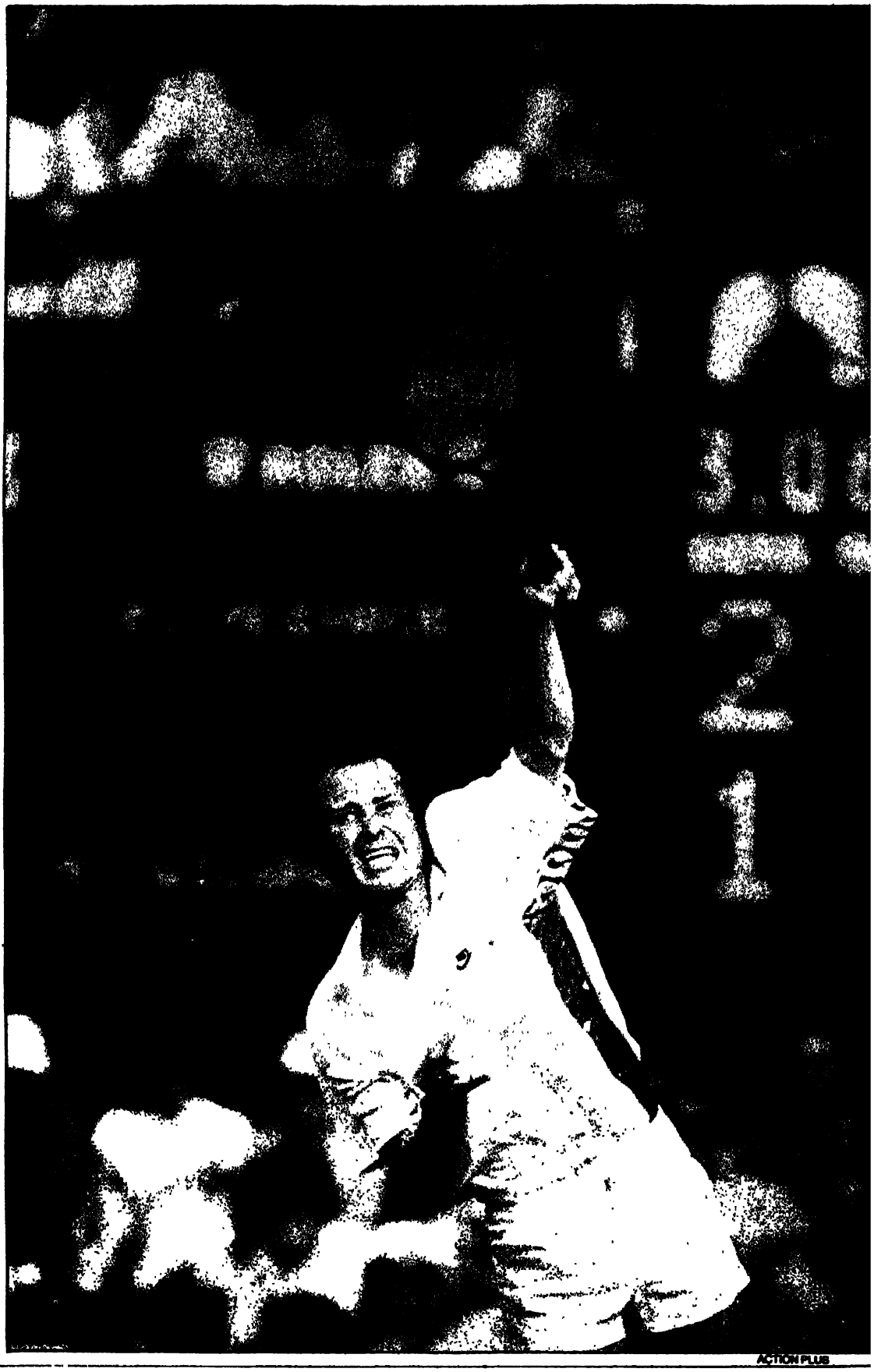
But was he as good as before? Almost inevitably not. In a game that demands such split-second reflexes and steely nerve, a tennis player of thirty is not going to be as good as he was at twenty-five. Having said that, McEnroe in the second set of the Paris Open of 1989 was playing tennis that would have swept him on to victory against any

With these magical hands he could loosen the wrist, turn the racket head and start guiding the ball about at will...



JOHN McENROE

A Day In The Life Of...



As he strode forward to take Boris by the hand and put an arm around the victor's shoulders, McEnroe knew he has taken an important step forward

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opponent he could have come up against in 1984. But tennis is not snooker or golf or bowls, where a strong mind can block out the fact that Steve Davis or Nick Faldo is standing at your elbow and thus allow you to play to the maximum level of your physical capability. While not for a moment wishing to underestimate the amount of mental pressure a Faldo can exert on an opponent, it is still not the same as having a Becker blasting balls at you across a net. In tennis an opponent can physically destroy your game with his own power.

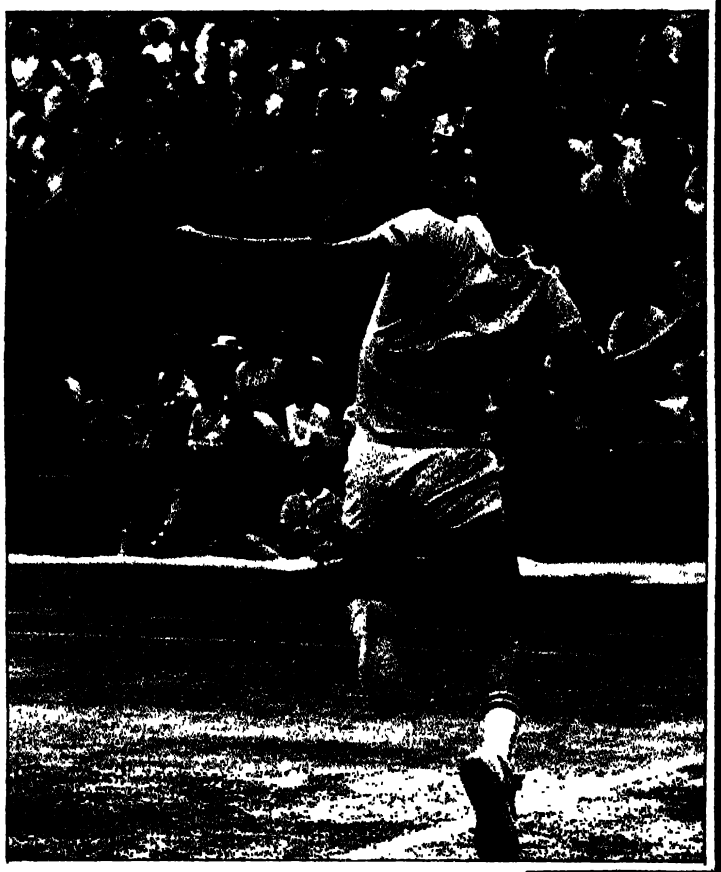
There was no Becker in 1984 but now, once again, McEnroe was about to be forcibly reminded of what the post-Orwellian years had brought to tennis. Power, power and more power. But, in Becker's case, it was not just the power derived from bulging muscles and a large, tautly-strung graphite racket. It was strength in the mind, too; a mind so set for combat that it actually enjoyed being forced one step back so that it could experience the thrill of taking two steps forward. Gonzales, Hoad, Laver, Rosewall, Newcombe, Connors, Borg, to speak only of the post war generation: all knew how to claw their way out of a corner. But no one, in the history of the game, has bounced off the ropes with such gusto and relish as this big German.

'A big point comes and I just feel good about it,' Becker has said. 'I just think, now I can play my best tennis.'

What a priceless gift! Some of the most beautiful strikers of a tennis ball I have ever seen have been destroyed by the desperate inability to play the one point that matters without their arm turning to jelly.

At one set all against McEnroe in this mood, Becker knew that every point would be big, every shot crucial. Becker's cough had subsided along with McEnroe's temper. All the extraneous rubbish had been cast aside. Both men's concentration was now focused and locked. The baying of the crowd no longer pierced the fragile veil behind which public performers compete at the highest level. They were totally single-minded and utterly oblivious to everything around them except each other's serve; each other's next volley; each other's every look, every move.

Physically, McEnroe started to feel the brunt of Becker's strength again; feeling the force of the ball on his racket.As Becker's first service percentage started to rise, McEnroe found himself back in the guessing game.



'To some extent you have to guess,' he told me later. 'With Boris's first delivery, waiting to read it is too late. It's passed you before you move. You have to read his mind and make your move as he throws the ball up to give yourself any chance at all.'

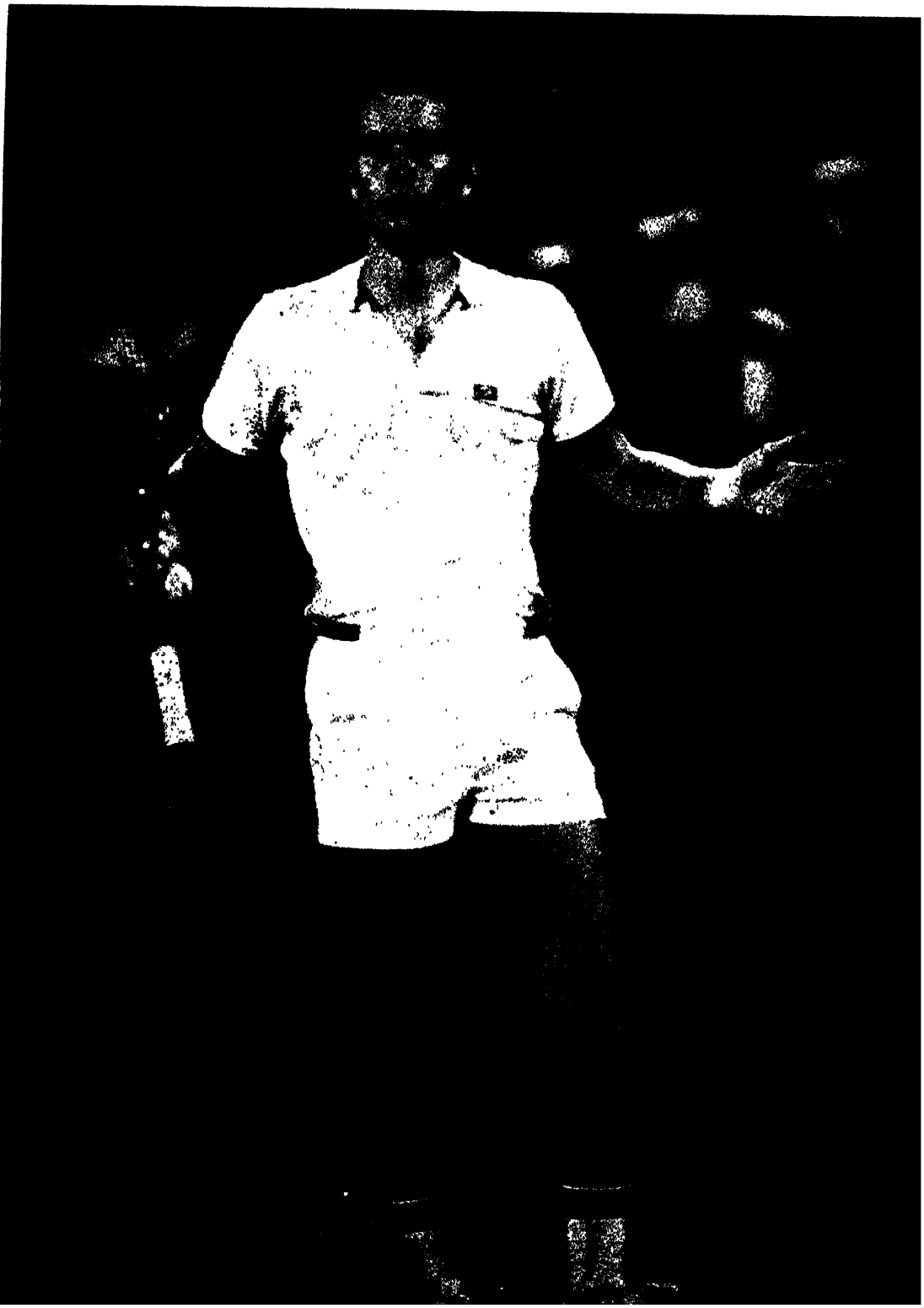
Sometimes McEnroe guessed right, but the bombs kept on detonating on his side of the court and only occasionally could he return them in equal measure. Once he lunged on the backhand volley to pop

"But, basically, I'm a maniac when I play. I can see myself saying anything to anyone out there. It's the Jekyll and Hyde syndrome and I'm still trying to learn how to handle it."

JOHN McENROE

A Day In The Life Of...

over one of those Pointillist volleys, a little blob of red on Becker's canvas. But drawing blood was becoming increasingly difficult. When Becker broke serve with some of those backhand returns that had destroyed Stefan Edberg in that summer's Wimbledon final, McEnroe felt the match slipping away from him. Becker, whose form had been patchy earlier in the week when Wally Masur had come within two points of victory, was shaking off the after effects of injury to regain the fluency of movement he needs to play his best tennis.



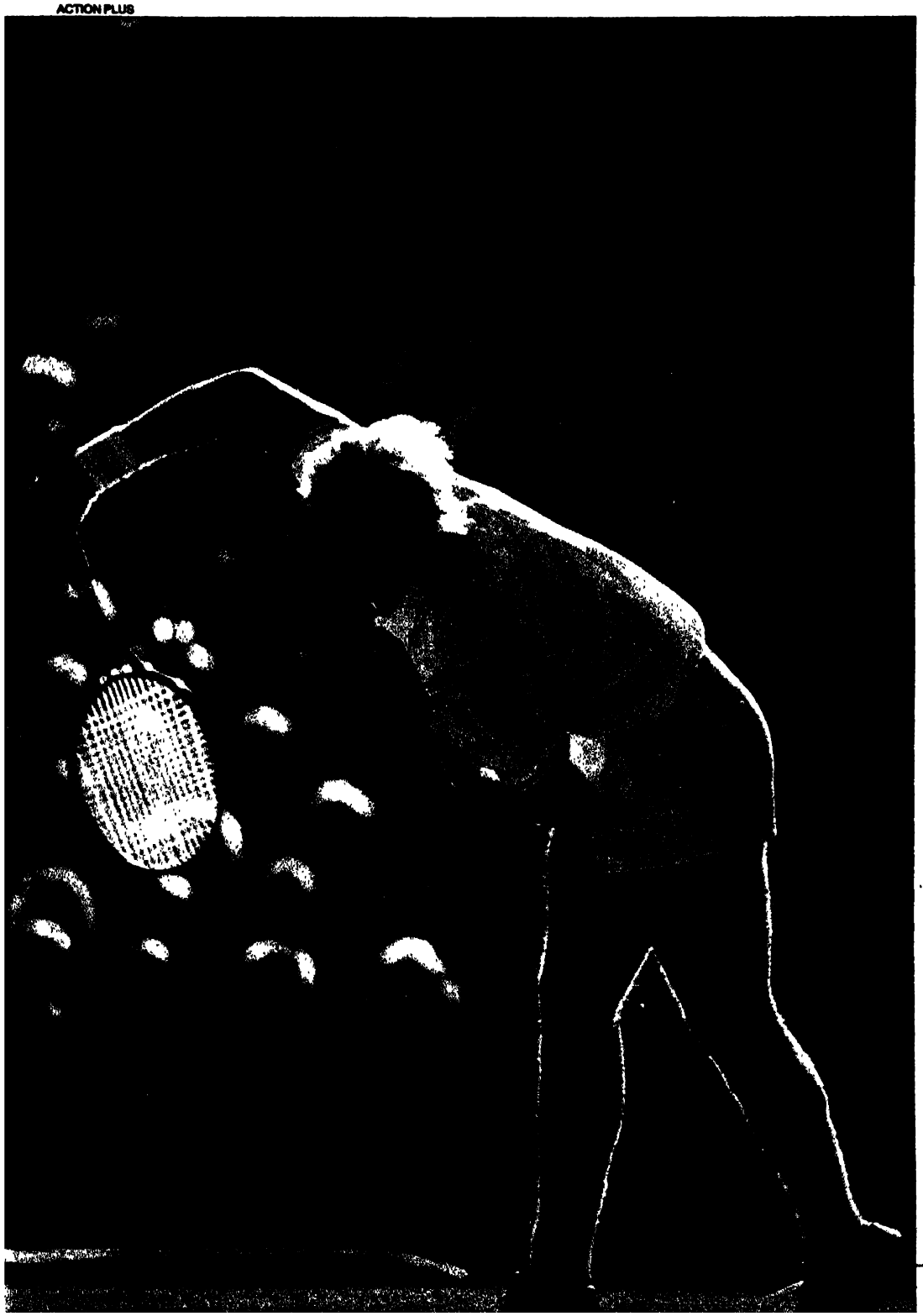
Becker and McEnroe dining together twenty-four hours after they yelled at each other across the net? The public perception is often a very long way from reality

A Day In The Life Of...

But even as defeat became inevitable, with Becker wrapping it up 6-3 in the third set, McEnroe felt an inner satisfaction that is usually incompatible with defeat. As he strode forward to shake Boris by the hand and put an arm around the victor's shoulder—just to show the crowd they did not really hate each other—McEnroe knew he had taken an important step forward.

'For the first time I felt I could handle the power,' said McEnroe. 'I began to get into a rhythm against it and could do what I wanted with the ball instead of

ACTION PLUS



"To some extent you have to guess," said McEnroe. "With Boris' first serve waiting to read it is too late. It's passed you before you move."

JOHN McENROE

A Day In The Life Of...

always being on the defensive. He had to play really well to beat me.'

McEnroe was back in the locker room, trying to come down from the high he had been on out there on court. A packed, animated stadium; a great opponent; an ability to play your best tennis—no drug has yet been concocted that can give the true performer a bigger high than that. But for McEnroe there is no such thing



SPORTS FILE

"Tatum screamed at me as soon as I walked through the door," McEnroe said. "She told me what I had done to Boris was disgusting and that I ought to be ashamed of myself."

as the straightforward thrill. By the time he walked off the court, leaving behind a cacophony of noise, he was not shot through with enough conflicting emotions to blow the psychiatric fuse. Elated at having played so well; disappointed at having lost; thrilled to have been part of a great sporting spectacle; angry at Ings for the penalty point—and, somewhere inside, nagged by an as yet unresolved feeling that he had handled the coughing business badly. Just *how* badly he was to discover later.

Right at this minute the man was on the point of nervous exhaustion, a state with which he was well acquainted. The adrenalin pumped for a little longer, getting him through the press conference and halfway back to the Royal Monceau Hotel near the Etoile, a half-hour drive to the other side of Paris. Then it drained out of him like blood from a wound. He just felt the energy level collapse—a perfectly familiar feeling for McEnroe, who is constantly at the mercy of is own energy levels. Anyone watching him closely over a period of time can gauge those levels. On court, it's the walk; the narrowing of the eyes; the angle of the head; the amount of pulling and plucking at clothing and racket. In press conferences, not only the tone of voice and the body language change but the sentence structure, too. Although some sentences may not finish, as thoughts pour through his brain, those that do are loaded with a more forceful word usage and a more acute intellectual content. When the energy level is up, McEnroe is a formidable human specimen, physically and mentally.

But before the tournament driver swung the car into that avenue of light leading up to the Etoile, McEnroe's wattage was a great deal dimmer than anything on the Champs Elysees. And what was awaiting him? A soothing welcome for the defeated hero and a quiet, candle-lit dinner with his loving wife?

'Tatum screamed at me as soon as I walked through the door,' McEnroe confided later. 'She told me what I had done to Boris was disgusting and that I ought to be ashamed of myself. I went through hell that night and it was her birthday, too.'

Jerked out of his lethargy by this new attack, McEnroe coud have been excused for wondering how many others he would have to fend off before the day was done. Becker, Ings, the crowd...and now Tatum, who had been watching the

JOHN McENROE

A Day In The Life Of...

match on television staying away from the Omnipalais that week in a deliberate attempt to remain one pace removed from the mayhem that so often surrounds her husband's tennis—all had assailed McEnroe one way or another.

'It wasn't an easy evening, I can tell you,' he continued. 'I was trying to sort out in my own mind where I had gone wrong, and there was Tatum telling me I was a shit and little Kevin starting to get upset and...I don't know, it was just tough, man. But Tatum was right, of course. My attitude has to change. I have to stop trying to change the world and right every wrong.

'But, basically, I'm a maniac when I play. I can see myself saying anything to anyone out there. It's the Jekyll and Hyde syndrome and I'm still trying to learn how to handle it.'

By the time McEnroe fell onto the pillow that night, the notion of 'never a dull day' had possibly taken on a new meaning even by his standards. But the turmoil his emotions had been put through was, as usual, largely of his own doing. He chooses to lead his life on the knife-edge of hysteria. He chose a wife who takes him on with the same reformist zeal with which he berates an umpire for a bad decision. By and large, he is the instigator of the bedlam that surrounds so much of his life. It is not simply a question of wanting it that way, but of needing it that way. What else to do with all that swirling emotion and pent-up energy? How else to calm Dr Jekyll if not to give vent to Mr Hyde?

It is a question he has yet to answer fully, despite the considerable progress that has been made over the past few years. But progress there is, and it was much in evidence the following day when none other than Boris Becker himself joined John, Tatum and Sergio Palmieri for dinner at a Mexican restaurant. Becker and McEnroe dining together twenty-four hours after they had yelled at each other across the net? The public perception is often a very long way from reality.

'We needed to talk things out,' said McEnroe. 'I was impatient to get it out in the open and put it behind us. We can talk because we both understand what goes on out there. It's an elite, special feeling the players have. With some it's more difficult to strike up a rapport after something happens on court. But Boris is too mature not to be able to handle it. But you know what? Tatum was pissed off that he wasn't pissed off!'



McEnroe laughed, but there is always a cloud of confusion that hangs over McEnroe's humour as if he knows deep down that laughter, like happiness, success and life itself never comes cheap and that, sooner or later, something is going to happen to make the simple things complicated again. For John McEnroe, as he still learns to exist like a genie in the cauldron of his own making, it is all part of never knowing a dull day.●

For John McEnroe, as he still learns to exist like a genie in the cauldron of his own making, it is all part of never knowing a dull day

This is an extract from McEnroe: Taming the talent, a biography by Richard Evans

WIMBLEDON FINAL 1987

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF PAT CASH

AS the centre chair umpire dutifully observed Lendl's last rites and announced the score, Cash suddenly felt compelled to share the magical moment with The Clan. Defying 101 years of protocol, he vaulted the green courtside wall into the stand and, in a trek reminiscent of the last scene in *Crocodile Dundee*, clambered over the applauding spectators to reach his family and friends in the competitor's box about 10 metres above the centre court. He hugged and kissed his closest fans in an emotional outpour of jubilation. Staid old Wimbledon had never seen anything like it. Normally the players don't dare move from their courtside chairs until Their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of Kent arrive to present the trophy. The crowd loved Cash's spontaneous sheepdog climb of victory celebration and the startled Wimbledon officials silently tolerated it...this time, anyway.

'It was just something I wanted to share with my family and a few people in particular. My father, Barkers, Anne-Britt and in a more professional way Jeff Bond, Anne Quinn and an English buddy of mine, Geoff Lamb. There was my stringer up there too, Derek May, who lives about 100 miles out towards Bristol. Every day he drove in, collected my racquets, took them home to string them and brought them back next morning. He ended up stringing about 14 racquets each day. If it was eight I would find four that were exactly right and the others would be too high or low in tension. It was his last Wimbledon after doing it for 20 years. He had strung all the champions' racquets, Laver, Newcombe and so on. But I was the first one for whom he had actually strung the





(Left to right) Cash raises his fist after the winning point; climbs the sta
headband at the Champions Ball

raoquets from the beginning, who went on to win the championship.'

In a moment of jubilation Melbourne barrister Brian Cash lifted the distinctive black and white checked headband from his nephew's forehead after that unconventional visit to the competitor's box. The evolution of this strange item of headgear provides a pointed insight to this remarkably determined Australian sportsman. The headband design signifies the chequered flag, the ultimate target for which he turned up the turbo in that sleek body for the two hours and 45 minutes required to complete the race of his tennis life.

Uncle Brian discreetly returned the pilfered headband at a party organised for a small group of family friends that night at Cash's home in London. No fancy five-star hotel reception room for this down-to-earth hero. He merely wanted somewhere to mentally unwind with his mates...in private. Cash's message to those invited was simply 'make yourself at home and grab a drink until I get back'. Resplendent in black dinner suit, the new Wimbledon champion took Anne-Britt, his family and friends to the plush Savoy hotel in The Strand for the traditional Wimbledon victory dinner.

The ample stocks of Foster's cans was dwindling when the champ finally returned to the sanctuary of his living room again at about 11.30 pm. Out of the stuffy but smart suit and into shorts and T-shirt, he began to ease down the adrenalin flow. Into the early hours of the morning, the casual Cash moved among the 30 guests including fellow Australian players Cahill, McNamee, Nicole Provis, Jenny Byrne and Davis Cup captain Neale Fraser. The gold replica of the All England Club's Challenge Cup, quaintly inscribed 'The single-handed championship of the world' stood virtually unnoticed and untouched on a book case.

'I wanted to enjoy myself without waking up with a headache. I wanted to have a chat with everyone but I didn't want popping champagne, screaming and yahooing around. I felt I had done the work. We would have a bit of fun. But it was nothing to go over the moon about. I felt pretty humble and wanted to keep my feet on the ground.'

The enormity of what had been achieved...and a minor disappointment to accompany it...struck Cash a week later when he returned to Wimbledon to finish filming a documentary on his life. Each champion's name is inscribed on an honour board on the wall to the right inside the members' entrance of the All England Club.

'It was the first thing I looked for when we went back to finish off the film. I walked straight in and it wasn't there. Each winner is in gold embossed writing and they hadn't had time to get it up. I really wanted to see my name up on that board. I think it might be there now. The next time I go back I'm going to check it out.'

BY BRUCE MATTHEWS

This is an extract from Pat Cash. My Story.





is to embrace his family and coach; receives the trophy from the Duke and Duchess; everyone wears the

WORLD SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIP

PERTH PLUNGE



ACTION PLUS

Matt Biondi couldn't repeat what he did at the Seoul Olympics, but he still managed to win the glamour event, the men's 100m freestyle.....

It was a world championship of upsets, of triumphs and of disappointments. **David McMahon** tells us the rest

HUNDREDS of miles outside Perth, on a small farm in the obscure outback of Western Australia, lives a former theology student Neil Innes. It is a farm that has entered sporting folklore, not on account of him, but his wife, Mrs Innes who has lived there in self imposed exile for 15 years. For Mrs Innes is Shane Gould. Last fortnight Australia's greatest woman swimmer, now a self confessed recluse, momentarily shrugged off her cloak of annonymity, for she knew the time had truly come, she knew a swimmer had finally arrived, who could justifiably be considered her worthy successor.

And Hayley Lewis, victor over Janet Evans in the 200m freestyle, with two silvers and a bronze in addition, smiled in gratitude and wonderment as Shane Gould walked down from the stands and embraced her. A new era in Australian swimming had begun, sealed with a kiss.

Yet even Lewis' apparent class could not cover the general embarrasasment when she was mistakenly awarded the Politika Trophy for the the best all round performance. That prize, as the Australians admitted subsequently, belonged in all fairness to the partially blind but audaciously talented Hungarian Tamas Daryni, who not only won the 200m and 400m individual medleys as expected, but broke his own world records in the progress.

If there were further surprises at the Superdrome, and there were, it was the renaissance of US swimming, contrasting strongly with the failure of the unified German team.

The Americans won 17 of the possible 45 titles with roomies Mike Barrowman and Melvin Stewart finding inspiration from each other's company to break world records—Barrowman in the 200m breaststroke and Stewart over the same distance in the butterfly.

Biondi, whose practice with dolphins in the high seas won him medals and status in Seoul 1988, lost again to Surinamese Anthony Nesty in the 100m butterfly but made up for it in the 100m freestyle. Another Seoul veteran, Janet Evans, upstaged initially by Hayley Lewis, won the 400m and 800m freestyle golds.

Yet nothing, not even Kristin Otto's (now a journalist) inability to

Tamas Darnyi put up such a talented show that the awestruck organisers forgot to award him the Politika Trophy



recognise who Shane Gould was, could quite match the emotional and absorbing duel in the 1500m freestyle—a duel to erase the magical record of Vladimir Salnikov set 7 years ago, a lifetime in swimming. IT was, quite simply the most dramatic 1500 metre swim ever. It was the fastest, the most hotly contested, and had the most amazing buildup of tactics, theatrics and psychological red herrings. When Germany's Joerg Hoffman, 20 beat Australia's Keiren Perkins, 17, to take the gold medal at the world swimming championships in Perth, three men beat the 15-minute barrier, with the first two breaking the 14:54.72 world record, set by the legendary Vladimir Salnikov of the Soviet Union.

Yet Australia's sentimental favourite for the event was a diminutive 20-year-old, Glen Housman, a lad so small in stature that he answers to the nickname of "Shackman". Why? "Because he is about the size of a little shack, not a huge house," his coach answers It was Housman and Perkins who fought every stroke over the gruelling 30-lap race, the blue riband of swimming events, at the last Commonwealth Games, in Auckland last year. It was Housman who pipped his fellow Queenslander to the gold

Yet, despite the gold medal at Auckland, Housman had to cope



Settled between Wendy Williams (left) and Elena Hiroshima (right) is the youngest diving champion in the world: China's 12-year-old Fu Mingxia

with an earlier disappointment. In the heats, he had broken the 15-minute barrier (a milestone as significant as the four-minute mile in athletics) and was celebrating his timing of 14:53.59 at the poolside when he was given the bad news. The clocks had shown that he had swum the race in less than 15 minutes, yet the touchpad at the end of the swimming lane had malfunctioned and had not responded to his last stroke. He would be credited with the timing, but it would not be ratified as a new world record.

"It is a psychological thing, something I have to put out of my mind," said Housman before the 1500 at Perth. Determined to prove that he could improve on his timing, he was nonetheless upstaged by the gritty Perkins. Both Australians had performed poorly by their own standards in the heats at Perth. Two Germans and an American had clocked better times, Housman was fourth fastest with 15:19.16 and Perking producing 15:20.36. Perkins' disappointment was not just his poor timing; it was also that that the timing was not good enough to earn him a lane adjacent to Housman, whom everyone considered the most dangerous swimmer in the field.

In the world 1500 metre rankings before the Perth race, Perkins was top ranked, Housman second and the German, Hoffman, third. Yet it was the Australians who were favoured to take gold and silver. With Perkins in lane two and Housman on the other end of the pool in lane six, the two Australians had no hope of pacing (or outpacing) each other. In the meantime, Hoffman was accused of trying to wage a slick psychological war.

Said Perkins, "Hoffman wanted lane four. He was trying to psych us out a little in order to show his dominance. He's been going around saying he doesn't believe Glen and I have ever been under 15 minutes, and that this pool is slow and other garbage like that. He's doing his best to try to psych us out because he thinks he cannot beat us in this pool.

Psychological tactics were expected; after all, the Australians were the only two swimmers in the race who had ever swum a 1500 in less than 15 minutes. Yet the two Queenslanders were never expected to team

Surinamese Anthony Nesty foiled Biondi's hopes again. For Biondi, practising with Dolphins just isn't enough



up in a conscious effort to take the top two places. Housman and Perkins avoided each other in the week at Perth and deliberately altered their training times so as not to be together at the pool. Their only consolation—if indeed they sought it—was the fact that the two Germans, Joerg Hoffman and Stefan Pfeiffer, in lanes four and three for the final, were not expected to help each other either.

Perkins, the eventual hero of the night, said later he went into the race with the attitude that it would be closely fought between him and Housman, and that he did not expect the Germans to pose too serious a threat. Yet, what a race it was! Perkins set a scorching pace, swimming the first 100 metres in less than a minute and maintaining the rhythm to lead up to the 700 metre mark. It was there that Hoffman, who had looked as though he were struggling, crept up to Perkins' shoulder, to draw level and finally lead the Australian by a stroke.

On and on they battled, with Housman a good 30 metres behind them. Halfway through the race it became fairly obvious the Housman would not be among the medals and the first among Perkins and Hoffman to lose rhythm or lose heart would forfeit the gold medal. By the 1000 metre mark it became apparent that unless the race leaders slowed dramatically, the world record would be shattered and it seemed as though the prediction



American Tom Jager gives a yelp of delight after he clinched the 50 m freestyle

by the Australian team doctor of a 14:46.00 timing would be fairly accurate.

Who would slow? Who would tire? Whose muscles would start to ache? But nothing of the sort happened. Hoffman, spurred on by Perkins' early pace, maintained the lap timings with the Australian at his shoulder. Perkins made up ground agonisingly, only to lose it on the turns, yet there was never more than a metre that separated the two swimmers, so closely and so dramatically was this race fought. With 100 metres to go, it was Perkins, known for his sprinting capability, who turned on the heat, catching Hoffman only to lose half a stroke on the fatal last turn and to finish less than a quarter of a second behind the German, who clocked an amazing 14:50.36 to the Australian's 14:50.58. ●

GUEST COLUMN

By Brian Glanville

MANAGING TO

Managers don't always know

WHY do football managers, even the most admired and respected of them, make such extraordinary tactical mistakes? The game's history is littered with managers and coaches who have made strategic blunders—and paid the price.

When Kenny Dalglish of Liverpool—a manager for whom success came from the start—recently put out his team against Arsenal at Highbury, it was hard to believe what one saw.

Four days earlier, on the same ground, Arsenal, in a League Cup match, had been thrashed 6-2 by a rampant Manchester United, the first time the Gunners had conceded six goals at Highbury since 1921.

It was legitimate to suppose they must be still in a state of shock, just ripe to be hit hard and early, and caused to collapse again. Moreover Liverpool, of all teams in England, had just the sort of attackers available to do it.

Rubbing one's eyes, one saw instead that Liverpool were deploying the most ludicrously defensive team.

In the midfield, Dalglish had of all things placed two full-backs, Barry Venison and David Burrows. The previous Liverpool home game, against Manchester City, which I also saw, had Burrows, utterly left footed, at right-back, and Venison simply left out of the squad, when it was he who seemed the ideal replacement for Steve Nicol, who was ill.

Instead, Dalglish used the lanky Gary Ablett, really a centre-back or defensive midfielder, at left-back, where the poor fellow was run ragged, and Liverpool, as Dalglish himself admitted, had to be content with a 2-2 draw which could well have been a defeat.

At Arsenal, defeat was indeed Liverpool's lot, the first they had suffered in the Championship all season. Arsenal, whose four-in-line defence had been a fiasco against Manchester United, now brought in their elegant Irish



MAKE A MESS OF IT

everything

international David O'Leary as a sweeper, took the game to a Liverpool team using just one striker in Ian Rush, and eventually won it 3-0.

Ever since the England managership of Alf Ramsey, who did indeed win a World Cup in 1966, there has been a tendency among managers and coaches to treat soccer as a kind of arcane rite, to which only they themselves, the elect and initiates, are possessed of true knowledge.

Outside that magical circle, no one really understands the game Yes, game You would think it was some kind of a religious observance.

Yet the truth of the matter is that football's past is full of the most ridiculous mistakes made by managers and coaches who ought to have known better. Who, indeed, make out that they DO know better

From this, Ramsey himself was very far from exempt. I am not referring to his Wingless Wonders tactics of 1966 which, after he had jettisoned all the true wingers in his squad, led eventually to victory, and poisoned the wells of British football for years to come.

I am thinking, much more specifically, of the match at Wembley one spring evening in 1972, when England met West Germany in a first leg European Nations Cup quarter final.

Walking into the Press Box at Wembley, I was astonished to find that Ramsey had picked a midfield without a single ball-winning player; a real wing-half-back, to return to the old terminology.

It seemed a match made safe for the formidable blond West German Gunter Netzer, and so it proved. He simply ran wild in the midfield, and England lost, 3-1. Which meant they had to win handsomely in Berlin were they to survive.

But Ramsey did not even try to win. He put out a team full of hard, defensive men, the very reverse from the indulgent one which he had fielded at Wembley, and one in its own way as ill-designed to do the needful job as was his first side.



Argentina themselves, under the celebrated Cesar Menotti, played into Italy's hands in the 1982 World Cup in Spain, playing Diego Maradona up front where he could be marked out of the game by Gentile. Soccer's tacticians are sometimes too clever for their own good.

A bruising, gritty 0-0 draw resulted, after which Gunter Netzer trenchantly remarked: "The whole England team has autographed my leg."

In the last World Cup, Bobby Robson suddenly decided before the vital game in Cagliari against Holland that England would play with a sweeper. In his eight years as manager, they had never done so before.

Indeed, Robson had insisted time and again that the sweeper system was foreign to English players and that he would never employ it. Yet here he was—as one of his players, Steve McMahon, would later protest—imposing it on his team without any real preparation whatsoever.

Against the Dutch, it could be said to bring a draw, though since they had but one central striker it was probably unnecessary. Belgium were then beaten in Bologna. But in Naples against the Cameroons it simply collapsed, and was abandoned late in the game. "A flat back four saved us," admitted Robson.

Back in the 1974 World Cup in West Germany, that eminent tactician Enzo Bearzot, later a distinguished Italian team manager, was sent to watch Argentina.

He reported that Rene Houseman was playing in midfield, so when they met Argentina in Stuttgart, Italy marked him with a midfielder, Fabio Capello.

Disaster. Houseman, a natural winger, tiny and fast, ran Capello ragged on the left flank and Argentina scored in consequence. Not till late in the game was a switch made by Italy.

Argentina themselves, under the celebrated Cesar Menotti, played into Italy's hands in the 1982 World Cup in Spain, playing Diego Maradona up front where he could be marked out of the game by Gentile. Soccer's tacticians are sometimes too clever for their own good.

USE IT OR

THIS week we are focussing on the most vital instrument in one's body- the brain Perched high above the more physical parts of the body, this cerebral organ is also subject to the first law of locker room dynamics, "Use it or lose it."

For centuries the belief prevailed that the brain could not be influenced by us mortals—it was a gift one came endowed with. Recent studies have however proved that the brain can be bulked up. The brain can be made stronger and even larger—in response to the demands placed on it, like how muscles bulk up after exercise.

How is it possible? Well, neurons are the cells responsible for thinking. By stimulating the brain you will not sprout fresh neurons but you can encourage your brain to make new connections between the neurons you already have. As Marian Diamond, neuroanatomist at the University of California, Berkeley puts it. "The mind thrives on new experiences. A nerve cell needs to be stimulated and for this one needs to do active creative work."

This may sound like Dale Carnegie stuff but it's backed by lab studies. Researchers have discovered that rats living in stimulated environments grow bigger brains, while those in boring cages lose some lobe.

How do we make it happen is the next question that comes to mind. Everyday pleasures like reading, scrabble and other creative pursuits seem to improve problem solving, and language ability

The damage starts to set in when one falls into the rut. Men are so moneterarily inclined these days, that they are always on the edge. They place a lot of pressure on the brain, making it work overtime on the gory details of that extra rupee that has to be earned. The grey cells do not get a break, and after some time the brain needs some extra coaxing to get stimulated and function in the same capacity.

Once in a while just let the hair down and have some real fun.

The way to avoid this would be to give the brain some activity that is fun and challenging at the same time Remember the brain functions exactly like the brawn; you wouldn't stick to a boring exercise routine for more than a couple of days, so why



LOSE IT



THE HEALTH COLUMN

would the brain?

If you can't think of any activity that is 'fun', recall the last time you were so engrossed with an activity that time and the world just flew by...and you were not bothered in the least. The last time you performed at optimum level without putting in an extra effort. It might be everyday instances when you were listening to music, solving a crossword puzzle, playing a game or talking to a buddy. In sport this delicious experience is called 'the zone'. After you transcend normality you enter the 'zone' and you give it all you've got.

As children we tend to slip into the 'zone' very often, sometimes even unknowingly. But as adults we tend to fall into the 'rut', of mundane everyday affairs.

The brain like the body also responds to what we eat. Protein—3 to 4 ounces of it—at lunch and dinner can send enough tyrosine to the brain to promote the production of chemicals that keep us alert. However, there is a minor hitch with this power eating. Protein is almost always accompanied by fat, and fat has a couple of drawbacks. Firstly it places a heavier burden on the digestive system, diverting the blood from the brain. Secondly fat can line along the arteries and impede the flow of blood to the brain.

Get yourself into 'the zone' more often and just freak out...

The brain thrives on blood. And the best stimulant that rushes the blood to the brain is exercise. Regular exercise helps improve the 'thinking muscle' by putting more oxygen in to the blood. And the brain is an oxygen glutton. It represents just 2% of our body weight but sucks up 20 to 30% of our oxygen intake. Aerobic exercises boost the mental abilities because of the higher cerebral oxygen levels.

Also, once in a while give your brain a 'break'. The brain follows a basic rest/ activity cycle that repeats itself once every 90 minutes. Trouble can build if we habitually ignore that rest phase of the cycle because we are not giving the body some time to do it's inner book-keeping.

So folks, you don't have to trouble your head to tune your brain. Just make room for the countless pleasureable ways to smarten up, that life already offers. ●

KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND



Turn 180° and perform right lower block



Pull foot back and deliver right hammer-fist blow



Step forward and throw left middle punch

CARRYING on with the kata we're serialising, now make a 180° turn and perform a right *gidan-barai* while going into the *zen-kutsu-dachi*. Then, pull the right foot back a little, going into *neko-ashi-dachi* while delivering a *tetsui-uchi* the right hand. Step forward with the left leg and throw a *chudan-oi-tsuki*. Turn 90° to the left, performing a *gidan-barai* while going into *zen-kutsu-dachi*.

Stay tuned in to this column as we will be serialising the rest of this *kata* in the coming weeks.

By Shivaji Ganguly
Kyokushinkaikan karate

PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA



Turn 90° to left and perform left lower block

A State Of Shock

WHEN I flipped through the pages of the 'year-end' issue of *Sportsworld*, it was delightful to read about the prodigies of Indian sport, Sachin Tendulkar and V. Anand. Yet I wondered why we are unable to produce as gifted, young sportswomen. I can't really recall any sportswoman who is of world standard, from India. It is really sad that we cannot produce Capriatis, Grafs and Comenecis from India. While Indian women are coming up to world standards in other fields, why not in sports? Is it the fact that women are not so involved or dedicated to sport in India? Or do they want to use the ladder of sport to get on to other careers? I look forward to the golden era in Indian sport where India has somebody like a Flo Jo or a Steffi Graf or a Jennifer Capriati or a Nadia Commenci who are reckoned with throughout the world and who can keep the flag flying for their country.

SURESH,
Madurai



Irreplaceable

Kapil Dev's interview to *Sportsworld* was really good. In fact the magazine should also have carried a table showing his 376 wickets. People are now talking in terms of a replacement for Kaps. But the fact remains that at present there is no replacement for Kapil. Kapil the player will gracefully make way to a newcomer who can prove himself to be an artiste of the seam. Till then Indian cricket will continue to benefit from this workhorse.

G.K. HALDAR
New Delhi.

Keep It Up

Looking back at *Sportsworld* through the year 1990, the issues that covered the World Cup and the Asian Games were superb. The interviews carried through the year were exhaustive and informative at the same time.

Sunil Gavaskar's interview to the magazine perhaps the most extensive one given to any magazine saw Rohit Brijnath do a commendable job. Mudar Pathery a's articles were thought provoking and the articles 'Pride and Prejudice', 'The year 2040' and the article, 'The misunderstood Master' had that distinct Mudar touch.

Mr. Brijnath saying 'Good Day Mates' from Australia during the Australian Open and Andy O' Brien joining him at Wimbledon were extremely nice gestures. The photo features were as smashing as ever. Nadia, Ashwini, Zeeshan and Steffi Graf all figured in some memorable photo features. All these and the style of reporting by your enthusiastic correspondents has made *Sportsworld* an integral part of our lives. Please keep up the good work.

SRINIVAS NYAPATHY,
Rajahmundry

Superb

Hearty congratulations for the superb, 'Year end Special' issue of *Sportsworld*. Kapil Dev should have also been considered as the 'Man of the Year', on becoming the second highest wicket-taker in the world, second only to Hadlee.

Full marks to Vivek Das and Bhaskar Das for giving us a superb cover and a calendar.

S. HUSSAIN,
Dibrugarh

Kudos

KUDOS to *Sportsworld* for that fantastic interview with Franz Beckenbauer. (*Sportsworld*, 19th December). The questions asked by Arno Luik were interesting and informative and almost every aspect of Beckenbauer's life was covered.

A most complete interview.

BIJAN BANDHOPADHYAY,
Calcutta

RANJI TROPHY ZONAL ROUNDUP

Will Saurav Gan

SAURAV GANGULY has only himself to blame for having to wait so long to record his maiden first-class hundred Severely lacking in concentration for distressingly long, he could have easily got his maiden hundred against Bihar, in his third first class match. But lost the opportunity through sheer lack of application.

Now you may turn around and say, come on, that s too harsh on an eighteen-year-old boy. He deserves more time Possibly, yes. He has just got his driving licence and doesn't have his voting rights, yet.

Saurav had finished the group league engagements with an average of 99, which by any standard is impressive. But then there is another argument· Sachin Tendulkar has raised the 'floor level' so much that the accent on success at a young age is now overwhelming. There are many in Bengal who are already feeling optimistic about Saurav When an Ajit Wadekar goes on record saying he is a better bet than Kambli, when a Shastri praises him highly, that optimism is further strengthened.

It may seem absurd to many, but a lot of cricketers of the state believe that Saurav, given the opportunity,



SAYTOSH GHOSH

Saurav Ganguly: himself to blame

Tendulkar Way?



will go the Tendulkar way. While Assam, Bihar, Orissa and Tripura are hardly the sort of opponents against whom you can judge the true capabilities of a cricketer, if you set the yardstick aside for the time being, Saurav did play a key role in Bengal finishing first in the east zone group league.

Saurav Ganguly has only himself to blame having to wait so long to record his maiden first-class hundred. Lacking severely in concentration for distressingly long, he could easily have got his maiden hundred against Bihar, in his third first class match. But lost the opportunity through lack of application...

Now they will play the winner of the Maharastra-Karnataka match in the quarter final to be played at the Eden Gardens from 16-20 February.

That Bengal would eventually emerge Number One from the league was not quite a surprise. But that they would go about it in such a clinical fashion and leave the second team far behind was difficult to predict.

Bengal established their superiority with 79 points, while the other team Bihar collected 56. It all came as a pleasant surprise to the die-hard Bengal supporters who had become disillusioned after Bengal's indifferent showing in the Irani Trophy

To make things worse, Bengal was subjected to some ridiculous selection bungling Arun Lal, unquestionably the best man available for the job, was not made the captain. Some important officials (not the selectors) felt that Lal would be too hot for them to handle After all, one all-powerful official in the Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) is involved in a feud with Lal for the last one and a half years.

You may wonder how personal problems should affect decisions regarding a player's selection and his chances of being the skipper of a side. Well, the answer is, in the CAB--always a hotbed of conspiracies—personal relationships and equations do count a lot If you are ambitious you cannot afford to upset an official, even if you do well in the field.

To cut a long story short, the mild-mannered Pranab Roy was made the skipper—a compromise candidate, as many thought. But, ironically, Roy was not even called to the selection meetings. The selectors not only decided the composition of the team but also laid out the batting order, which, without a doubt, is the skipper's prerogative.

So far Pranab Roy has not dared to protest and still remains at the helm.

His main hope, Arun Lal, had started off the season extremely well The bearded batsman got a fighting hundred in the Irani Trophy, and followed it up with two centuries against Bihar and Orissa. But the moment Pakistan's tour of India was cancelled, he seemed to lose all his motivation. He could not cross fifty even once since then

And yet, all that did not affect Bengal. With Saurav, as well as others also making useful contributions, is Bengal learning to play cricket minus Arun Lal? It remains to be seen, and the real test for them will be the knockout matches where Bengal will once again have to prove their worth Though Bihar eventually made it to the knockout stages, and Assam could not, it was the latter who earned a



lot of respect. Despite being a side without much of a cricketing background to boast of, they nearly made it, before losing out to Bihar just one point.

Orissa proved to be a disappointment. Saba Karim recorded his career-best 234 against them whereas Bengal condemned them to an innings defeat.

One of the reasons could be a big row that erupted between the officials of the Orissa Cricket Association and six senior cricketers of the state, before the start of the season. These cricketers - Ranjib Bishwal, Debashis Mohanty, Sritam Das, Dhirendra Routh, Biswajit Mohanty and Akshay Pande - spoke openly against the administration, complaining of lack of practice facilities and demanded an immediate ouster of the OCA secretary. They even went to the extent of saying, "the administration should be in the hands of such people who will not live off the OCA funds, but will do their best for the development of cricket in the state."

Whether the players' allegation was right or wrong remains highly debatable. But no one is disputing the fact that this unfortunate controversy reflected in Orissa's showing this season.

Tripura, known to be the babes, played to justify their 'reputation'. Against them Bengal recorded their second highest Ranji score - 758 - with Ashok Malhotra getting a double hundred. He was ably supported by a till-then out-of-form Snehasish Ganguly who went on to score 158 the Tripura batsmen folded up quickly to give Bengal a big win, by an innings and 316 runs.

Arun Lal was not made the captain...One all powerful official in the CAB is involved in a prolonged feud with Lal for the last one and a half years...in CAB always a hotbed of conspiracies, personal relationships and equations do count a lot...

In the beginning of the season it seemed that the Ranji champions would be handicapped by the absence of their skipper Sambaran Banerjee who retired last season. But Mintoo Das the new wicketkeeper, has proved everyone wrong: Showing dependability behind the stumps, he also impressed with the bat.

Saurav not only played a very vital knock against Assam and pulled Bengal out of the woods but came good with the ball too. His 13 wicket haul was more than a bonus for Bengal. With Saradindu Mukherjee performing poorly in the preliminary matches, he came along just as they needed someone to add some sting to their limited bowling resources.

Gautam Bhattacharya,
Calcutta

RANJI TROPHY WEST ZONE

Deodhar's Centenary Gift

ON the eve of entering the hundredth year of his life on January 14, the Maharashtra cricket team presented the grand old man of Indian cricket Prof. D B. Deodhar with a memorable gift: The Talim trophy, which they won through their all-round supremacy in the Charminar Challenge Ranji trophy national cricket championship.

Prof. Deodhar is the president of the Maharashtra Cricket Association and in his heyday was the captain of the state's Ranji team when they had their two triumphs in the 1940s.

Maharashtra topped the league table even though they did not have a single outright win. They had 64 points, six more than Bombay's 58, with Baroda third on 56, followed by Saurashtra 35, and Gujarat 33.

Keen interest in the title fight was alive till the last day of the league, when Maharashtra needed 47 to take the vital lead against Bombay to nudge ahead of them in the top table clash at Pune. After trailing Maharashtra, Bombay faced a crisis, and was not even sure of their second place in the tournament.

More than 600 miles away, Baroda were going for an outright win over Saurashtra in their last match. That would have brought them on par with Bombay. The need for the former champions was then to clinch an additional bonus point to keep the margin. This Bombay did in the second innings getting three to be on the safe side.

Bombay may harp on the excuse that they did not win the league because they missed the services of their Test stars, Shastri, captain for the season, Sanjay Manjrekar, Sachin Tendulkar and Raju Kulkarni, but the replacements, like opener Sameer Deghe, Vinod Kambli, and Chandu Pandit gave a good account of themselves, proving useful and competent, making a valiant effort to power their side right to the top.

One of the top players who was sorely missed was Raju Kulkarni, who had been instrumental in their win over Gujarat in the first match.

In Raju Kulkarni's absence Pradad Desai protege of the former Indian bowling celebrity Ramakant Desai—now a BCA selector—bowled well, but received little help from the wicket. Also inducted into the Bombay team was Salil Ankola, from Maharashtra. The Indian bowler who toured Pakistan was not an overnight success in the first two games, but there is hope for him as he is able to bowl long spells which suggest that his chronic fitness problems are now behind him and he can now concentrate on further sharpening his skills.

Vinod Kambli: gave a good account of himself-



Bombay had serious problems in the spin department, especially as the crafty left-arm spinner Sanjay Patil was not fit for the last game against Maharashtra where Piyush Soneji made a heartening debut with bat and ball (three wickets and 40 runs). And he is the best fielder in the zone.

Bombay still do not have a good offspin bowler or a leg spinner; but Iqbal Khan and Rajput did a good job, Rajput claiming five against Baroda. Baroda tormented Bombay offering a towering total of 483. Baroda had Rashid Patel bowling with the fire of old against Bombay and coming back into the zone team for the Duleep Trophy.

P.V.J. Kar, Bombay

The 'Nawabs'



WITH three equally strong teams in the fray the South Zone Ranji Trophy league has always provided a keen and exciting race for the top honours. From that viewpoint this year's league was a big disappointment. Very early in the season, it became obvious that Tamil Nadu would not qualify and that Hyderabad and Karnataka would be the teams to make it to the knockout phase from the zone.

Tamil Nadu's tale of woe started from their first match against Goa. On the very first day T N skittled out Goa for 154 and then scored 30 for one. There was no further play which

Arshad Ayub: a shrewd captain

The

THE talking point of the South Zone Ranji Trophy league was not Hyderabad's superb all round efficiency which saw them clinch the title long before the season was over, or the particularly disappointing show by Tamil Nadu, perhaps the strongest team on paper. The major topic of discussion was the tactical and mathematical blunders committed by Andhra which more than anything else, saw the team finish last with 25 points.

For long, Andhra has been the team that the "big three" in the zone have feared. Always a fighting side, Andhra have given Hyderabad, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu a run for their money many times and on one famous occasion at Salem in January 1975 they even defeated Tamil Nadu by one run. In 1985-86, Andhra were the surprising winners of the zonal title while Hyderabad and Karnataka did not even qualify.

This time the team did not perform badly. In fact this time there were some fine batting performances from Oscar Vinod Kumar, Vincent Vinay Kumar and M.F. Rehman. But lack of planning and no apparent knowledge of the new rules cost them dearly in two matches.

The first was against Kerala. Andhra amassed a total of 420 runs and Kerala replied

Do It Again!

meant that Tamil Nadu were deprived of valuable points against a traditonally weak opponent. Srikkanth in desperation declared the innings at that juncture to get one point. According to the rules, if even the first innings is not completed the teams share two points each. By declaring and conceding the first innings lead, Srikkanth assured his team of three points, even though it also meant that Goa would get five. Four bowling bonus points saw Tamil Nadu with a haul of seven points which was unimpressive compared to the 22 or 23 points they managed against Goa in the past.

From that moment Tamil Nadu had either to score an outright victory over Hyderabad or Karnataka or hope that the other two giants performed badly against the weaker sides. Neither of these happened and Tamil Nadu finished a poor third with 58 points. Hyderabad won the zonal championship with 85 points while Karnataka had 77 points. Never was the disparity between the top three teams so obvious.

There was a distinct lack of fighting approach by the Tamil Nadu team and the only silver lining for Tamil Nadu was the discovery of a potentially fine all rounder in Ashish Kapoor. The 20-year-old former Indian under—19 player shone in the team's victories over Kerala and Andhra. In the first match he took 11 wickets and top scored with 73. In the second he took five

Mathematical Blunders

with 346. Andhra skipper Chamundeswarnath made a strange decision, when he decided to forfeit the second innings. In the remaining time instead, he reckoned he could take a couple of bowling bonus points. The decision lacked logic as it was obvious there was a woeful lack of bite in the Andhra bowling. Moreover he had got mathematical calculations wrong. He was apparently not aware of the new rule that the overs deducted between the innings was two and not three and also that a fraction of an over did not count So now Kerala had to get 75 runs for victory in 130 overs.

Kerala grabbed the golden opportunity and reached their target of 75 runs in 130 overs for the loss of one wicket and with 1.4 overs to spare.

It was a colossal blunder by Chamundeswarnath and he paid for it. At an emergency meeting the Andhra Cricket Association not only stripped him from the captaincy but also from the team.

But Andhra's tale of woe was not yet over. A couple of weeks after they again got their arithmetic wrong in the match against Hyderabad. Andhra had done very well scoring 334 and 334 in their two innings. Hyderabad with 414 in their first innings now had the task of scoring 255 runs for victory in 13 minutes and 20 mandatory overs—an impossible task. Hyderabad duly reached 150 for seven and then learnt that 120 runs had to be added since Andhra bowled ten overs short.

Andhra seemed to think that they could take their own sweet time to bowl the mandatory 20 overs. But the umpires pointed out that even those 20 overs should be bowled at a rate of an over every four minutes Thus Andhra after doing well in two matches lost both through lack of planning and not being aware of the rules. The Andhra captain this time was Kamaraju but most of the blame was attached to the team manager G. A. Pratap Kumar who is also a qualified first class umpire. It was said that he should have guided his team properly on the new rules.

Andhra however did not take the matter lying down. They protested to the Ranji Trophy Committee of the Board alleging that the Hyderabad batsmen adopted time wasting tactics which led in turn to the Andhra bowlers being forced to take time to send down their overs. The protest however was rejected at Calcutta this month with the Board view being that it was a miscalculation by Andhra.

It certainly was.

Partab Ramchand



PATRICK EAGAR

Kumble's performance was encouraging

wickets in the first innings and again top scored with 70. Another newcomer, N Gautham, scored an unbeaten 101 in his first Ranji Trophy game. But among the established stars only former Indian player Robin Singh played with consistency.

Hyderabad's superb all round efficiency saw them retain the Soundararajan Trophy. So clear was their supremacy that they had virtually made sure of topping the zonal table well before the season ended. They outplayed Goa, Kerala and (Andhra the last named in rather dramatic circumstances) held their own against Tamil Nadu and lost to Karnataka in their final match by 76 runs. Even that loss made no difference to the final standings.

In the absence of Azharuddin, Hyderabad was led shrewdly by Arshad Ayub Not only did Ayub prove to be a fine captain tactically, but he also led from the front with some excellent all-round performances.

Now Hyderabad has a very good chance of regaining the Trophy which they last won in 1986-87. It must not be forgotten that Azharuddin will be available for the knock out games.

Karnataka deservedly clinched a place in the knock out stage. In recent years Karnataka has gone through a lean period. The retirement of several stalwarts had made the team weak and in the last couple of years, under Roger Binny, Karnataka were in the rebuilding process This season it was obvious that the rebuilding was over and Karnataka under new captain Syed Kirmani were a fine all round side. Karnataka scored outright victories over Andhra, Kerala and Hyderabad, gained valuable points in their rain--hit tie against Goa. Against Tamil Nadu the batting was in full bloom.

Batting over two days, Karnataka hit up a massive 716. Karnataka was also well served by the bowlers, principally by the current Indian leg spinner Anil Kumble. The latter, in fact, had a fine match against Kerala scoring his maiden Ranji hundred and capturing eleven wickets. Like Hyderabad, Karnataka too can be rated as having a very good chance of regaining the trophy they last won in 1982-83.

Kerala did better than expected, finishing fourth with 46 points. Goa finishing fifth with 29 points had another poor season. Andhra surprisingly finished last with 25 points but, their poor showing was not because of sub standard performances but on mathematical blundering.

Hyderabad's Abdul Azeem crossed the 3000 run mark while Karnataka's Raghuram Bhat took his 300th wicket.

Overall points table: Hyderabad 85, Karnataka 77, Tamil Nadu 58, Kerala 46, Goa 29, Andhra 25.

Partab Ramchand, Madras

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Which Indian cricketer took three wickets with four balls in his first ever Test?
2. Indian cricketer of the 80's was dubbed the 'Colonel'?
3. Mushtaq Mohammad became the youngest player to appear in a Test match, who were Pakistan's opponents and where?
4. Who is the 'odd man out' of the following foreign-born Test players of England: Colin Cowdrey, Bob Woolmer, Phil Edmonds and Robin Jackman?
5. Which cricketer of the present Indian squad retired hurt with a badly cut face in his debut Test when a lifter from Benjamin struck him beneath the eye?
6. Which Australian batsman is nicknamed 'Swampy'?
7. When did England defeat India by an innings for the first time on the Indian soil?
8. When did England win a Test match in Delhi for the first time?
9. Who became the first batsman to score a hundredth first-class century in a Test match?

ANSWERS

1. Ravi Shastri.
2. Dilip Vengsarkar.
3. The West Indies, Lahore.
4. Phil Edmonds who was born in Lusaka, Zambia (All others were born in India).
5. Sanjay Manjrekar.
6. Geoff Marsh.
7. In 1976. (First Test, at Delhi).
8. In 1972. (First Test).
9. In August, 1977 (Fourth Test v Australia at Leeds).

BRIDGE

Most of the coups with catchy names were christened by the late Ely Culbertson whose debt bridge players would never quite be able to repay in full. One of these is the Merrimac Coup, so named by him after the American collier of the same name which the Americans themselves sunk in the Santiago Harbour during the 1848 war in an attempt, though unsuccessful, to stop the advancement of the Spanish Armada. Ed Mafield of USA, West on today's hand, used the Merrimac to good effect in the Cavendish team championship in New York:-

West led the king of clubs and it would appear that declarer can make his contract. For example, if West continues with a second club, dummy ruffs, draws two rounds of trumps and tries to give up a diamond to establish the suit for spade pitches. When the singleton king appears, he simply concedes the third trump and claims the rest to make five.

Manfield, however, executed the Merrimac Coup, the lead of an *unsupported* high honour to kill an important entry to an opposing hand, usually dummy's by switching to the spade king at trick two. Note what this did to declarer. With the spade entry gone, and unaware of the singleton king, declarer naturally finessed the diamonds, losing to the king. All would still have been well for declarer but Manfield followed up now with a club, forcing dummy to ruff. Declarer pulled a diamond to his ace and Manfield made the third fine move on the hand by refusing to ruff (or else declarer could win the return, draw trumps ending in dummy and claim), leaving declarer resourceless.

Dealer West — Both vul.

NORTH(dummy)
♠ A 10 6 2
♡ A 8 6
♢ Q J 10 5 4
♣ 7

WEST	EAST
♠ K 3	♠ J 9 4
♡ Q 10 3	♡ J 5
♢ K	♢ 9 8 6 3 2
♣ A K 9 8 6 4 3	♣ Q 10 2

SOUTH
♠ Q 8 7 5
♡ K 9 7 4 2
♢ A 7
♣ J 5

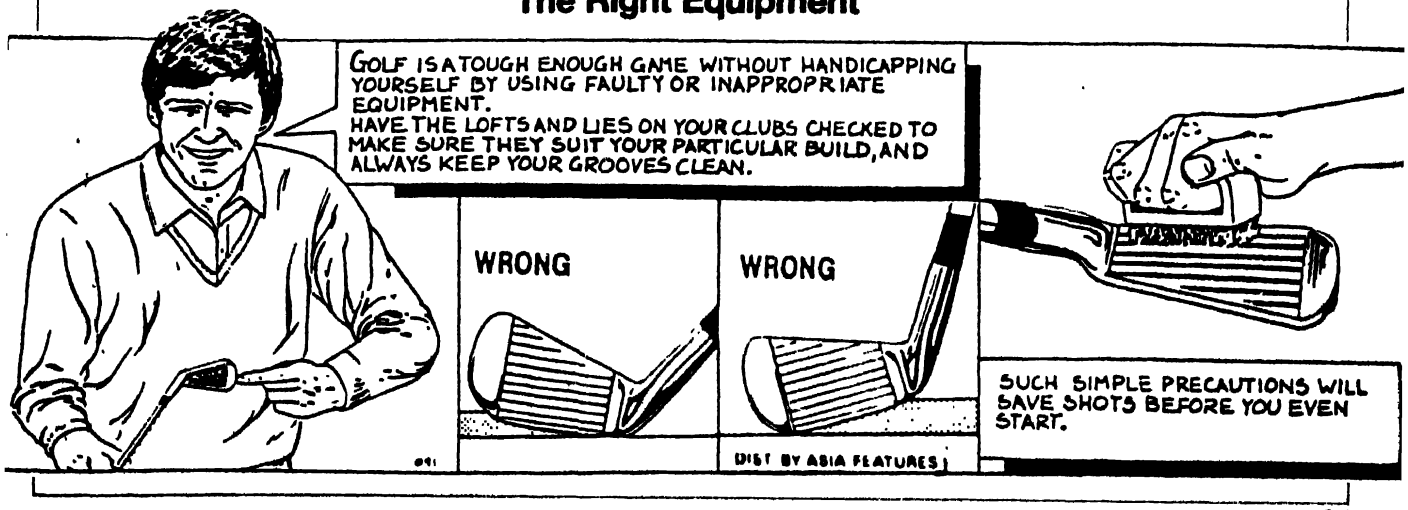
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1♣	Dble	Pass	2♣
Dble	2♢	3♣	3♡
Pass	4♡	All Pass	

Shantanu Ghosh

THE FALDO FORMULA

FROM TEE TO GREEN

The Right Equipment



MADRAS

Southern India Squash

FOR a long time, Meherwan Daruwalla had been the king of Indian squash. The Maharashtra ace won the national title five times until he was dethroned by Adrian Ezra in the Madras Nationals two years ago. Since then, he has not been able to turn the tables on Ezra. In fact, at the Calcutta Nationals last month, Daruwalla lost to the younger Ezra in straight games.

In the absence of Ezra however, Daruwalla is very much the man to beat for a title. This was proved in the seventh Wills Southern India Open Squash championship sponsored by ITC and organised by the Madras Cricket Club in the city in January. Ezra was not able to participate since he had to return to the USA for pursuing his studies. All the other top players took part and the list included besides Daruwalla, Ravinder Malik, Arjan Singh and R. Brar. There were a total of 41 entries with the Services giving the lion's share of the entries—13.

Predictably, the top four seeds—Daruwalla, Arjan Singh, Ravinder Mallick and R Brar—made it to the semi finals. And equally predictably it was the Services who dominated thus far with three of the four being from their ranks. But it was the man from Maharashtra who ultimately won the title. Daruwalla made short work of Capt Brar in the semi final, the second seeded Arjun Singh got the better of third seeded Mallick 9-4, 9-0, 9-2.

Everything pointed to the final between Daruwalla and Arjan Singh being a keen tussle. For one thing, they had displayed equally fine form in the tournament thus far. And secondly, on the last two occasions they had met, Daruwalla had got the better of Arjan but only after five gruelling



Meherwan Daruwala : winner of the Southern India squash championships

games. The most recent being the semi final at the Calcutta Nationals.

The first game pointed the way for a long drawn out tussle for supremacy. Daruwalla took a 3-0 lead only for the sturdy sardar to draw level. The top seeded left hander then surged ahead for a 8-5 lead, only a point away from taking the game. But Arjun Singh varied his game cleverly, drew level and then took the game over extra points at 10-8.

Even as the spectators sat back expecting another protracted duel in the second game, Daruwalla unleashed all his fury. He smashed powerfully, stroked fluently and with clever placements made Arjan Singh run all over the court. In next to no time, he had taken the second game without the loss of a point. The third game was level going initially (2 all) but then Daruwalla again struck a purple patch and took the game 9-2.

It seemed all over when Daruwalla led 4-0 in the fourth game. But Arjan Singh had some fire still left in him. He levelled at four and at 7-6 in Daruwalla's favour it still seemed anybody's game. But the experienced Daruwalla then quickly finished off the game 9-6 for the match which lasted 60 minutes.

For the first time, the organisers introduced a South India closed event. Vinoo Abraham won the title winning a close final against Arun Murugappan 1-9, 9-0, 5-9, 9-2, 9-5.

Partab Ramchand

KALYANI

Inter-Varsity Athletics

BY rights, the all India varsity athletics championships ought to be accorded a status next only to the National championships. Yet, year after year it is gone through in the most cursory fashion, almost in the matter of getting rid of something which cannot be avoided. At a time when Indian athletics is going through



Zenia Ayrton : winner of the 100m, 200m and 100m hurdles

a very traumatic period, more so after the debacle at the Beijing Asian Games, it is indeed sad that the Varsity meet was held at a venue of which the lesser one says, that better it is.

One must salute the likes of Zenia Ayrton and Anand Natarajan for having come to Kalyani, 60 km from Calcutta, and run no less than three events. Not just that, they also won them and in creditable timings.

The conditions provided for the university athletics were abysmal, not that it was anything new. They have become used to such conditions. The track here in Kalyani was firm and fast, but at places it was rather uneven. There was a particularly big bump immediately after the start of the 100m. Then around the 200m mark, there was a depression, which could have proved dangerous for the athletes.

The starter was inconsistent in his commands; pausing either for too long between Set and the firing of the gun, or not pausing at all. Zenia was a victim of this as she was not even in the set position when the gun went off. The signal for the last lap in each of the events was given with a whistle.

As for the performances, the pick of the lot as expected was Zenia in the women's section and Natarajan in the men's. Both turned in pleasant surprises adding an extra event each, to their usual 100m and 200m. While Zenia made her debut in the 100m hurdles for the first time at a major meet, Natarajan gave a glimpse of his future event.

Zenia, lying in the second place behind Milin Mohanty, another promising youngster from Utkal University, switched gears on the last three flights and clocked a life-best 14.9 seconds. Milin was second in 15.1 seconds. Zenia was impressive in the 100m (11.9) and the 200m (25.0)— especially so because there was no one to push her in either event.

Natarajan, trying to get over the disappointment of not making the team for the Beijing Asian Games last September, seems to have made up his mind about the 400m. After winning the 100m in 10.6 seconds, a record equalling effort for the varsity championships, he ran the 200m in a new record time of 21.3 seconds, the old record of 21.6 seconds also being his. Then in the 400m he ran almost all alone and yet stopped the clock at 48.5 seconds.

The two national stars apart, there was nothing to enthuse about the meet. The only others to impress somewhat were the pole vaulter, Raj Kumar, who cleared 4.00 metres, and Jai Kishan who won the 5,000m in 14:58.0. Raj Kumar was using a fibre glass pole for the first time in a meet, having procured it just a week ago. And he was unlucky as it snapped when he was going for 4.06, which was a centimetre higher than the existing record.

Jai Kishan, who has a best of 14:41, ran a slowish first half and

his efforts to make up for that in the last few laps did fetch him the top spot but did nothing to give him a decent time. He has the potential but needs the experience to realise the pace of a race while he is running it. He also finished third in the 1,500m.

A final word about the illogical format of the championships. First, there were the zonal meets, from which the top four in each event were selected for the inter-zonals, making it 16 participants in each event. But when the team championships are calculated, they are done so for individual universities, instead of it being zonal. Maybe, it would be better to revert to the format where all universities turned up which used to be the case till the year before last.

A Correspondent

BANGALORE

Garden City Road Mile

TWO new records were created in the second SURE Garden City Road Mile and Relays held at Bangalore recently.

Satish of Southern Railways created a new record in the men's mile with a timing of 4:02.1 against the record held by Sathyanarayana of Southern Railways of 4:21.1 in 1989.

Poonam Singh of SURE won the women's mile with a timing of 5:03.7 against her own timing of 4:58.4 in 1989.

The Southern Railways team improved on their own record in the Men's 4x2km relay with a timing of 20:38.7. The old record was 21:28.2 in 1989.

The YUVA team won the 4x2km women relay with a timing of 26:28.2.

Sunil Abraham

ROURKELA

Steel Kabaddi

IT was fine team work that enabled the Tata Iron & Steel Co (TISCO) to annex the Inter Steel Kabaddi Championship held at the Ispat Stadium under the auspices of the Sports Cell of the Rourkela Steel Plant.

TISCO won this trophy after almost a decade. In an exciting final, which stretched into extra time, TISCO dethroned last year's champions Bhilai Steel Plant 24-16. In the stipulated time both teams were locked in a 14-14 draw. But in extra time, the TISCO team sparkled and won the match 24-16.

The semi final match between Bhilai and Bhadravati Steel Plant was a keenly contested match which the former won 15-12. TISCO did not face much difficulty against Durgapur while winning the match comfortably 34-12.

In this three day championship, seven steel plants of the country participated.

Mr. G.C. Khuntia, GM (M&Q) of Rourkela Steel Plant was the chief guest on the concluding day and distributed the prizes.

Satish Sharma



Ashwini Nachappa presenting the prizes to the winners of the SURE Garden City road mile race

MADRAS

State TT

TAMIL NADU is very much in the forefront on the national table tennis scene these days. Young talents like Chetan Baboor, S. Raman, B. Bhuvaneswari, Ms Mythili and Arul Selvi are making waves around the Indian circuit, causing major upsets and winning titles. And one of the reasons is the healthy atmosphere prevailing in state table tennis circles.

The Tamil Nadu Table Tennis Association is conducting its affairs in a businesslike manner. But they are not the only ones organising tournaments. There are two other associations which are also playing a vital role in spotting talent and they are the Tamil Nadu Table Tennis Players Welfare Association and the Tamil Nadu Table Tennis Players Parents Association. Long winded, laborious names maybe, but they operate in a slick manner.

The Players Parent's Association was formed only last year but in the short time since then has earned a name for itself as a well run body which has the interests of the game and the players uppermost in its mind. And since, as the name suggests it, is run by the parents of the kids, they put in that extra effort to make everything go smoothly.

Last year, soon after its inauguration, the Players

Parents Association organised its first tournament—a city based school event. With the game's popularity enjoying an all time peak in the state, the organisers were surprised by the large number of entries received. Still, they organised it in an exemplary manner.

Encouraged by the success of their maiden effort, they embarked on a bigger event and earlier this month organised a state level schools tournament. Not only that, they roped in sponsors and were able to offer a total prize money of about Rs 9000. In addition, the winning team would get cycles given by one of the major sponsors T I Cycles of India Ltd.

The interesting format provided the element of surprise. With each State ranked player restricted to just one match, cumulative strength was imperative for the teams to advance. So it was, for example, that despite the presence of national junior champion Chetan Baboor in their ranks, Padma Seshadri Bala Bhavan went down to G. Vivekananda Vidyalaya Annanagar in the senior boys event.

Ultimately while Santhome won the senior boys title, Padma Seshadri won the junior boys title. The girls event was claimed by Rosary Matriculation.

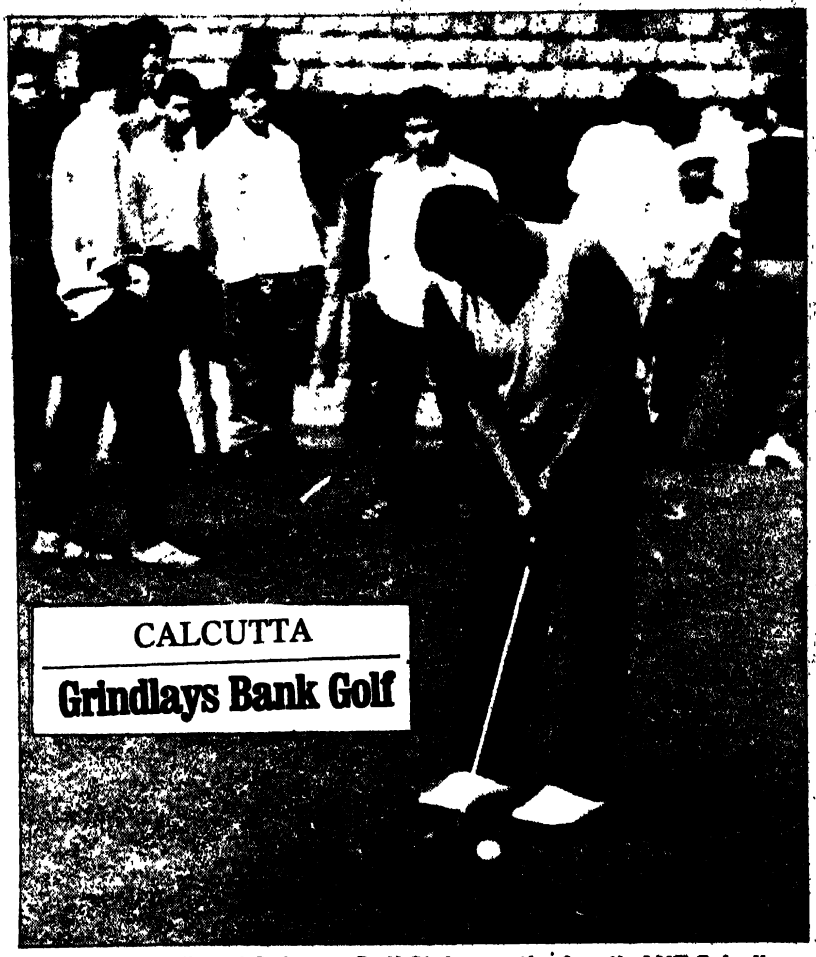
The response was again overwhelming. The talent is there in plenty. It only needs to be tapped. That is the lesson brought home by such grass root level competitions. And the cash awards and gifts like cycles are certainly worthwhile incentives for youngsters to take any game seriously.

Partab Ramchand

HAZARIBAGH

Junior State Powerlifting

B.P. BEHRA of TISCO, Jamshedpur won the "strongman of Bihar Jr" title in the Junior Bihar State



CALCUTTA

Grindlays Bank Golf

Hyder Khan of Royal Calcutta Golf Club won the fourth ANZ Grindlays Bank Golf championships with a cumulative total of 289 at the Tollygunge Club, and picked up a cheque of Rs 16,660.

CALCUTTA

Ladies Amateur Golf



Nonita Lal won the Charminar Challenge West Bengal ladies amateur championships held in Calcutta recently

Bihar Police: winner of the Inter-District Volleyball tournament

Powerlifting championship held here recently. Behra snatched a total of 425 kilograms in the 52 kg weight group.

The team championship went to TISCO, Jamshedpur, who earned a maximum of 72 points with nine golds and one silver medal. Marwari Yuvak Vyayamshala, Ranchi got second place with 51 points.

Inter-District Volleyball

BIHAR Police, Patna, won the men's championship of the Bihar State Inter District Volleyball Tournament held here recently at the Hazaribagh stadium.

In the final, they defeated Jamshedpur in straight sets 15-9, 15-12, 15-6. Earlier in the semi finals, Bihar Police beat Begusarai 15-7, 15-8, 15-10, while Jamshedpur defeated Samastipur 15-8, 15-8, 11-15 and 15-3.

The women's title went to Jamshedpur women's college when they defeated Singhbhum in a tough final 13-15, 15-3, 9-15, 15-11 and 15-9.

Anil Kumar Singh

TRIVANDRUM

Junior Women's Hockey

THE 26th National junior women's Hockey championships which was postponed in the wake of the disturbances in North India, was finally held at Thiruvananthapuram.

Punjab emerged the champions and received the Jnanapathy Agarwal Trophy from the President of Kerala Sports Council, V.G. Govindan Nair.



In a meet that had 14 teams in the fray, Punjab defeated Chandigarh 2-1 in the final encounter. They went into the lead in the 24th minute through a solo effort from left-out Barinder Kaur. Chandigarh, however, equalised in the 34th minute via centre-forward Veena Syam. In the 47th min., Kuljinder's pass resulted in unmarked Loveleen Kaur sounding the board for Punjab to seal the issue.

Punjab, who were clearly the superior side, carned eight penalty corners, but all them went abegging. Barinder Kaur (Punjab) and left inside Sita Gusai (Chandigarh) were outstanding.

Earlier in the first semi-final, Chandigarh beat Pepsu 2-0. The second semi-final, between Punjab and holders Bihar, saw them locked 1-1 at the end of extra time. In the tie-breaker, both the teams converted 5 goals each (6-6). Finally sudden death was applied and Punjab won 7-6.

In the shoot out for the third place, Bihar defeated Pepsu 3-0. Karuna Bhaisare of Vidharba who scored 8 goals (including 2 hat-tricks) in three outings was adjudged the best player.

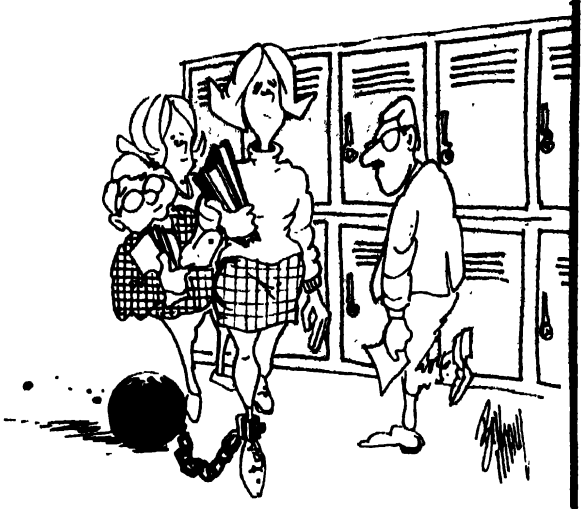
Sajeev Kumar T.K.

The Punjab team were the winners of the junior women's hockey championships

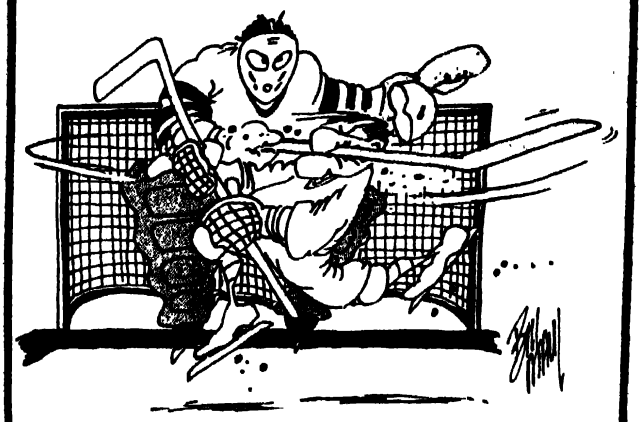


M. BALAN

SPORTS HALL OF SHAME — BY NASH & ZULLO



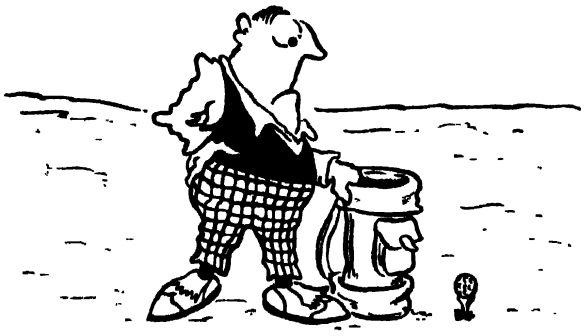
WHAT DID CONVICTS ON A CHAIN GANG HAVE IN COMMON WITH MEMBERS OF THE CROWN POINT (IND.) HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM? A 20-POUND BALL AND CHAIN WORN AROUND THE ANKLE. IN THE 1980s, CROWN POINT COACH **TOM MAY** MADE THE PLAYER WITH THE WORST STATISTICS IN THE GAME WEAR THE BALL AND CHAIN THE NEXT DAY IN SCHOOL!



PHILADELPHIA FLYERS ROOKIE GOALIE **RON HEXTALL** FINISHED THE 1987 HOCKEY SEASON WITH 104 PENALTY MINUTES — NEARLY DOUBLE THE PREVIOUS UNOFFICIAL RECORD FOR A NET TENDER. BEFORE THE NHL ALL-STAR BREAK, THE PHILLY BAD BOY WAS NAILED SIX TIMES FOR SLASHING, TWICE FOR HIGH-STICKING, ONCE FOR ROUGHING, AND ONCE FOR LEAVING HIS CREASE DURING A FIGHT. HEXTALL DREW DELAY OF GAME PENALTIES ON FOUR OTHER OCCASIONS BY SLAPPING THE PUCK INTO THE STANDS.

THE FUNNY SIDE OF GOLF

RULE 4-4: BORROWING OR SHARING CLUBS:
THE ADDITION OR REPLACEMENT OF A CLUB OR CLUBS MAY BE MADE BY BORROWING FROM ANYONE; ONLY THE BORROWER MAY USE SUCH CLUB OR CLUBS FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE ROUND



RULE 5-1: THE BALL:
THE BALL THE PLAYER USES SHALL CONFORM TO SPECIFICATIONS ON MAXIMUM WEIGHT, MINIMUM SIZE, SPHERICAL SYMMETRY, INITIAL VELOCITY AND OVERALL DISTANCE WHEN TESTED UNDER SPECIFIED CONDITIONS



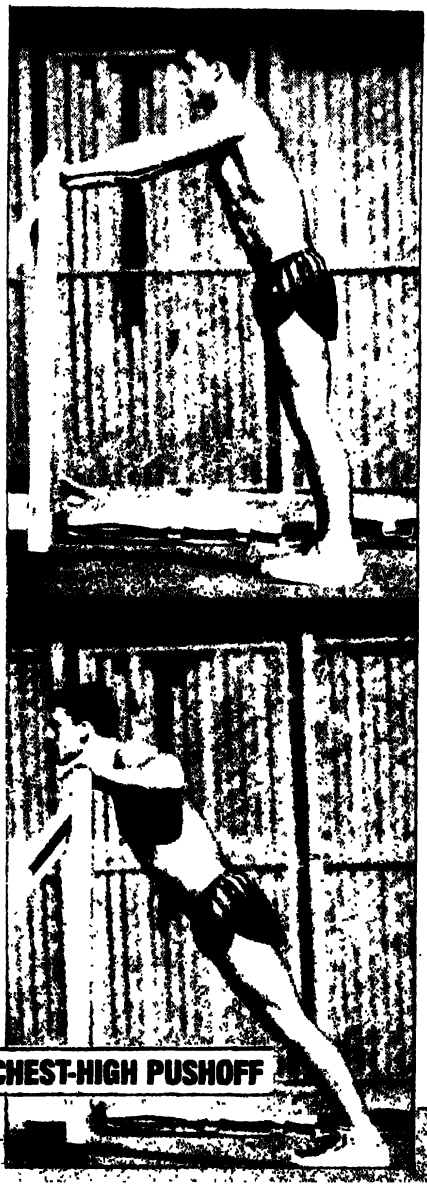
FITNESS

Broad Shoulders Make Slim Waists

STILL trying to trim that waist, are you? Well, here's some news. Sport broad, strong shoulders and your waist is going to look slimmer than it actually is. Look at it this way: narrow shoulders that look about the same size as your waist will not give any semblance of dimension. On the other hand, shoulders will accentuate the difference in size and make your waist look slim....even if it isn't. Convinced? Okay, then let's work on some shoulder-wideners—namely, push-ups. Wait...wait, before you start groaning in boredom and throw this magazine away. This is a guide to a variety of push-ups that are guaranteed to keep the enthusiasm going.



WALL PUSHOFF



CHEST-HIGH PUSHOFF

Let's start off with the easy ones. For Wall Pushoffs, stand about two-three feet away from a wall and put your hands against it about shoulder high. Lean towards the wall, till your face is almost touching it with the elbows bent. Then push yourself back to the starting position. Shoot for 20. And once that's easy stuff, move on to the next level.

Chest-High Pushoffs is the next step. Place your hands on something that is chest high and keeping your body straight, bend your elbows till your chin is almost touching the spot your hands are at. Then push yourself back to the starting position. Once again, it's 20 that you're looking for.

Once that's achieved, move on to Waist-High Pushoffs. Here, it's basically the same as the previous one, except that it's a waist-high surface that the hands are placed on. Get to 20 and and you're ready to move on to the next step.

How do these sound? We know there are a lot of you who can do these with one hand tied behind the back and blindfolded, but c'mon guys, give the others a chance to catch up, will'ya. We'll be getting to the tougher stuff in a couple of weeks, so get those muscles warmed up for a real gruelling workout.



WAIST-HIGH PUSHOFF

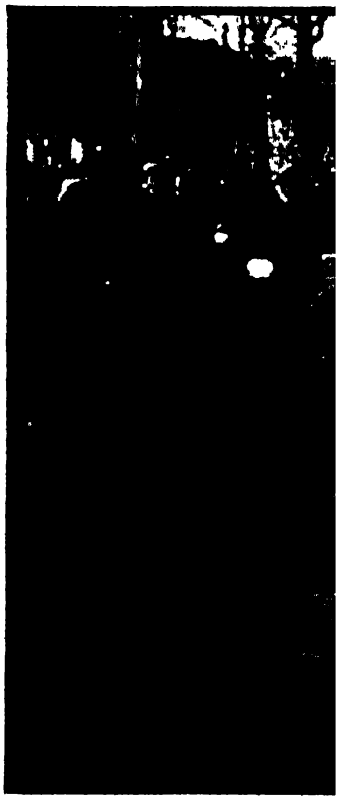
PROFILE



ALAIN PROST

A PASSION FOR SPEED

After all, as he says, "what is life worth without risks"? Meet the Professor of Formula One racing



1989. The Paul Ricard circuit, venue of the French Grand Prix. The cars take their positions on the grid. The lights flash green. And, in a ear-splitting roar, the powerful Formula One cars rocket off the line.

The first bend is a right-hander. The McLarens flash through. The Ferraris are just about to follow when Mauricio Gugelmin, charging for a gap that never existed, locks up the brakes on his March Judd. But the momentum is too much. The car hits Mansell's Ferrari, flips over and gets catapulted off the track.

As the other Ferrari driver Gerhard Berger later recalled, an unbelieving look still glazing his eyes, "I saw Mauricio above me. He looked straight at me with his head hanging down".





The car comes back to earth...upside down. A track a metre long is left by Gugelmin's helmet; director of the March team Jan Phillips crosses himself when he sees the wreckage. The firefighters douse the car with chemicals, then manhandle it the right way up. Gugelmin unstraps himself and climbs out. Only to run back to the pits, clamber into the spare car and line up for the restart. Unfortunately a few laps later he is out of the race with a mechanical glitch.

When asked about his accident, Gugelmin said

Prost enjoyed his most successful years with Marlboro-McLaren, but has since moved to Ferrari

Prost's son Nicholas has inherited his father's love for anything fast and noisy

"No, I didn't suffer from shock at all after the accident. Not at all". And then he laughed!

THEY are like that; they have to be. Formula One drivers may look like other young men when they stroll down streets, minus their padded overalls. But they are a very different breed of people. They are people who race hyper sensitive cars with 195 litres of octane pumped in. Who drive these Molotov cocktails at

speeds where normal men fear to tread. Who subject themselves to G-forces while taking high-speed bends that would have most of us blacking out. Who have to make a gear shift every 2½ seconds, while operating in speeds upto 300 kmph. Who, like Gugelmin, shrug off devasting accidents like they were everyday affairs.

Alain Prost is one such man. With a "what is life worth without risks" attitude, this diminutive 34-year-old Frenchman has inhabited the fast lane for most of his life. Starting off with Go-Karts, he moved on to Formula Renault and then Formula 3. Finally, about ten years ago, Prost graduated to the real thing...Formula One.

But not before he learnt the hard way. In one of his first races, a wheel suspension broke. A split second later, so did his wrist. A shellshocked Prost was left wondering "Man, this is more dangerous than I imagined". But instead of frightening him off the track, this accident made the so-far speed-crazy Frenchman rethink his approach. Sure, he wanted to race F1...and win. But he also wanted to stay alive. So he figured out that it was "a question of winning whilst driving as slowly as possible".

This calculated approach—which has since earned him the nickname 'The Professor'—has stood Prost in good stead since. In the car and out of it. He has successfully withstood hours of high-intensity Grand Prix races where the body gets thumped with every impact the car makes on the track and temperatures climb to well over 80° Centigade. And that's not counting the hours of test drives, none of which are leisure outings.

Wife Anne Marie gave up her teaching job to look after her husband and son



He has also mastered the lifestyle that goes with being a successful Formula One racer. The constant travel, with 16 GPs spread out over the year...and all over the world. The fitness training, so essential for a demanding sport like his. The obligations to the sponsors and the press. And, of course, the all-important rapport with his mechanics to keep pushing the car's limit.

In between all this, Prost has also found the time to court and marry Anne Marie with whom he set up house in his home town St. Chemind. A teacher before her wedding, Anne Marie



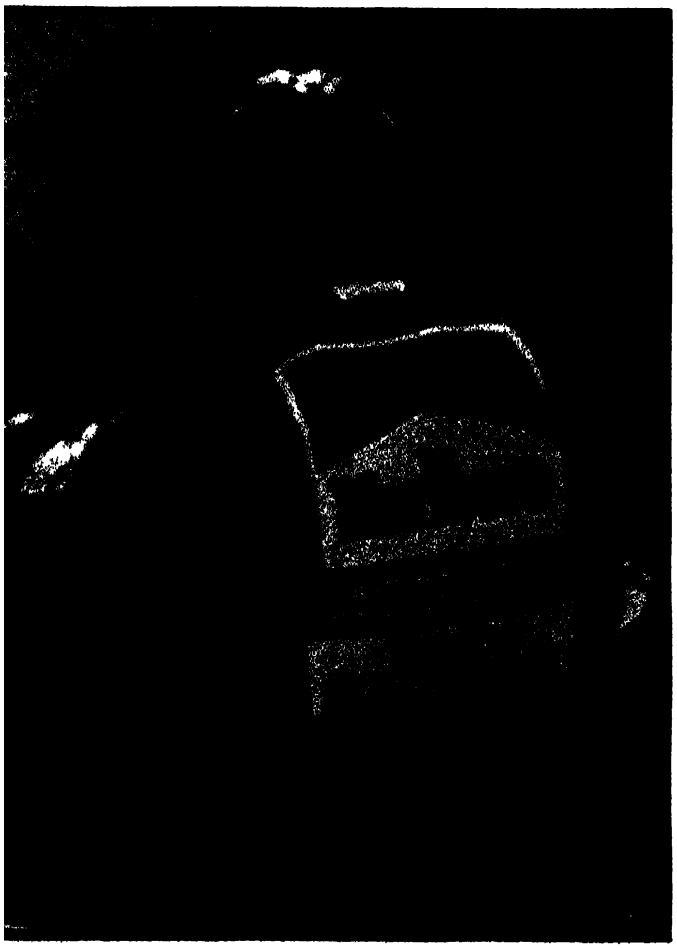
The Prost-Senna partnership was doomed from the start

gave up her job soon after she married and devoted herself totally to looking after her husband and, later, their son Micholas.

Ironically, it took disillusionment with his own countrymen for the Prosts to leave France and take up residence in Switzerland in 1983. Then driving for the French auto firm Renault, arguments with the management about their Formula One team's handling had a mob of disgruntled Renault workers demonstrating in front of his St. Chemind house. To make matters worse, they even set fire to Prost's favourite white Mercedes parked outside.

That was the last





The thrill of speed—even on snowbound slopes—has always attracted Prost

straw. Understating the hostility with "I sense mistrust in France", Prost severed all connections with his country. "The French prefer martyrs who lose with glory. I seem to have made an error by winning", he said as he signed along McLaren Porsche's dotted line.

It was an 'error' he had no intention of rectifying. A 16-race winning streak through 1984-85 saw him take the Formula One Drivers' Championship in '85. A year later, he repeated Jack Brabham's '59-'60 feat of retaining his title. "He sits at the Almighty's right" was *L'Equipe*'s somewhat misplaced way of putting it, when writing about the luck factor that contributed to the Frenchman's two-year domination. But they were wrong. Prost's titles were the result of cool, calculated risk-taking. Of knowing exactly when he could step onto the edge.

If anything, the only way luck has entered the Prost gameplan is in the cars he has got to drive. He has always been behind the wheel of a very competitive machine, never having to suffer on terms of sheer horsepower. Something which prodded his detractors into pointing out that this man is not the celebrated racing genius he is made out to be. But rather a product of extremely favourable circumstances.

While there may be an element of truth in that, the counter-argument that not everyone who has driven for McLaren or Ferrari has won the world championship certainly holds good. It

Prost plays his golf with the same passion he displays while driving

is certain that Alain Prost is one of the best to have turned a Formula One steering wheel. And he's even got former champions Jackie Stewart and Niki Lauda endorsing that viewpoint. Stewart acknowledges Prost's driving prowess and attributes his success to the fact that "he makes the fewest mistakes", while Lauda feels "Prost is a racing genius because he does not step on it with his foot, but with his head as well". With recommendations from legends like these, luck be damned.

However, not all Formula One champions share the same warmth about Alain Prost. And vice versa. In about the greatest rivalry this sport has ever seen, the Frenchman and his Marlboro McLaren teammate till 1989 Ayrton Senna dislike each other so intensely that they can't even be bothered with minor courtesies like speaking! And it all stems from their radically different styles on the circuit.

Prost is a racing gentleman. He pilots his car with the clinical precision of a surgeon. The aim being to win without engaging in 250 kmph dogfights. Or damaging the expensive piece of machinery he sits in. "I am not so mad as to engage in such neck-breaking gimmicks" he says, obviously referring to his rival's antics.

In comparison, Senna is a gladiator. For him, coming second means nothing. He drives with an all-consuming passion for victory, throwing the car through hairpin bends almost as though haunted by a death wish. In a way, it's almost as though it isn't a racing car he drives; rather a Roman chariot in pursuit of the fleeing foot soldiers. And he makes the blood run cold by saying "Formula One is no place to make friends".

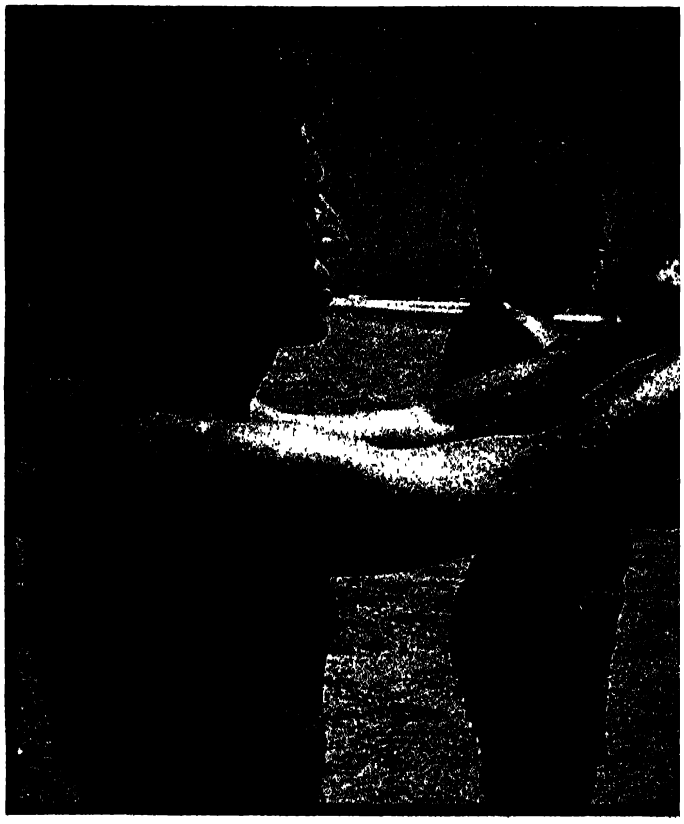


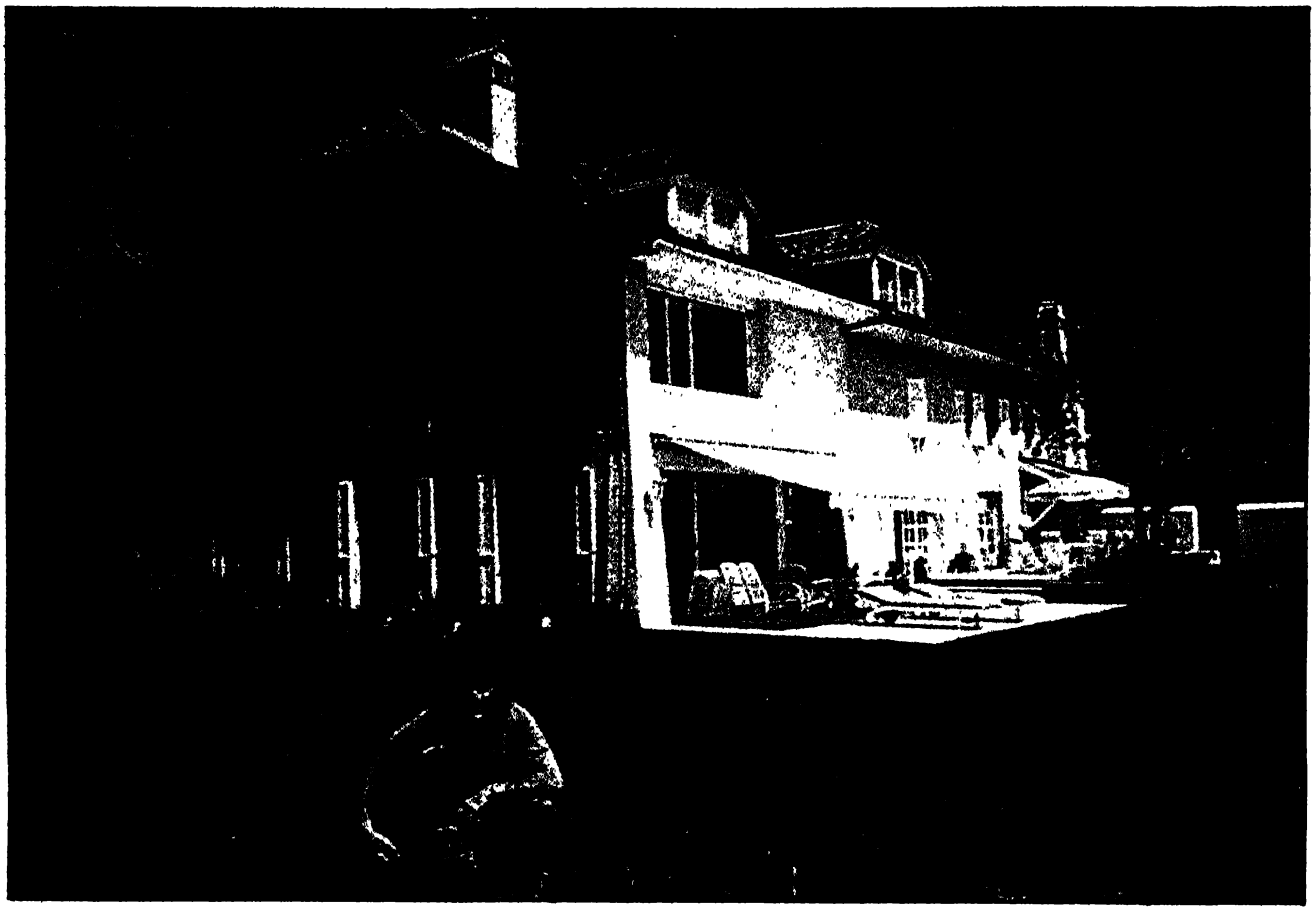
The Prost-Senna feud really came to a boil when the latter reneged on an agreement that they wouldn't try to overtake each other at the first bend. McLaren teammates then, the idea was to avoid pyrotechnics so early in the race.

Fitness is a very important part of Formula One racing

But it was just the outbreak of something that had been simmering for very long. Incidents like Senna calling off McLaren post-testing team meetings without saying anything after Prost had generously shared his information and made valuable suggestions to the pit crew. Or like Senna nearly pushing his teammate into a wall to prevent him from overtaking, causing the Frenchman to spit out "If that is the price to pay for being at the top, I'd rather do without".

It was a partnership that was doomed from the start. One a passionate human being, the emotion even spilling over into his golf. The Professor who liked taking risks but still maintained a sense of humour. The other a detached winning







machine. Whose only joy apparently comes from standing on the highest step of the podium.

"Sincerity, particularly from my teammates are the most important elements in inter-human relationships for me" was Prost's refrain as he packed his bags and headed for Ferrari in '90. Senna, who stayed back with the McLaren Honda team, hadn't even known a thing like that existed!

In the company of the much more easygoing Nigel Mansell, Prost seemed to have rekindled his motivation last year. Even though trailing the McLarens on horsepower—Honda's V10 outaccelerates Ferrari's V12, although they match each other on top-end power—Prost has mastered the semi-automatic push-button gear shift enough to haunt Senna's rearview mirror. And, on occassions, even show the Brazilian the way around the circuit.

In fact, his second-place finish—to Senna, who else?—in the 1990 season reiterates his point that you can be human...and still win Formula One races. Human enough to accept rebuke from your mother when you exceed the speed limit on the highway; Prost's mother turning to her son and asking "do you think you are Fangio or what?" Human enough to put it in print that he "would stop in the middle of a race if I could be of help" when talking about Niki Lauda callously driving past a dreadfully damaged Formula One car and later remarking "I am paid for driving and not for parking".

Prost's shift of residence to Switzerland was a result of his disillusionment with his countrymen

And, best of all, human enough to strike up a man-machine relationship that succeeds...he ran out of gas in the closing stages of the German GP of 1986, hopped out of the car and pushed it over the line. All to save one measly point in the world championship tally.

This is a man who passionately enjoys life...even though it's in the fast lane. ●

freewheeling

WE WRITING FOLK used to laugh at photographers, but not any more We used to think of them as work-horses in the days when they had a camera called a 'Speed Graphic', which was about the size of a small safe, and a box of tricks to go with it that might have doubled up as a cricketer's coffin

In those days all the average writing man carried on his expeditions was a small notebook and a ballpoint

I sometimes sigh for those simple days One went to the source of one's story, wrote down the facts in scribble or Pitman's shorthand or speedwriting or boasted that if someone said something interesting one would remember it; and then went in search of a phone.

You either jotted down a few words and ad libbed the rest, or, if you considered yourself to be a proper writer, set out the whole story in your best superscript You then dialled 100, asked the operator for a reverse-charge call and spent half-an-hour dictating your 1000 words to a copy typist. According to legend these patient people were all deaf, dyslexic and daft, and given to asking the word artists 'Is there much more of this?' It was also thought that they required lots of encouragement by the use of the words 'darling' or 'mate' at the end of every sentence

Then came 'new tech', the electronic wonder that was supposed to make our lives easier We all acquired lap-top computers—I'm writing this piece on one now (in Adelaide airport, actually)—and miniature printers and modems, and we all learned to converse blithely about bytes, log-ons and hard disks.

To be honest, the new stuff is a pain First of all, you can shout at it when it doesn't work just as you used to cuss the copytaker, but the result is still the same Afterwards you feel guilty and that somehow the fact that the little toy didn't transmit your copy was your fault

Worse still, it requires all these wires and transformers and phone connectors and it weighs a ton It means crawling under hotel beds to push wires into sockets, and making sure that you either have enough batteries or that you can find an electric outlet. In new Press-boxes there are always too few; in old Press-boxes the only one is used to boil the kettle

Of course when everything works perfectly the new tech is a joy Write the story, flick over to your transmission package, hit a few more buttons—see how the new jargon trips off the keyboard—and your masterpiece flows across the screen, out into the ether and by the time you've rung the sports editor he's already had time not only to read it but to compose suitable congratulations too

What a pleasure it is to use and how much less demanding that the old pencil stub and a scrap of paper And the spell-checker means that even those who can't remember when 'e' comes before 'i' can present copy so clean that it's a pleasure to read. Where would one be without it?



Oh, of course. I remember. We'd be laughing at the artists of the graphic art, carrying those huge 800mm lenses and talking all that nonsense about F8 at a sixteenth and clean backgrounds. They're a bit of a worry, photographers. They're insensitive to any human emotion once they get behind that lens, you know

Look at the gentleman who burst in on Graham Gooch in his hospital bed Report him to the Press Council, have him stripped of his Canon Sureshot and sent back to the dark-room. Or, if you happen to work for his paper, congratulate him on his initiative

'That's what newspapers are all about,' I heard one Aussie reporter say. 'Getting the story or the picture the others can't get '

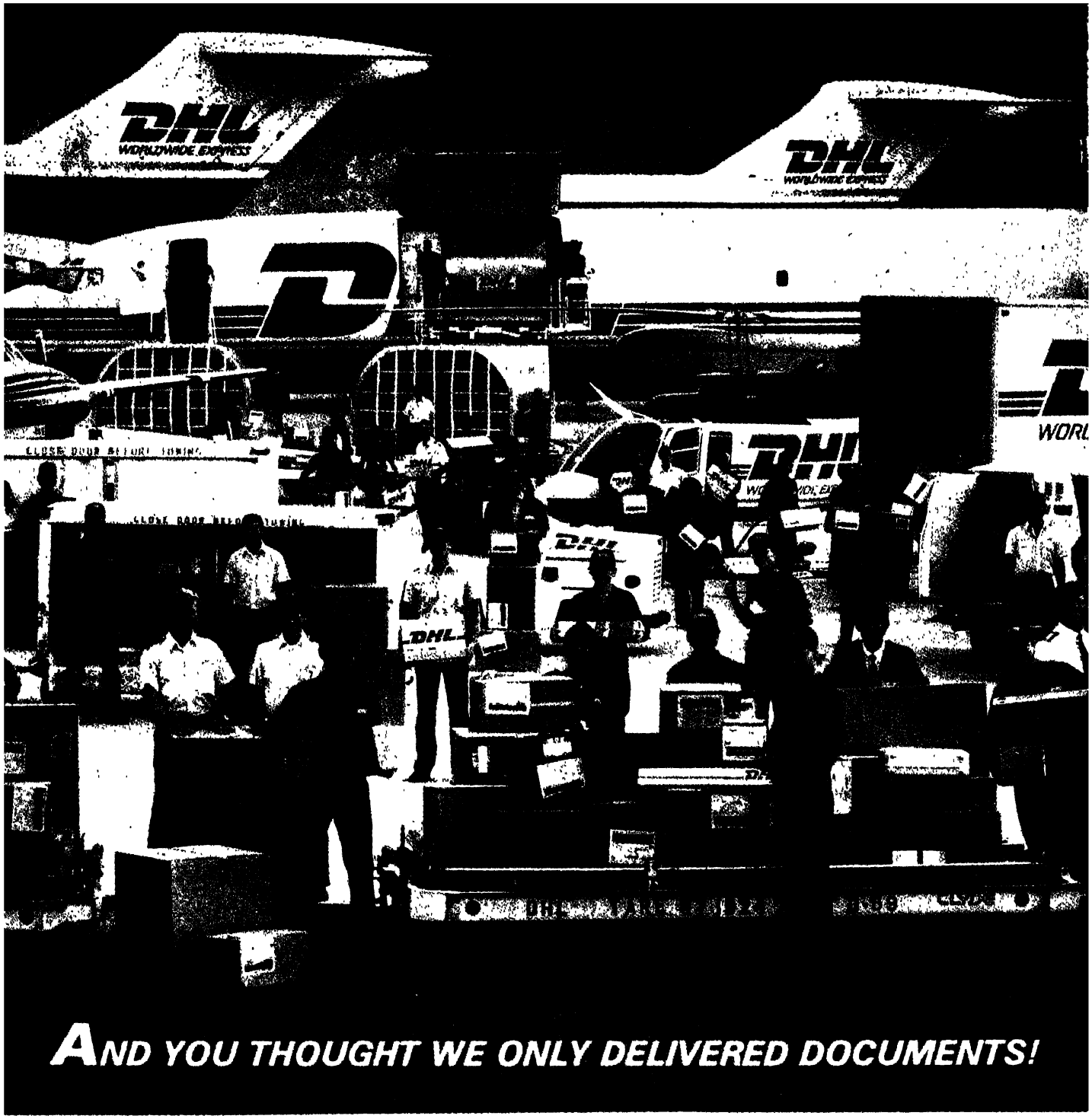
Yes, but isn't there a limit? Gooch wasn't dying, or seriously ill, or important in any way beyond cricket, was he? And isn't he entitled to privacy? How would you like it etc etc?

Or is sport just a branch of showbiz with an underlying obligation to repay those who offer their bobs in gate-money with their news and views and faces in the paper? I find a high moral tone in sport and pop entertainment a bit difficult to take.

Perhaps the lap-top knows the answer. Now if I press F1 and Alt or go into the spreadsheet and bring up the arithmetic mode...

Ted Corbett
WISDEN CRICKET MONTHLY


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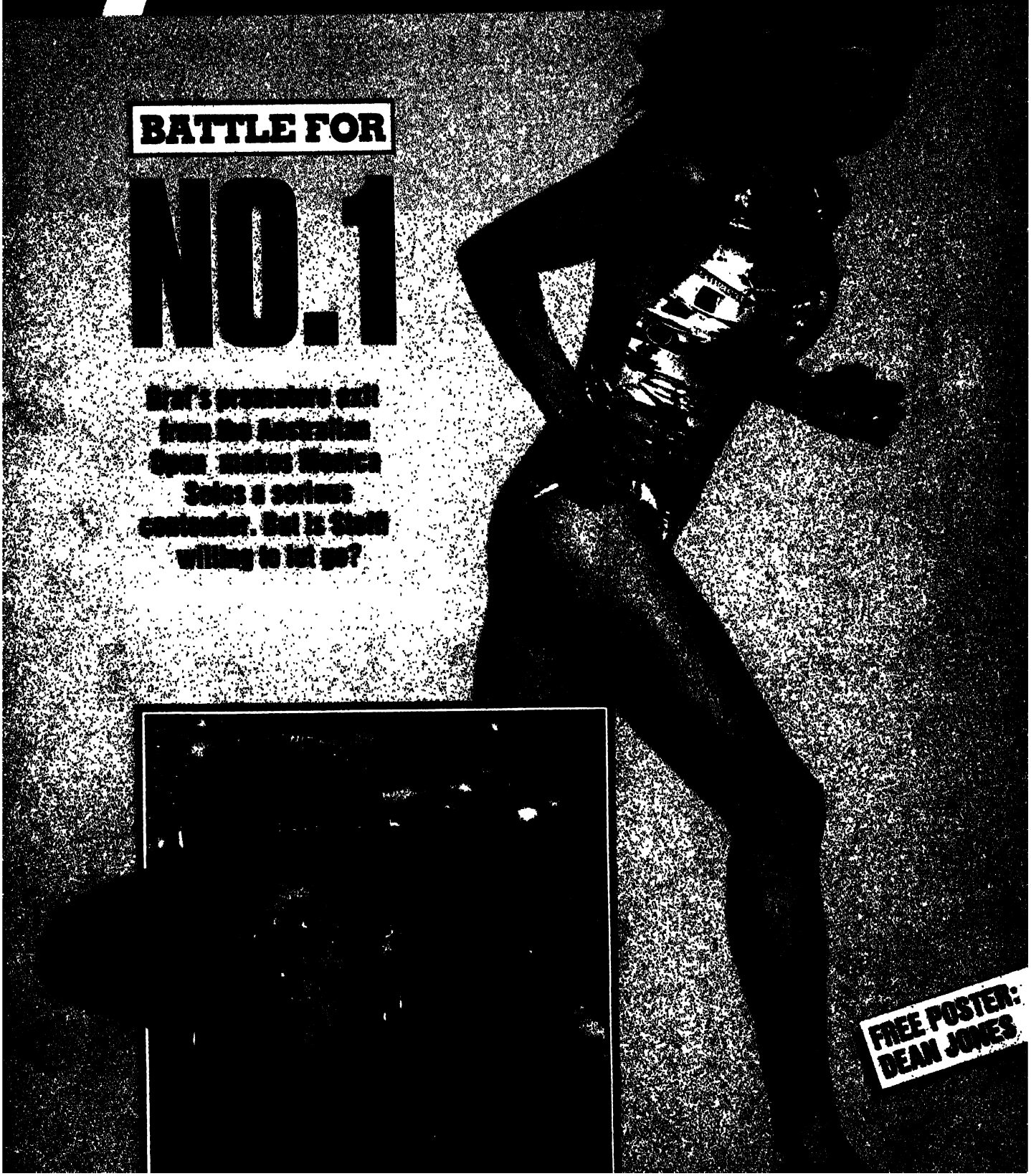
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YET ANOTHER JOLT FOR INDIAN RUGBY

Sportsworld

BATTLE FOR NO.1

Ayr's promotion and then the Australian Open. Andrew Mackie takes a serious contender. But is Slade willing to let go?



FREE POSTER: DEAN JONES



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Age of Entry (Completed Years)	Retirement Age (Running Age)					
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25	47	44	41	38	35	33
31	88	81	75	69	64	59
44	426	378	338	303	273	247
50	1335	1073	889	753	648	564
55	..	–	–	–	–	1517

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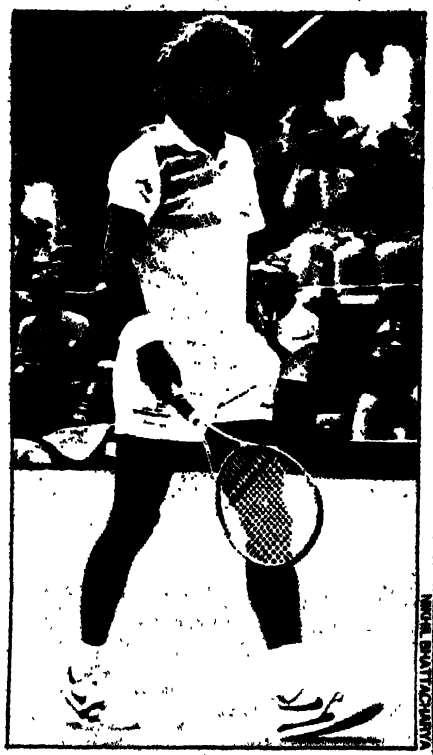
RK SWAMY/BBDO GIC 589 D

VOICES

"In my work, I know what a cocaine dealer looks like, but I don't see that much of steroid abuse."
Sprinter DARREN COUNCIL reacting to his victory over Ben Johnson in what was the disgraced sprinter's first comeback race. Ironically, Council is a drug enforcement officer with the Florida police.

"I don't think it's realistic, winning a tour match or winning a Grand Slam, that's unrealistic for sure. He may survive a game of tennis but as for winning prize money, he's not Borg like Borg of 1978."
MATS WILANDER, on Borg's chances.

"The only certainties about 1991 is that there are no certainties."
PAM SHRIVER'S prediction on women's tennis this year



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

"If Shakespeare had been there, he would have written a sonnet in celebration."
HENRY BLOFELD of *The Independent*, by no means a Gower backer, wrote this after the veteran left-hander scored a century in the Sydney Test. Serious questions were raised at the paper's editorial conference about whether the old Etonian cricket commentator had 'flipped'.

"I feel my age. I'm feeling it when I sit next to an 18-year-old who's just beaten me. But he deserves the medal. I don't. That's life."
ADRIAN MOORHOUSE after coming second to Norbert Rozsa of Hungary in the 100m breast stroke at the world championships

"I don't know if he's scared, I won't say that. But he could make a lot more money fighting me than he would George Foreman. And if I fight him he's dead. I'll kill him."
TYSON wants to take on Evander Holyfield but the latter is more keen on fighting Foreman first.

"He was slightly quicker than Ben Johnson"
DAVID GOWER about Aussie wicket keeper Ian Healey who was apparently injured but panicked and ran a fast two while his substitute runner Dean Jones looked on stunned

"I have taken a final decision after talks with my parents at home. I will retire by the end of this year. I can't continue this way. Everybody, from club officials to soccer commentators and the disciplinary commission is against me."
MARADONA can't seem to handle the pressure of the Italian league.



"What do you think it is? A 1....tea party"
ALLAN BORDER to Robin Smith when the batsman took an unscheduled drink of water during a WSC game

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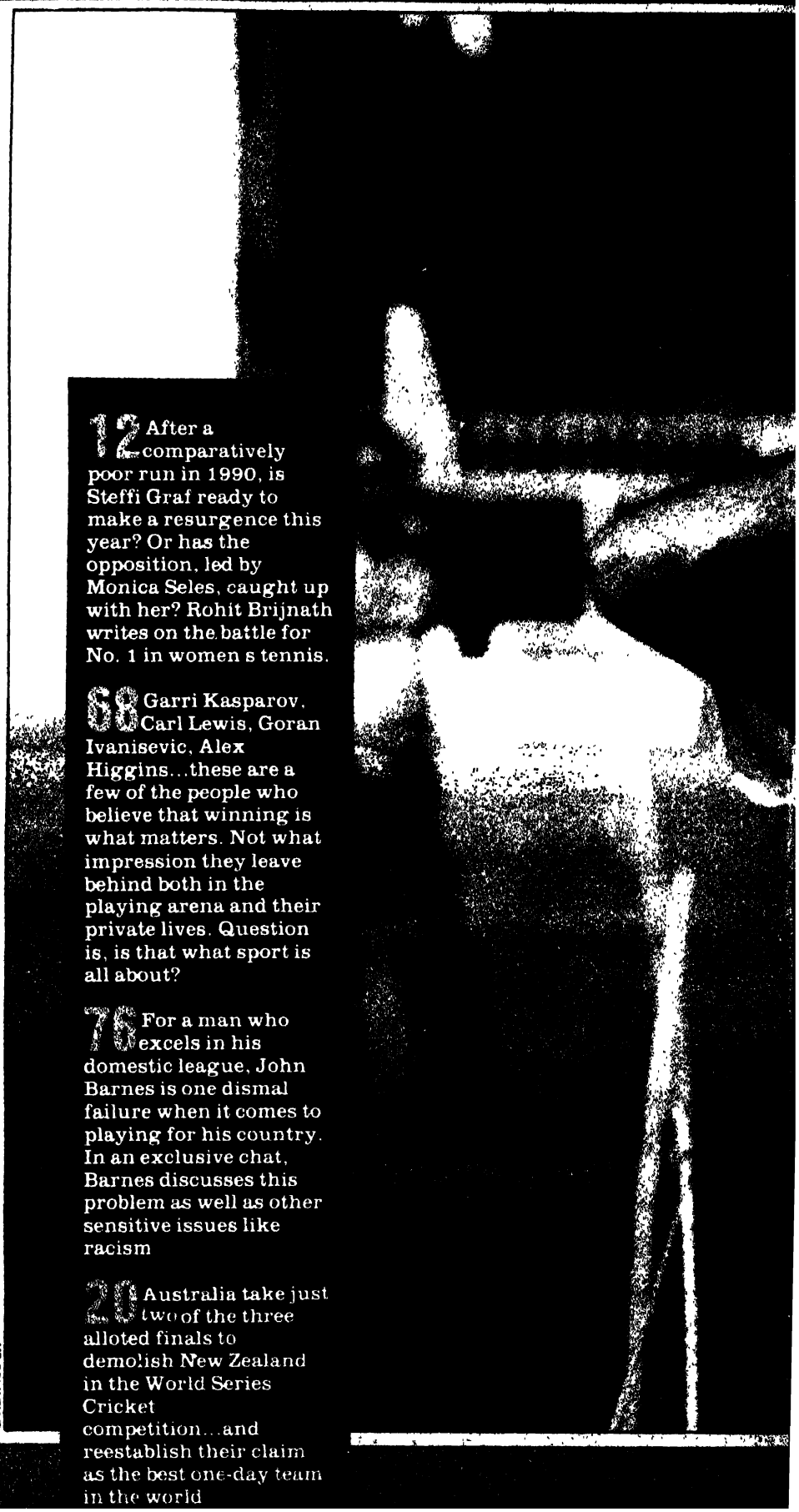
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SANJAY KAPUR

12 After a comparatively poor run in 1990, is Steffi Graf ready to make a resurgence this year? Or has the opposition, led by Monica Seles, caught up with her? Rohit Brijnath writes on the battle for No. 1 in women s tennis.

68 Garri Kasparov, Carl Lewis, Goran Ivanisevic, Alex Higgins...these are a few of the people who believe that winning is what matters. Not what impression they leave behind both in the playing arena and their private lives. Question is, is that what sport is all about?

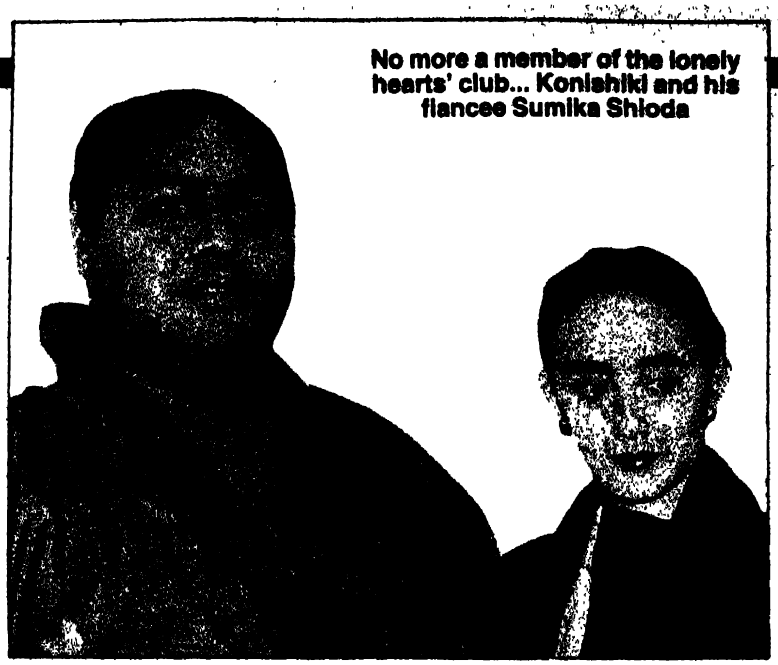
76 For a man who excels in his domestic league, John Barnes is one dismal failure when it comes to playing for his country. In an exclusive chat, Barnes discusses this problem as well as other sensitive issues like racism

20 Australia take just two of the three alloted finals to demolish New Zealand in the World Series Cricket competition...and reestablish their claim as the best one-day team in the world



Rubbing the exhaustion away from his tired eyes is the Indian skipper Mohammad Azharuddin. Having seen off the country's international cricket commitments for the winter in style—the Asia Cup staying in India—he's one man who's going to rest easy

SPECIAL FEATURE



No more a member of the lonely hearts' club... Konishiki and his fiancee Sumika Shioda

BIG BOY MEETS GIRL

He may weigh over 500lb but aspiring sumo champion Konishiki's an old softie underneath. The Hawaiian hulk has wrestled his way into the hearts of millions of Japanese—not least that of his finacée, model Sumika Shioda

HE weighs more than 500lb, sports a topknot and wears only a loincloth when he's working. She is the daughter of good family, a professional model and one of Japan's most envied women. Together they are dynamite.

They are very often together, which has produced an explosion of media interest in their romance. The Hawaiian sumo wrestler Salevaa Atisanoe (known by his fighting name Konishiki or, less reverently, as Sally) was already a sporting sensation when he visited Hokkaido, the northernmost of the four main Japanese islands, for a wrestling fixture in the summer of 1987. There he met Sumika Shioda, now 25. In February last year the couple became engaged.

The engagement would have caused an uproar even if Konishiki had not announced that marriage would depend on his promotion to grand champion. Now the sumo-following public—the majority of Japanese—watch Konishiki in the ring, acutely conscious that the

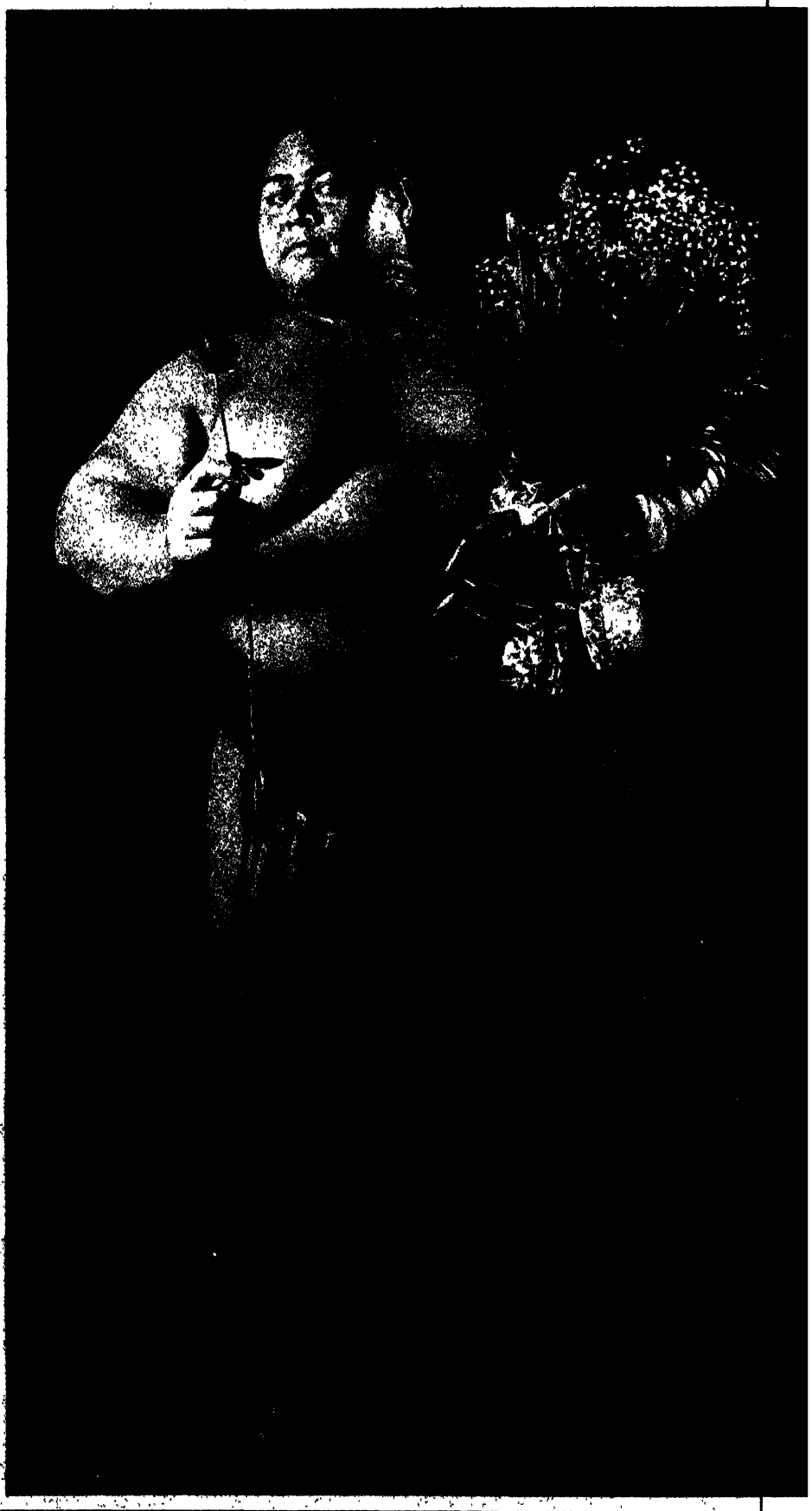
outcome of each bout will affect not only the aspiring champion's ranking but also the future happiness of his Hokkaido sweetheart. This is the stuff that sporting fairy tales are made of—Japanese ones at any rate.

Emotional stability is not to be confused with social passivity. Sumo wrestlers are traditionally sociable, not at all surprising since one of the odder aspects of this peculiarly Japanese sport is that eating and drinking forms a central part of basic training. Konishiki, however, has added disco dancing to this regimen. He is a proficient trombonist, studies the piano and confesses a partiality to rap music. Turning up at fashionable night spots, the aspiring champion and his fiancée present an entirely new face to Japan's oldest sport. Konishiki is the first disco-dancing aficionado of the staid and stolid sumo world.

'She's good for him because he's said they'll marry as soon as he is promoted to grand champion—that has made him try all the harder,' said a sumo columnist on Japan's main sports paper. 'He'll probably be promoted beginning of this year,' he said, adding that, 'They speak Japanese together and she has helped to introduce him to Japanese society faster. He was alone when he came to Japan but now he's not lonely any more.'

If he does become grand champion by this year, Konishiki will have a very attractive partner to share his triumph.

Konishiki descended on the eccentric world of sumo in 1982, but had to wait more than seven years before winning public acceptance. In the beginning he was ignored. Then, when it became apparent that he might one day dominate Japan's national sport, he was vilified as a monster, and a foreign monster to boot. He won bouts simply because of his weight, critics said. He should be banned from competitive sumo. He was a menace to a purely Japanese sport. He should be sent



Despite his intimidating bulk, Konishiki is really a softie

back to Hawaii. He received hate mail, and said later that he thought he might be assassinated.

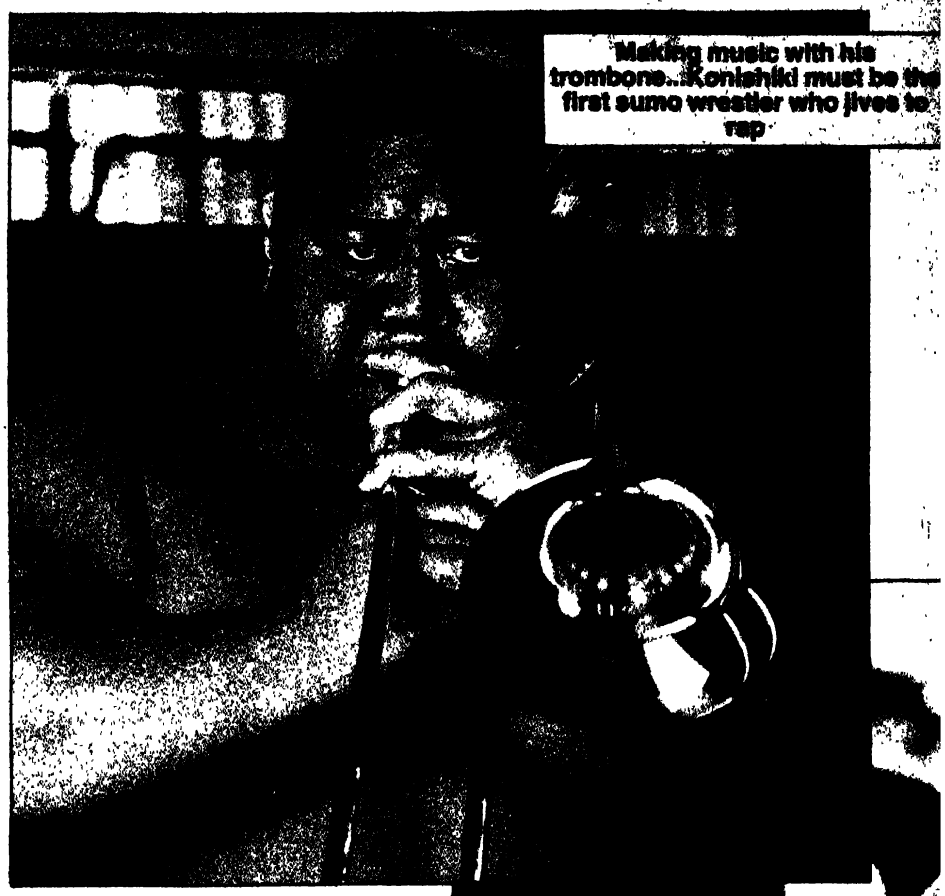
Traditionally chauvinistic Japanese fans warmed to the Hawaiian giant last year when he burst into tears while sitting at the edge the sumo ring in Kyushu. He had just won the autumn tournament.

Now he is lionised. At 26, he is one of Japan's most popular athletes, increasingly wealthy as lucrative advertising contracts supplement a continuous flow of prize money. All of this is an unlikely achievement for a man who confesses that when he first saw sumo he 'thought it was just a bunch of naked men fighting one another'.

When he treated the public to a torrent of now celebrated tears, Konishiki had just won a spectacular 14 bouts to one, ending a long lean period during which he had been plagued by injury. It was the pinnacle of a volatile career, and it brought him in roller-coaster fashion to the brink of sumo superstardom—promotion to the rank of *yokozuna*, or grand champion. There are only three grand champions currently fighting. There are around 800 professional sumo wrestlers. Yokozuna enjoy a status just short of divine.

Brought to Japan at the age of 18, immediately after finishing high school, Konishiki was the protege of Jesse Takamiyama, the first foreigner to enter the senior ranks of sumo, and a popular figure from his debut in 1964 until his retirement 20 years later.

Unlike Jesse, who rose through the ranks slowly, Konishiki progressed like an overweight whirlwind. After little more than a year he emerged from the lowest division, where some wrestlers languish for their entire career. He was promoted to *juryo* rank in 1983, only the fourth foreigner to reach this grade. In September 1984 he became a *makunouchi*, fighting in the top division of the sport. He then spent three years in the doldrums, before attaining the rank of *ozeki*, or champion, in May 1987.



Making music with his trombone...Konishiki must be the first sumo wrestler who lives to rap

When his initial success deserted him, Konishiki began to develop extraordinary deftness.

Muscular as well as fat, he is remarkably fast, and possessed of a frame that is ideally suited to sumo, with a low centre of gravity which makes him difficult to knock off balance.

The fact that he persevered through a long losing streak had a tremendous impact on the same fans who became ecstatic when he burst into tears. With every lost bout he earned respect. He became a star before he became a champion.

He was helped in the process by a natural intelligence. He speaks Japanese fluently, quips with the press, often sardonically, and displays the sort of casual articulacy that is not commonly associated with professional sportsmen. He put down one reporter's question about his musical preference by professing an enthusiasm for reggae, 'I'm a rastaman', he added looking

around with a bored expression. Asked on another occasion whether he would like to run for president one day, he said he would rather run for the CIA.

Life in the divine anteroom, just below the rank of *yokozuna*, is far from unpleasant. First, of course, there is Ms Shioda, Konishiki will not discuss the romance. Speculation is fuelled by the physical incongruity of the happy couple. It is understandable to wonder what married life might be like with someone who weighs 500lb.

It is their size, of course, which sets sumo wrestlers apart. Konishiki may be the heaviest wrestler of all time, though he has reduced his weight from a peak of 547lb two years ago. Ironically, the name Konishiki means Little Brocade.

Obesity is only one component in the sumo armoury. Chiyonofuji, the most successful wrestler of recent times, is a paltry 269lb. Konishiki swims and works out. His weight is in itself testimony to his athleticism: watching him rise from a sitting position cross-legged on the floor is a lesson in posture, as one set of muscles after another is called on to bring the huge frame upright by degrees.

Since prowess has only seconds to come to the fore, it must be honed to a pitch of perfection.

Konishiki has added disco dancing to his regimen. He is a proficient trombonist, studies the piano and confesses a partiality to rap music. 'I'm a rastaman,' he added

Honing is no fun. Wrestlers edure a humiliating apprenticeship based on the dubious principle that pupils somehow absorb the skills of their masters simply by watching them, repetitively, day in day out. They are often rebuked and often ignored. Sleeping in communal quarters, waking before dawn to begin a round of duties that involves preparing food and cleaning up, young wrestlers spend more time looking after their seniors than they do training to become champions. If they are still fighting after the first year, they have already shown a minimum strength of character.

'I had to clean the stairs, the toilets and stuff like that before I went to school,' Konishiki recalls. 'I was out at four o'clock in the morning doing that every day. I didn't know I had to take all the garbage out too. So when I came back to the stable one of the wrestlers was mad and hit me with a bottle on the head. So I couldn't say I was mad I just had to say "Thank you".'

Early in the morning, with the sun streaming on to a large circular patch of black earth and wrestlers milling around before practice begins,a sumo stable can exude a certain tranquil beauty. This ends when practice begins. It can't be pleasant, one imagines, to be tripped up and thrown to the ground, especially when the ground consists of gravelly mud and the person landing on the ground is overweight and practically naked. And the experience is repeated over and over again before an audience of unsympathetic peers.

Shedding tears perhaps comes naturally to successful sumo wrestlers such as Konishiki after the privations of their early careers.

Kevin Sullivan

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHS: ASIA FEATURES



No, this isn't Konishiki's latest disco step. Sumo wrestling bouts are preceded by this traditional Japanese side-step jig

TENNIS TRIVIA

HOW the late, eminent tennis historian, Ted Tinling, evaluated Andre Agassi: "Mr. Agassi was walking a fine line between being totally charming and totally offensive."

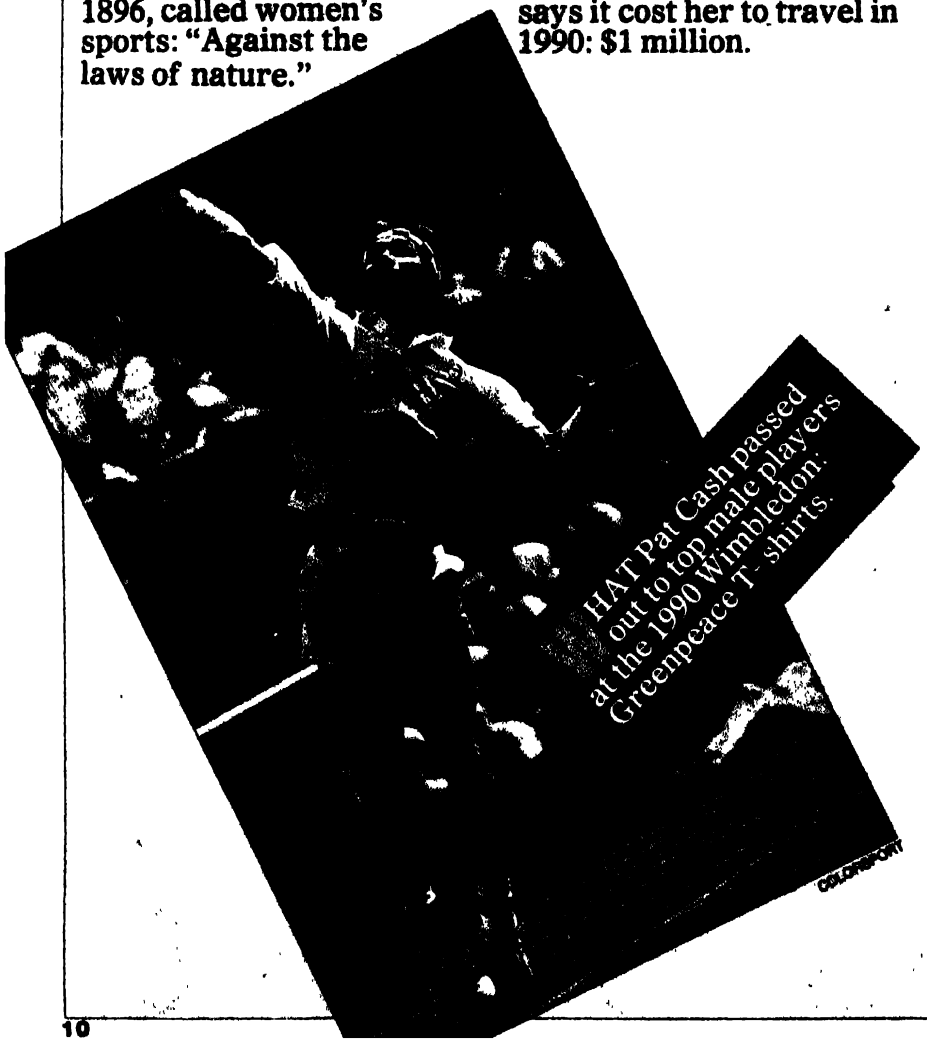
FORMER U.S. president who sent Jennifer Capriati a fan letter: Ronald Reagan.

WHAT Baron Pierre de Coubertin, the founder of the Modern Olympics in 1896, called women's sports: "Against the laws of nature."

HOW Pierre de Coubertin defined the Olympics: As "the solemn and periodic exaltation of male athleticism with ... female applause as reward."

AMOUNT of money that Martina Navratilova says it cost her a year to travel on the pro tour in 1973, her first year: $10,000.

AMOUNT of money that Martina Navratilova says it cost her to travel in 1990: $1 million.

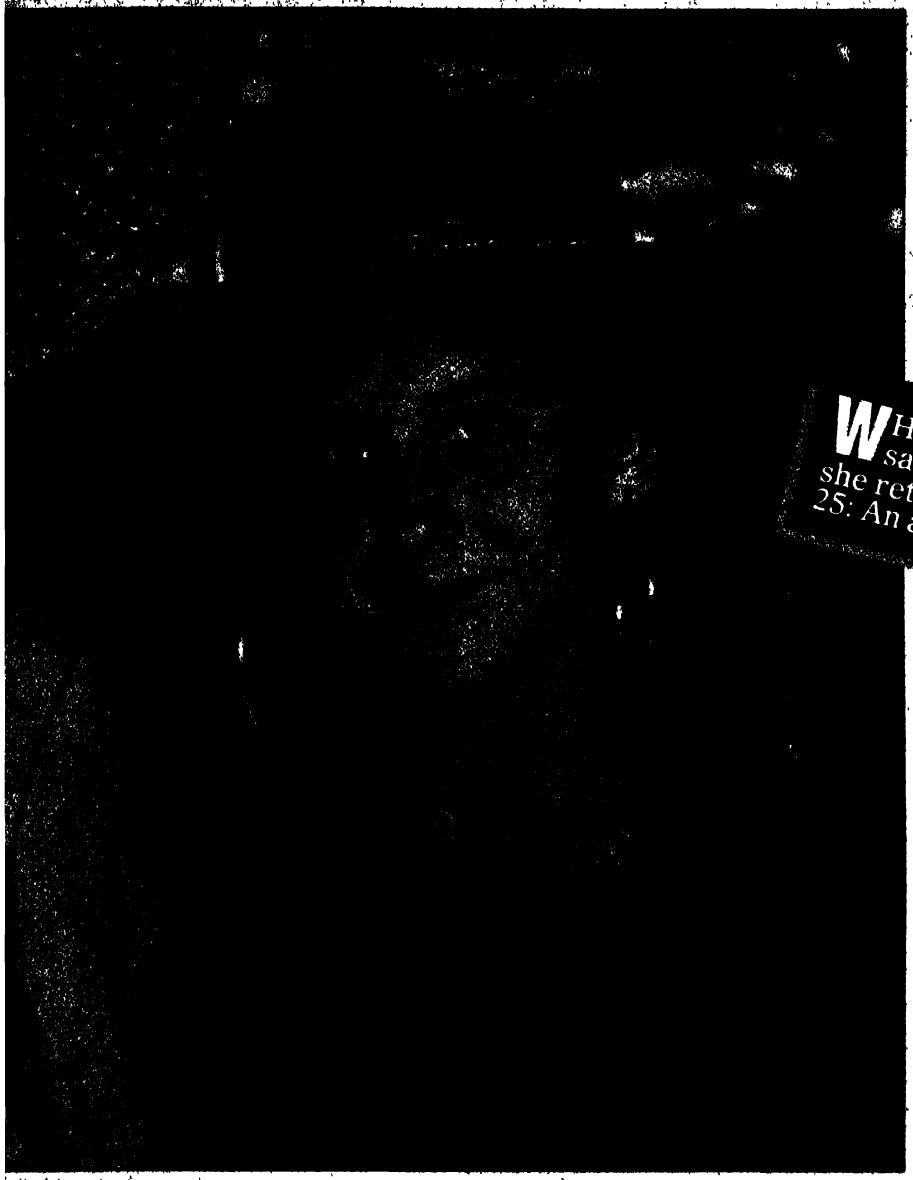




THE best tennis coach in the world, according to Tony Pickard, Stefan Edberg's coach and former British Davis Cup player and captain: Sweden's Jon-Anders Sjogren.

NUMBER of tennis lessons that all time great Pancho Gonzales took during his amateur and pro careers: 0.

Compiled by Paul Fein



ARANTXA SANCHEZ VICARIO's nickname back home in Barcelona: "La coneja" ("Bunny").

FIRST woman player to train regularly with men: 1920s superstar Suzanne Lenglen.

NUMBER of matches that Lenglen lost from 1919 to 1926: 1.

WHAT 16-year-old Seles says she'll become after she retires from tennis at 25: An actress.

WHAT Sydney taxi cab drivers wanted—instead of money—when they drove American stars Tony Trabert and Vic Seixas around town during the much-celebrated and thrilling 1954 Davis Cup Challenge Round between Australia and the U.S.: Their autographs.

HOW Britain's Richard Whichello reacted to practicing for two weeks with 34-year-old Bjorn Borg who still uses antiquated wooden rackets: "I thought I was in a time warp."

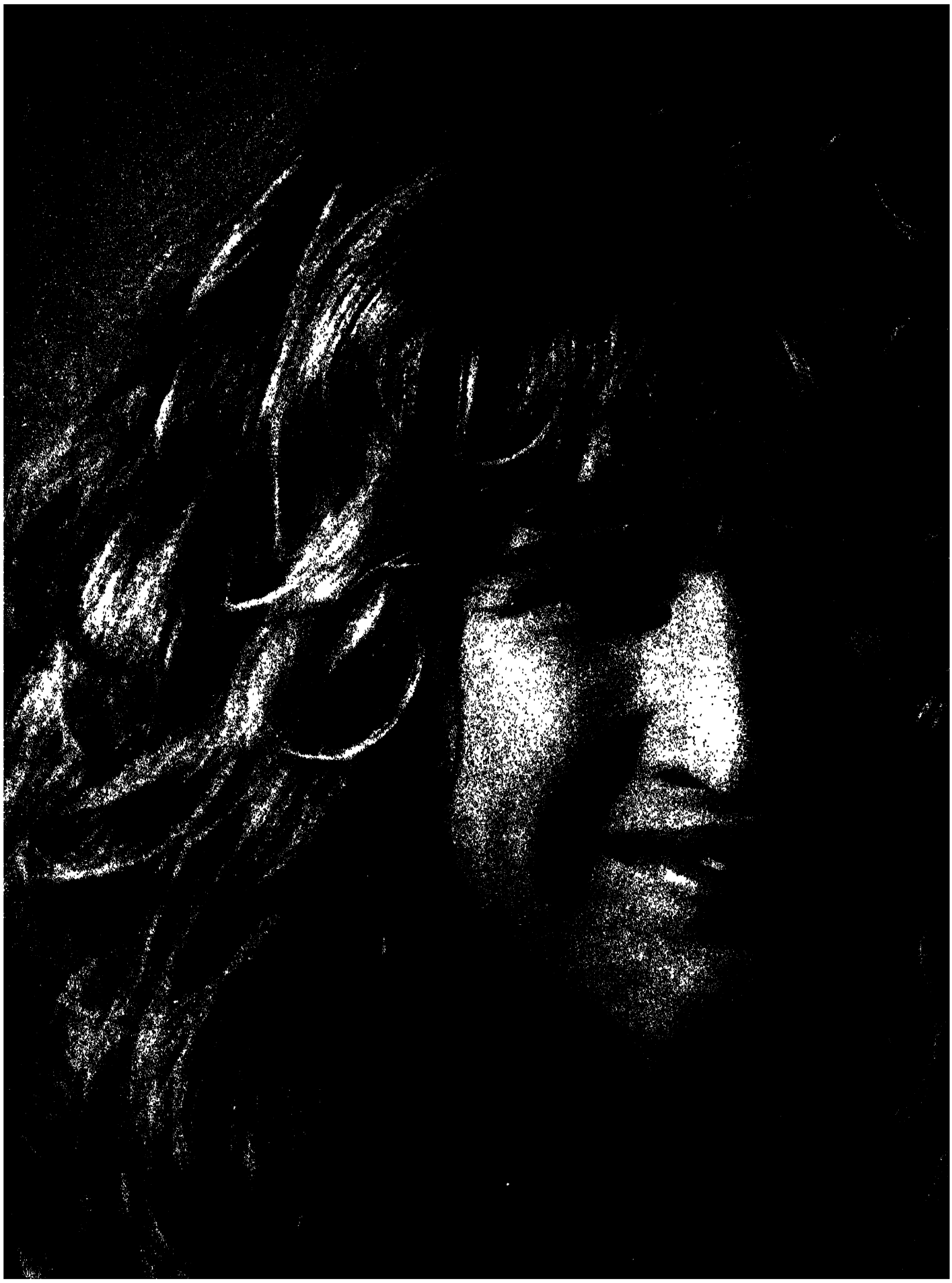
WHAT tournament director Gene Scott called Soviet star and world No. 11 Andrei Chesnokov, who cited the "pressure of playing at home" and ducked the inaugural $330,000 Kremlin Cup in Moscow: "Gutless."

JIMMY ARIAS' opinion of his coach Nick Bollettieri's teaching ability when Arias was a developing junior player in the late 1970s, "He didn't know that much about tennis at the time."

PLAYER with the most rackets strung during the 1990 U.S. Open: Thomas Muster (33).

ADDRESS of Monica Seles Fan Club: Paul Couchman, 46 Flanborough Road, Ruislip Manor, Middlesex HD4 OBH, England.

THE only question that 38-year-old Jimmy Connors had about playing Team Tennis in 1991: "Are there any fines?"



COVER STORY

THE BATTLE FOR

BY ROHIT BRIJNATH





HER origins are Hungarian. Her passport says Yugoslavia. Her drawl comes from Florida. She can't decide between Madonna and Paula Abdul and we can't decide whether her grunt is worse than her giggle. She looks a broom stick with a new hairdo, but has the double fisted power of a shotgun at close range. Yet, fortunately, once she bounces onto court every confusion vanishes: Monica Seles' tennis is genius. No argument here, okay.

But if you want an argument there is one. If Monica Seles is the future, (if not the present) is Steffi Graf, the past? *Was* Steffi's tennis genius, or *is* it?

To put it into sharper focus, let us say, that Monica's upward 'graph' has made Steffi realise that it's a'Seles'market.

"Sometimes there is nothing but tiredness and emptiness. I was so exhausted after winning the Grand Slam that I had even lost the ability to rejoice. All I could say was, thank God it's over": Steffi

On casual scrutiny the No. 1 and No. 2 ladies of the world share much in common. A passion for rock concerts, fathers as coaches or is that vice versa, schoolbooks for company, and animals as friends (for Seles, stuffed ones, for Graf a boxer named Ben and German Shepherds Max and Zar). Not to mention forehands that make some male players envious.

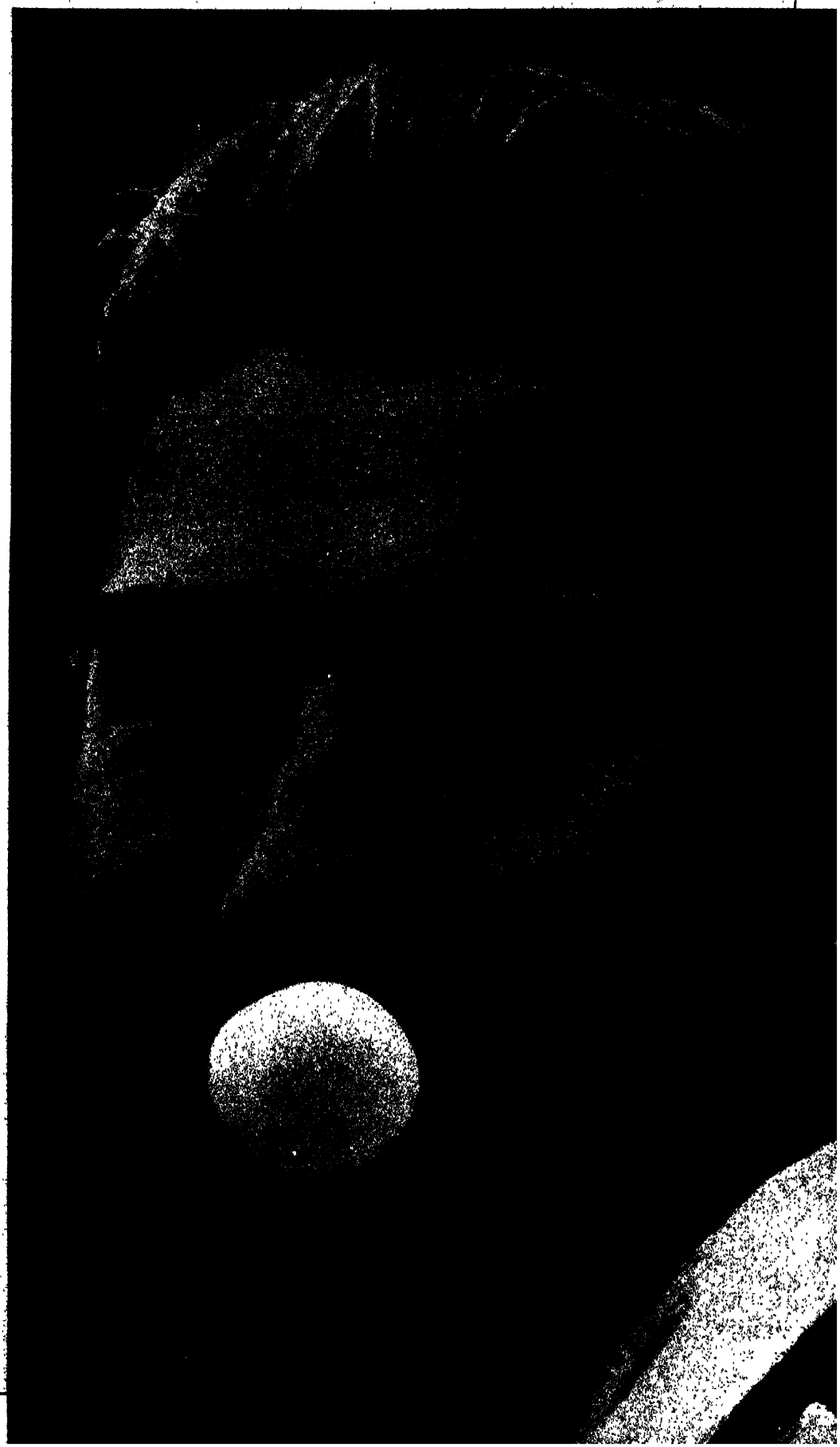
Statistically too, at least in 1990, there is a parallel: Steffi ended the year with the Australian Open, a 72-5 match record,10 tournament wins and $1.91 million in prize money. Seles was close at hand with the French Open, a 54-6 match record, 9 tournament wins, and $1.63 million in prize money.

Yet, put them under a laboratory microscope and hell breaks loose.

One, a wisp of a girl, with a freshness that is explained by the word 'teenager,' pushing hard to cross the threshold into greatness, yet possessing an abandon that allows her to take her winning cheque and hurtle straight for the shopping mall. A girl delighted with life and what it offers.

And then, there is Graf. The greatest ladies tennis player to have walked this planet, in the prime of her life finds herself saying, "Sometimes, there is nothing but tiredness and emptiness. I was so exhausted after winning the Grand Slam that I had even lost the ability to rejoice. All I could say

Can Monica Seles burst the Steffi Graf bubble?





The deadly two-handed game of the world number two

was — thank God it's over. A week later, you ask yourself, how come you are reacting that way? You ought to shout all over the place for joy and happiness. And you cannot do so. And you cannot understand it."

In the press room you could see the incomprehension etched across her face, on the court you could see the degeneration in her game. The despair of a young lady, not sure what life is offering her.

For a champion athlete, Steffi is surprisingly unenvied. Even blonde Boris, not just a compatriot but a co-struggler with demons of fame and identity, says, "I would take her Grand Slam, but I would not like to change places with her."

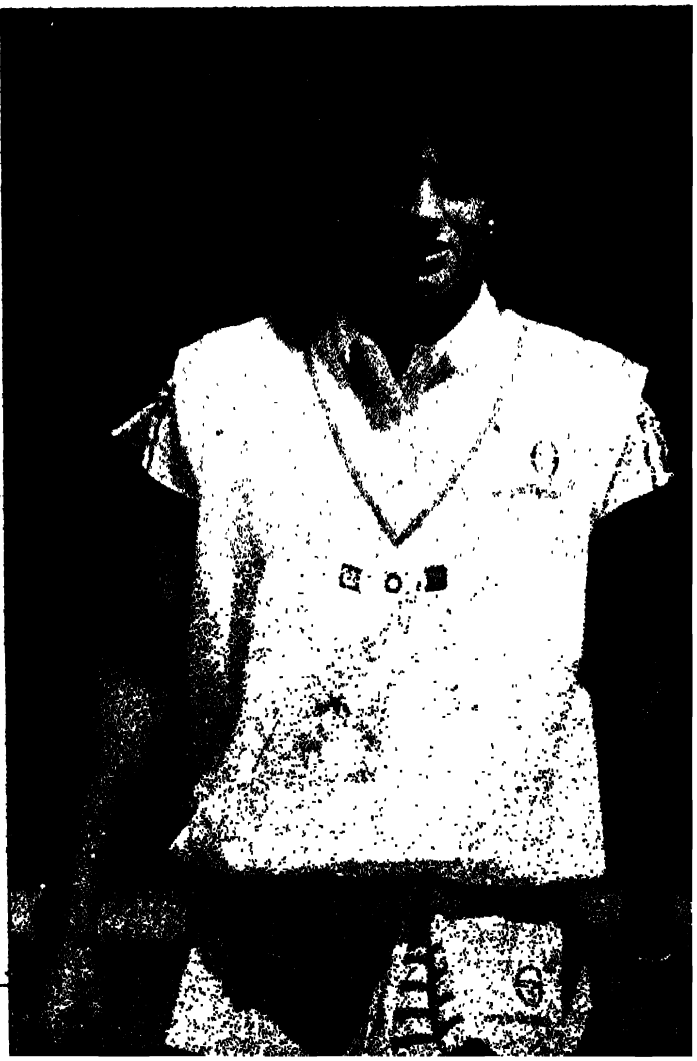
Yet, for a champion athlete, Steffi, surprisingly again is sympathised with, and hey ho, by none else than her peers. Eva Pfaff, a mid-hundreds German player, explaining her lack of contact with Steffi says, "Unfortunately, Steffi often creates the impression of being under stress and can hardly stop and listen. Running away? I wish for her from the bottom of my heart that she finds time to find herself."

Graf's insistence on being a private person makes it increasingly difficult to identify reasons for the shroud of confusion that cloaks her. But there appears a certain unanimity that Peter Graf, car-salesman-turned-champion-maker, is culpable to a great degree. Commented Martina Navratilova,

"Steffi does not appear to be happy. Maybe her father does not let her be happy."

A much harsher indictment comes from Hans Eberspacher, professor of sports psychology at Heidelberg University, who said, "Steffi is not a product of the German Tennis Federation, but of her father. He had an idea which he realised through his daughter."

By end 1990, the daughter was in trouble; mightly big trouble. Her game was being exposed as fragile but that was rectifiable. Champions find the edge not in fast feet or quick hands but in mental agility, and if that area malfunctions under stress, they



With Martina virtually out of the running, Steffi and Sabatini represent the old school in women's tennis today

The two ladies have much in common. A passion for rock concerts, fathers as coaches or is it vice-versa, schoolbooks for company and animals as friends. Not to mention forehands that make some male players envious





disintegrate.

Nevertheless that was 1990, and as a cold winter beckoned, promises were made. To lock the year gone by in a dusty trunk, smile bravely and start afresh with new conviction. But the New Year is merely a change of calenders and Graf could only hope to wake up on January 1 with new resolve. It was a fragile hope, ripped apart when Jana Novotna beat her in the quarter finals of last week s Australian Open, making it Graf's worst Grand Slam defeat since the 1986 French Open. More startling, is that now, Graf, is not the holder of a single Grand Slam title.

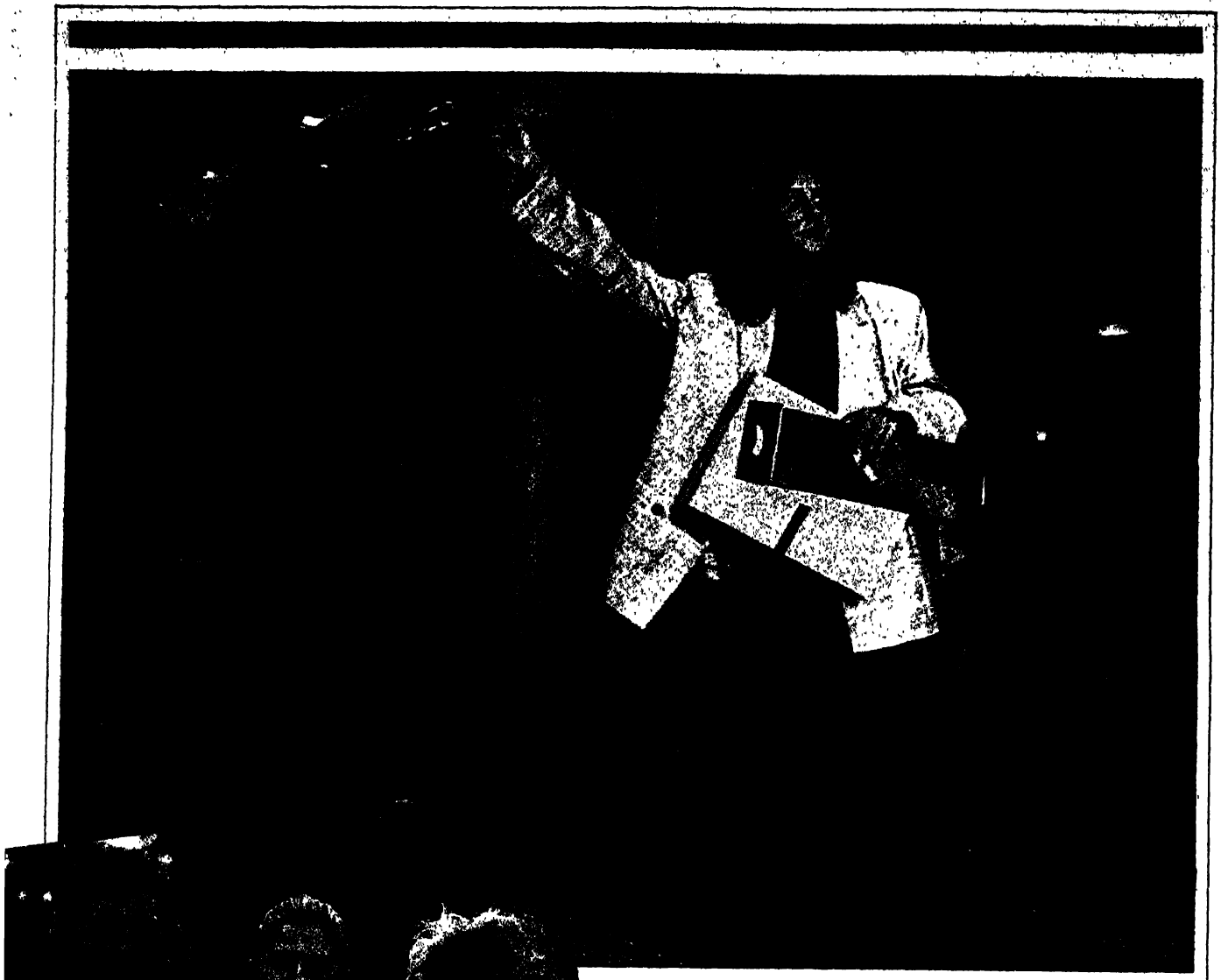
As if the Gods have not been cruel enough to Graf, now they have sent Seles down as their appointed anointed assassin.

In 24 months she has jumped 84 places on that infernal computer to No. 2. If she sprouted 6 inches in height from 5 feet 3 in to 5 feet 9 in, she has gone up miles in stature. You know that when Martina Navratilova herself, says, "She hits the ball so hard from either side, that one thinks, God if she had a serve like Steffi's we all might as well quit the game right now."

Seles wants to become an actress after retiring and even fancies herself as a model

Seles' advancement has been rapid and best chronicled by herself. In 1989 she said, "I was as scared as Steffi as anything. And I have not yet got over being scared." Six months later, after her relentless attrition from the baseline began paying dividends, she had changed her mind:

"Last year against the top players I was nervous. I am not afraid





Like Graf, Seles too is essentially a product of her father's coaching

anymore". How could she be, everyone else was. Forget a 3-1 head-to-head 1990 record against Navratilova, guys, she was 2-1 up against Graf.

Seles is remarkably endearing, for she plays her roles of skittish, effervescent schoolgirl in the press room and angel of death on court with equal facility. Her range of strokeplay is astonishing, her double fisted preference from both sides allowing for some audaciously angled drives, and her early positioning, wonderous timing and hip swivel giving her maximum power. But the key again is up there, in her brain. "I've been struck by many things about her", explained sports psychologist Jim Loehr, "but the one that most amazed me is her incredible level of concentrtion and dedication. She has this unquenchable desire to achieve". Former coach Nick Bollitieri is no less exuberant: "She has something you don't teach, It comes from whatever God you happen to believe in."

Seles' game is intense but she possesses the abandon that allows her to take her winning cheque and head straight for the shopping mall

What they are saying, quite simply, is that Seles is ready to rule.

Steffi Graf has been No. 1 for 180 weeks, longer than anybody who ever lived for a tennis racket. One hope she enjoyed it, because Monica Seles is getting that wee bit tired of being No. 2. ●

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS:

1 With reference to marathon running, what is the 'negative split'?

2 What sport was introduced in the 1964 Olympics at the specific request of the host country?

3 He was nicknamed 'crocodile'. He became the first non-American to win the men's singles title at the US Open in 1926 Who is he?

4 Jan Owe Waldner became the second Swede to win the men's singles crown at the world table tennis championship. Who was the first?

5 What is 'active chess'?

6 Who said, "The only way to handle Borg is to send him to another planet. We play tennis, while he plays something else"?

7 Whose autobiography is titled as "Blackthink: My life as a blackman and as a whiteman"?

8 What is known as the 'Devil's picture book'?

RATING TEST

Above 15: Wish you were part of our team
Between 10 and 13: Not too bad.
Below 10: Sportsworld reading recommended
All answers sent in by the contributor.

ANSWERS:

1. When the second half of the marathon is run faster than the first.
2. Judo
3. Rene Lacoste (France). That's why the crocodile is the symbol of Lacoste sportswear.
4. Stellan Bengtsson in 1971.
5. It is a speeded up model of the game. Movements are to be made in a tight time period.
6. Ilie Nastase.
7. J.C. Owens.
8. A deck of playing cards.
9. Water Skiing.
10. They were played completely on a knock-out basis.
11. Lala Amarnath.
12. Vladimir Kuts.
13. Great Britain.
14. The right hand punch of one time world heavyweight champion, Ingemar Johannson.
15. Face-off.
16. Difference in the time between the first and second halves in a row. Fade is the amount by which a crew slows down as it tires.
17. Madhya Pradesh.

THIS QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY: SUBRATA HALDAR, B.C. MUKHERJEE ROAD, P.O. TRIBENI, HOOGHLY-712503

9 With which sport is the term 'scooter start' associated?

10 What is the difference between the football World Cups of 1934 and 1938 from the other 12 championships?

11 Name the only bowler to get Bradman out hit wicket in a Test.

12 Who became the first Soviet runner to win an Olympic gold?

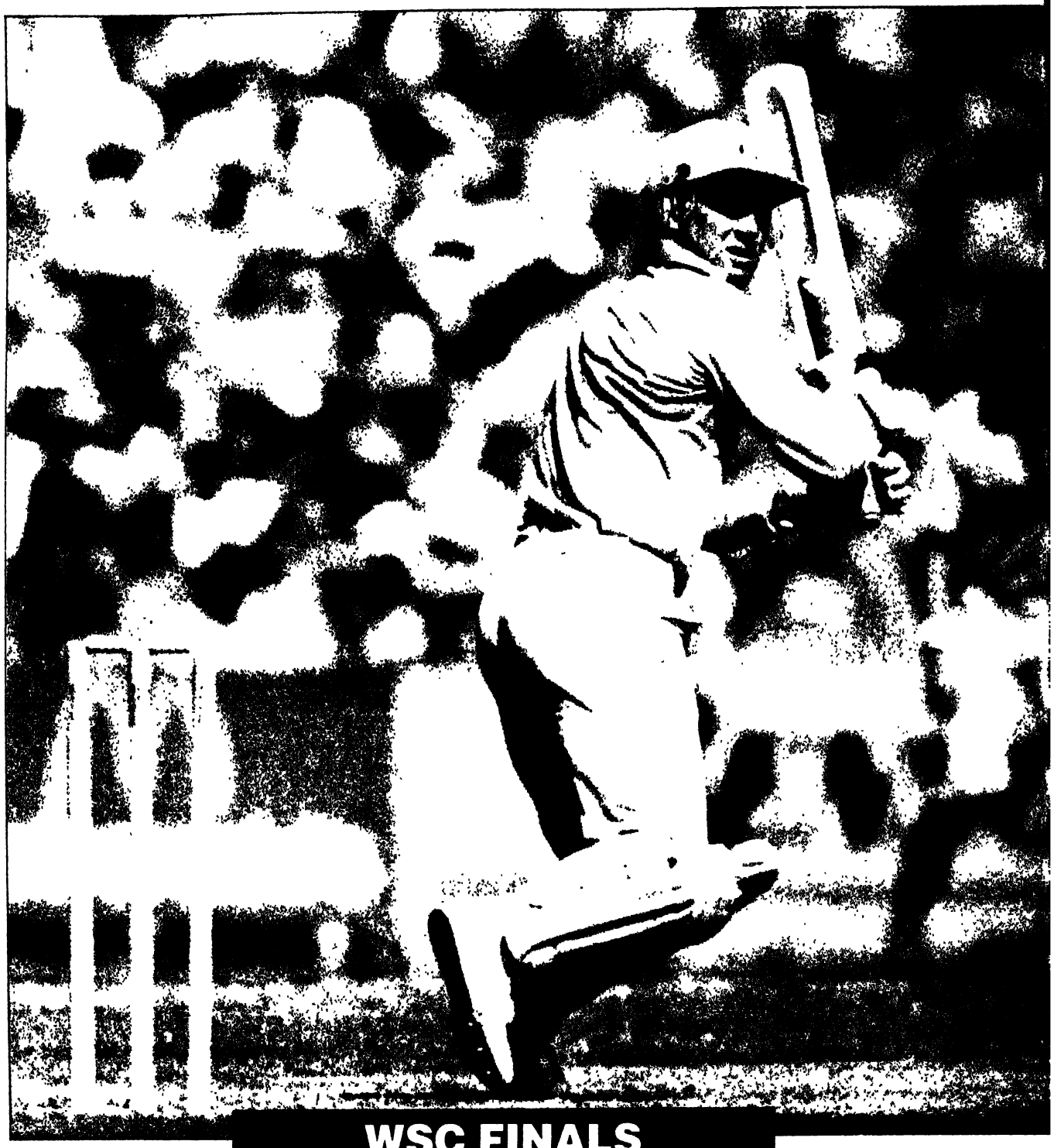
13 Name the only country that has taken part in all the winter and summer Olympics.

14 In the boxing world, what was "Ingo's Bingo"?

15 It is a kick off in soccer. What is it in ice-hockey?

16 In rowing, what is a 'fade factor'?

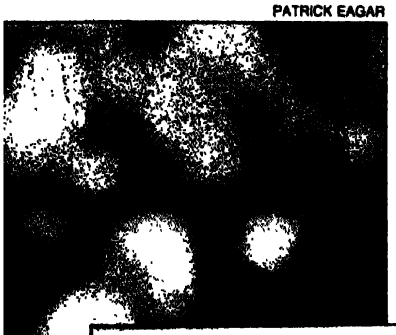
17 Filmstar Rajesh Khanna once played in the National hockey Championship. Which state did he play for?



WSC FINALS

Australia Call The S

PATRICK EAGAR



IT hardly came as a surprise when Australia polished off the World Series Cricket best-of-three finals in just two games. After all, they had been dominating the cricketing action Down Under so much, that the England in England two years later. A 4-0 drubbing of the arch-rivals—and the Ashes safely cornered—had Border and his men enjoying tickertape parades on their return to Australia. Border even slowing the opposition down with his cunning left-arm spin, or even pinning them down with his accurate field placings, he has been the man to watch. And when he called in unfit with a groin strain just prior to the finals,

AUSTRALIA

BATTING

	M	INNS	NO	RUNS	AVGE	HS	100	50
Dean Jones	10	10	1	513	57.00	145	1	3
Mark Taylor	2	2	0	112	56.00	71	0	1
Ian Healy	10	5	3	92	46.00	50*	0	1
Geoff Marsh	10	10	0	428	42.80	82	0	3
Greg Matthews	4	2	2	40	—	24*	0	0
Simon O'Donnell	10	6	1	179	35.80	71*	0	1
Steve Waugh	10	9	5	141	35.25	65*	0	1
Allan Border	8	8	1	188	26.85	55	0	1
David Boon	10	10	2	188	23.50	42	0	0
Mark Waugh	10	10	2	176	22.00	62	0	1
Peter Taylor	6	2	1	10	10.00	8	0	0
Terry Alderman	8	1	0	5	5.00	5	0	0
Bruce Reid	5	2	1	1	1.00	1	0	0
Carl Rackemann	6	1	0	0	0.00	0	0	0
Merve Hughes	1	0	0	0	0.00			

BOWLING

	OVERS	MDNS	RUNS	WKTS	AVGE	BB	4W
Allan Border	10	1	33	3	11.00	3/24	0
Mark Waugh	49	2	191	12	15.91	4/37	1
Peter Taylor	50	3	196	9	21.77	3/27	0
Simon O'Donnell	85	6	355	13	27.30	4/45	1
Bruce Reid	47	9	163	5	32.60	2/18	0
Carl Rackemann	51.5	4	198	6	33.00	2/38	0
Terry Alderman	70	8	238	7	34.00	2/31	0
Greg Matthews	38	0	174	5	34.80	3/54	0
Steve Waugh	76	5	356	7	50.85	2/39	0
Merv Hughes	8	0	40	0			

(Also bowled—Dean Jones: 1-0-6-0)



hots

result was a foregone conclusion. What was surprising, however, was the fact that they did it without their captain Allan Border!

Australian cricket has very much revolved around this stocky frame for the last six years or so. After meticulously guiding his team to victory in the Reliance Cup of '87, Border then led from the front to demolish being elected 'Australian of the Year' that year. Even greater measure of his contribution to Aussie cricket came at an Elton John concert in Sydney when the 15,000 strong crowd stood as one to applaud a man in their midst.... Allan Border.

This year too, Border has been in the thick of all the action. Whether boosting his country's run-rate with the bat, morale surely couldn't have been too high in the Aussie camp.

Geoff Marsh was handed the responsibility of leading their challenge, with Test specialist—and so far unable to make the one-day side—Mark Taylor called in to strengthen the batting. And what a master-stroke that turned out to be. The normally slow-scoring,

NEW ZEALAND

BATTING

	M	INNS	NO	RUNS	AVGE	HS	100	50
Rod Latham	8	8	4	178	44.50	36	0	0
Bryan Young	6	5	2	122	40.66	41*	0	0
Robert Reid	2	2	0	81	40.50	64	0	1
Martin Crowe	10	10	0	405	40.50	81	0	4
Andrew Jones	8	8	1	206	29.42	51	0	1
Ken Rutherford	10	9	0	242	26.88	50	0	1
John Wright	10	10	0	247	24.70	67	0	2
Ian Smith	4	4	1	64	21.33	33	0	0
Danny Morrison	10	3	2	18	18.00	9*	0	0
Richard Petrie	10	7	3	65	16.25	21	0	0
Mark Greatbatch	3	3	0	46	15.33	20	0	0
Chris Harris	7	6	1	51	10.20	17*	0	0
Chris Pringle	10	6	3	26	8.66	12*	0	0
G. Larsen	2	1	0	6	6.00	6	0	0
Grant Bradburn	2	2	0	8	4.00	6	0	0
Willie Watson	8	2	0	1	0.50	1	0	0

BOWLING

	OVERS	MDNS	RUNS	WKTS	AVGE	BB	4W
Chris Pringle	95.1	9	369	18	20.50	4/35	0
Danny Morrison	95	7	437	14	31.21	2/27	0
Richard Petrie	92	7	357	10	35.70	2/25	0
Chris Harris	42.5	0	210	5	42.00	2/42	0
Willie Watson	76.5	4	310	7	44.28	2/26	0
Grant Bradburn	19	1	100	2	50.00	1/44	0
Andrew Jones	13	0	55	1	55.00	1/28	0
G. Larsen	18	3	68	0			
Martin Crowe	9.1	0	54	0			

(Also bowled—Rod Latham: 5-0-28-0).



stolid Taylor—determined to prove that he could step up a gear or two when the occasion demanded—notching up knocks of 41 and 71 to get his team off in the right mood.

In an equally belligerent mood was the talented Dean Jones. Unlucky to miss a half-century in the first final by just one run, he made up with a hard-hit 76 in the second. Also demonstrating that he didn't find the captaincy shackling was Geoff Marsh with a fluent 70 in the first game.

From the Kiwi point of view, their skipper Martin Crowe's failure in the second final sounded the death knell. Even though Robert Reid chipped in with an useful 64 while Andrew Jones continued his good work—he got 43 in the first final—with a well-deserved 51, the Kiwi innings never really got going. With Crowe, who had four 50s from his last seven WSC innings, misreading one from Bruce Reid and exiting for a mere six runs, they were always struggling. That they got to 208 was commendable, especially when considered in the light of Bruce Reid's first three overs being maidens!

If there has been another factor that has contributed to the



ENGLAND

BATTING

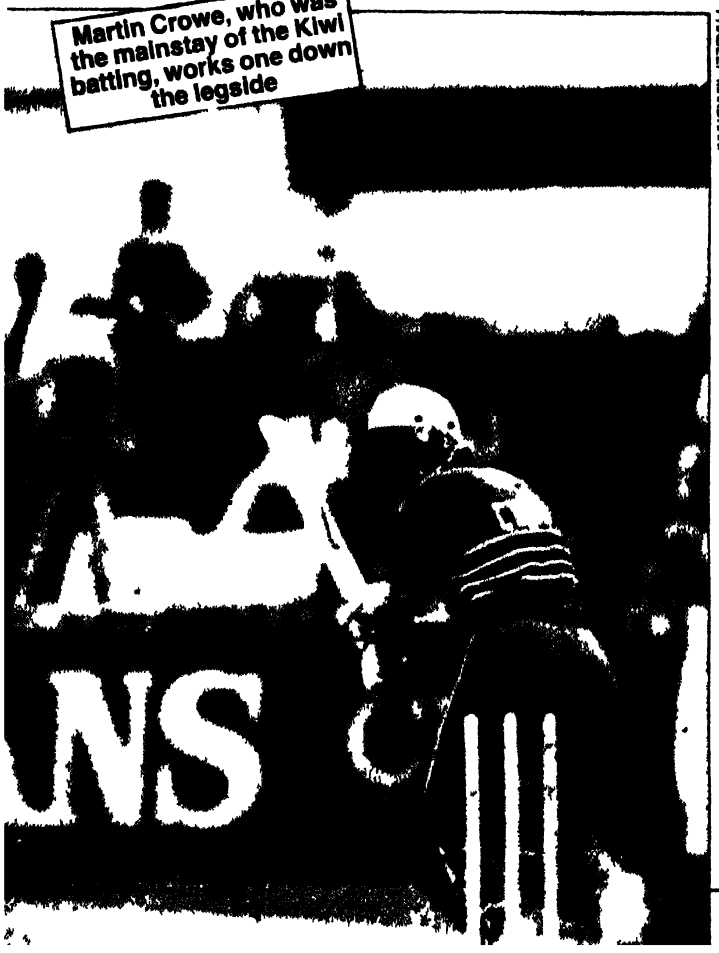
	M	INNS	NO	RUNS	AVGE	HS	100	50
Alec Stewart	7	7	2	255	51.00	55	0	1
Philip DeFreitas	4	4	2	91	45 50	49*	0	0
Graham Gooch	5	5	0	166	33 20	48	0	0
Allan Lamb	6	6	0	189	31 50	72	0	1
Martin Bicknell	5	4	1	87	29 00	31*	0	0
John Morris	8	8	1	167	23 85	63*	0	1
Wayne Larkins	7	7	0	164	23 42	44	0	0
Mike Atherton	2	2	0	41	20 50	33	0	0
David Gower	2	2	0	32	16 00	26	0	0
Robin Smith	8	8	0	104	13 00	41	0	0
Angus Fraser	8	5	1	51	12 75	38*	0	0
Gladstone Small	5	5	1	34	8 50	15	0	0
Jack Russell	3	3	0	25	8 33	13	0	0
Eddie Hemmings	4	4	2	15	7 50	8*	0	0
Phil Tufnell	7	3	2	7	7 00	5*	0	0
Devon Malcolm	2	1	1	3		3*	0	0
Chris Lewis	5	5	0	15	3 00	6	0	0

BOWLING

	OVERS	MDNS	RUNS	WKTS	AVGE	BB	4W
Chris Lewis	44	3	167	7	23 85	4/35	1
Gladstone Small	44 3	6	162	6	27 00	2/25	0
Martin Bicknell	48 5	1	227	8	28 37	2/33	0
Devon Malcolm	17	0	95	3	31 66	2/39	0
Angus Fraser	75	14	259	8	32 37	3/28	0
Phil Tufnell	63	5	256	6	42 66	3/40	0
Philip DeFreitas	35 1	0	173	4	43 25	3/57	0
Eddie Hemmings	38	1	199	4	49 75	2/34	0

(Also bowled—Graham Gooch 10-0-39-1), Wayne Larkins 0 3-0-1-0)

Compiled by Hariprasad Chattopadhyay



Martin Crowe, who was the mainstay of the Kiwi batting, works one down the legside

PRADEEP MADHWAL

Australian domination this season, it has come in the form of the tall, lanky Reid In the company of Terry Alderman and Simon O'Donnell, this left-arm pace bowler has been as close to unplayable as possible

Carrying on from where he had left off in the Ashes series, Reid just kept angling the ball across the batsmen intelligently and even though he went wicketless (0/44) in the first final picked up two valuable wickets in the second

As for the third team in the fray this season—England—they very nearly made it onto centrestage courtesy an unlike hero with the bat, Angus Fraser Chasing an Aussie total of 222 for 6 in their last league game—which would decide whether England or New Zealand took on the hosts in the finals—Fraser took inspiration from Alec Stewart's 55 to take his team agonisingly close When the overs finally ran out, Fraser was 38 not out and England just four runs short

In a way, it perhaps was fortunate for the English that they bowed out when they did Otherwise, it would have been them instead of the Kiwis who suffered the humiliation of a 2-0 drubbing in the final Sc complete was th · Aussie domination

A Correspondent, Sydney

Brief Scores:

First final. New Zealand 199/7 off 50 overs Australia 202/4 of 49 1 overs Australia won by six wickets

Second final. New Zealand 208/6 off 50 overs Australia 209/3 off 45 3 overs Australia won by seven wickets

VIRGINIA'S 20th WIMBLEDON

BY RONALD ATKIN, JULY 1981

HEADS turn as Virginia Wade, immaculate in a light skirt and check jacket and toting an umbrella against New York's uncertain skies, saunters into Rumpelmeyer's (purveyors of the world's greatest cup of hot chocolate) on Central Park South. Ain't that the gal who won Wimbledon once? Didn't she play Team Tennis for New York Apples way back? Surely she's the one we see on TV advertising furs, credit cards and pens?

The very same, folks...Britain's own, Britain's very own Virginia Wade, darling Ginny of the Centre Court, or as Wimbledon officially and formally refers to her in programme and on scoreboard Miss S.V. Wade (the S. stands for Sarah but it's a name she never uses).

This month Virginia celebrates two landmarks: her 20th consecutive Wimbledon and her 36th birthday. The latter should in the politest circles be dismissed with a quiet murmur but the former merits much praise and comment.

In these days of jet-paced, year-round tennis the wear on bodies and the pressure on minds is enormous—and growing. The casualty rate, among both men and women on the professional circuits is impressive—or depressing if you happen to become one of the wounded.

But through it all has sailed Miss S.V. Wade, shoulders still firm and smile still wide despite the burden of having carried the hopes of Britain for more years than



is decent. How on earth has she stayed around at the top for all that time?

One of the reasons is that she has rarely been injured, because she simply refuses any longer to believe in injury. 'I used to have a bad back,' she explains amid the late morning clatter and swirl of Rumpelmeyer's. Then I suddenly realized that it was always at 2-all in the third set that my back would pack up and that it had to be purely tension, and that I was probably just imagining it. I have never believed in being injured since then, though you can't help twisting the odd ankle, having that sort of accident occasionally.'

Another reason is that she has nurtured the determination to support those sort of beliefs since taking up the game as a child in South Africa, where her family had moved—from Bournemouth—at the end of the last war when her clergyman father was appointed Archdeacon of Durban.



She makes no secret of her interest in a TV career. She has done quite a bit of this already in America, including work during the US Open last year, where she was always either hurrying onto court for a match or into the commentary box to air her opinions

Virginia has also marked up a remarkable list of achievements for consistency, while remaining maddeningly (or as some would have it, endearingly) inconsistent in her performances. She has been ranked No. 1 in Britain for ten years now, a member of our Wightman Cup team for 15 years and its captain for the past eight. She has beaten all the world's best women on her day. She has also lost to quite a few of the worst ones.

Since the pinnacle year of 1977 when she lifted the Wimbledon crown right on cue in the tournament's centenary year and watched by the Queen, who was celebrating her Jubilee, Virginia has trodden the stony path down from the summit. In 1977 she was the world's No. 2 behind Chris Evert. Last year she wasn't ranked in the top 10, for the first time in 13 years.

Last year, also, she became one of the handful of women in the tennis world to exceed the million dollar earnings mark. She had made her point—made her pile, too—and there wasn't much more to prove. Apartment in New York, flat in London, impressive family home in Kent....she was perhaps Britain's wealthiest, and certainly best-known, female athlete.

Increasingly, Virginia has been looking towards the world of television as an alternative career when her playing days are over, and she came close to that moment a year ago.

'I had only geared myself mentally to carry on playing until the end of last year's Wimbledon,' she said, sampling that exquisite hot chocolate. 'Last year was going to be my final one on the circuit. Then I found out that 1981 would be my 20th Wimbledon. There was no way I was going to miss that. And the 20th Wimbledon has dominated my thinking ever since.'

Her plan to leave the women's circuit centred around an offer from ITV to commentate on the Moscow Olympics, the sort of opportunity she had been angling for. "Then the Olympics became such a shambles because of the boycott. Moscow was out. I felt disappointed and I didn't even feel like playing tennis. I was very close to packing up at that point because the whole point of my tennis is that I have always loved playing the game.'

Virginia claims the low point of her career was reached in the Daihatsu tournament at Brighton last October when she was beaten by the 19-year-old American Barbara Potter 'All I wanted to do was just get off court,' she admitted.

'It was then in Brighton that I realized I had a choice. I could mess around until my 20th Wimbledon or put in a really big effort for six months.'

In effect she has fallen somewhere between the two options. She could never be accused of having messed around during the winter and spring but neither was the effort as consistent as it might have been particularly on the Avon tour. Places like Detroit, Cincinnati and Kansas City possess less than irresistible appeal in the depths of an American winter.

Virginia's high point was in reaching the final of the Avon tournament of San Francisco only to lose to her pigtailed gremlin, Andrea Jaeger. But she has



"I used to have a bad back. Then I suddenly realised that it was always at 2-all in the third set that my back would pack up and that it had to be purely tension..."



stayed fit and keen, as feline, arrogant, predatory, sleek and eye-catching as ever.

She acknowledges that the 20th Wimbledon will be her last big effort to lift the title again, but the word retirement is allowed no dwelling places in the Wade vocabulary.

"There are several reasons why I don't like the word,' she said. 'One of them, though I'm not particulary proud of it, is that the companies for which I have endorsements are not too happy about the word 'retire'. Another reason is that I've always hated this bit about people saying they're retiring. I am allergic to that particular terminology. They all retire and then come back. Billie Jean three times, Margaret Court, Chris Evert Lloyd. Why don't they just say they aren't going to play for a while?"

It's far more likely that Virginia will ease out of tennis with the same grace she has brought to her playing career. She certainly intends to lead Britain into the Wightman Cup match against the United States in Chicago two weeks after Wimbledon, and will possibly compete in the Centenary US Open as a distinguished former champion (she won the title in its first full, open year, 1968).

She has been ranked No. 1 in Britain for ten years now, a member of our Wightman Cup for 15 years and its captain for the past eight. She has beaten all the world's best women on her day. She has also lost to quite a few of the worst ones



She makes no secret of her interest in a TV career—'and not just sport commentating either,' she points out. She has done quite a bit of this already in America, including work during the US Open last year, where she was always either hurrying onto court for a match or into the commentary box to air her opinions.

Though it seems a pity that Britain's best-ever woman player will be lost to this country as a coach, Virginia Wade has no plans to return to Britain for at least three more years. She is content to make New York her home for the time being, especially since it constitutes a more-than-tolerable haven from the savagery of the gentlemen from Inland Revenue.

Severely critical of the fact that there is no natural successor among British girls—'It's absurd, there is no one who looks remotely as if she can play the game the way it is played in this modern day'—she does not feel her future lies in helping to pull British tennis out of its abysmal condition.

'I could never undertake straightforward tennis teaching,' she said. 'I would be interested in having a coaching school, but more along the American lines with children of a small group of talented youngsters, giving them specialized coaching, but I just couldn't go out and do that sort of thing six hours a day every day.'

For the time being, however, TV ambitions and coaching opinions can wait. Once more than name Miss S.V. Wade is going to be slotted into the Centre Court scoreboard, and the nation's viewers can settle back to agonize the day away with their favourite.

It's more unlikely that Virginia Wade will win, as she did in 1977. But, given a clear mind, a following wind and a friendly draw, she may topple an opponent or two. Alternatively, she may make a swift exit, to the accompaniment of headlines like 'Ginny Shock'. But then, that's the way she has always been, 20th Wimbledon or not.●

VICAR'S SON HAPPY

What's common to John Snow and Harold Larwood? Yes, they're both English fast their hostile bowling.....and then went on to make their homes in Australia. Alas

JOHN SNOW strolls anonymously through the streets of Sydney, attracting nothing so much as a sideways glance of recognition. Twenty years ago, things were different. Then, Snow was the man who made Australian blood boil in a way no English fast bowler had done since Harold Larwood.

The analogy continues. Nowadays, Larwood pursues the life of a recluse in the Sydney suburb he incongruously chose as his home post-bodyline. Snow is no hermit but his profile is kept consciously low, in Sydney as in Sussex.

It stayed that way, when the third Test began on the ground where his exploits dominated during the 1970-71 tour, the last time England won back the Ashes in Australia. In one Sydney Test, he took a match-winning seven for 40; in the other, he hit an Australian tailender on the head, provoking an umpiring confrontation, serious crowd reaction and an England walk-off. He also ended up in hospital. The game was never dull when this son of a Worcestershire vicar was around.

Looking at him now, lean, fit and apparently ready to bowl his usual 20 overs with that marvellously fluid action, it hardly seems possible that he will be 50 this year. It also hardly seemed fair to remind him, as he reminisced over the Tests for which he will always be remembered.

"I suppose I was seen as a bit of a villain here," he says with the twinkling smile of one fully aware he was occasionally seen as a villain in the committee rooms of Lord's, too. "But I learned that in Australia, they may hate you, but they will still respect you if you do the business on the field. To be barracked here is a mark of respect."

Snow tells a story of his homeward flight, when invalided out of the tour before the New Zealand leg. "The plane stopped in Darwin and I decided to have a final Australian beer. A fellow at the bar looked at me sharply and said: 'You're John Snow. I've been swearing at you all summer.' Then he insisted on buying me drinks and slapping my back. It summed up the attitude here.

"This had always seeemed to me the ultimate place to play cricket. To tour Australia with England had been my great ambition since



AS 'VILLAIN'

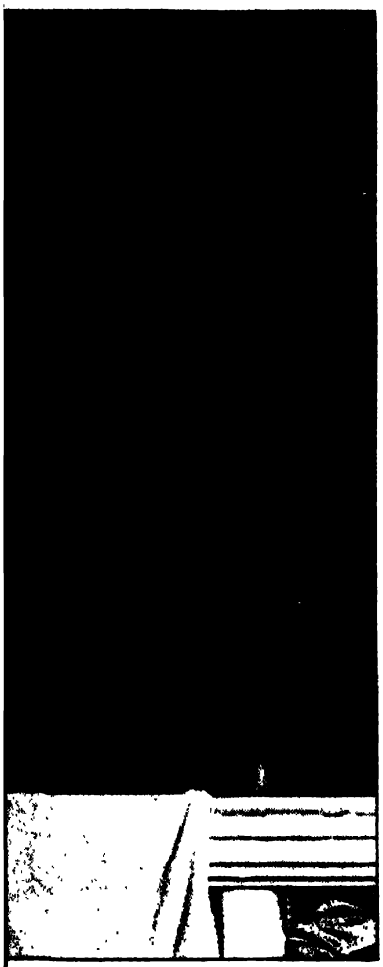
Bowlers who made Aussie blood boil with Ashes met John Snow recently.....



childhood. Perhaps, in 1970, the Tests created more intensity than they do now. The occasion was bigger because there was no one-day cricket to deflect attention. But that does not mean I necessarily feel things were better then.

"I used to get fed up with county cricket because I wanted to play in front of a crowd, not two men and a dog. For that reason, I would have relished the one-dayers played now. After all, they only take the game back to its roots, and in the course of time I think they may help Test cricket rather than destroy it."

Snow is a quiet, reflective man these days. He has given up the poetry writing which diverted him through his playing career, but he remains far removed from the rebellious image in which he was painted.



Snow is a quiet, reflective man these days. He has given up the poetry writing which diverted him through his playing career, but he remains far removed from the rebellious image in which he was painted....

His travel business occupies him fully, but he retains rare skills in the communication of coaching, which England could, and should, have utilised in recent years.

He watched this tour lurch from drama to chaos with more sorrow than anger and, as he reflected on his own series, two decades ago, he pointed out that roles were fully reversed.

"We were the more experienced side, we took an early lead and then hung onto it without serious injury problems. They hit us in the last Test. Geoff Boycott had his arm in a sling and I joined him before the end of the game."

By then, Snow had been subjected to a torrent of bottles and cans, and the armwrestling of a drunk, after Terry Jenner had ducked into a short ball. Ray Illingworth, in Snow's view is the best England captain since Hutton, controversially led his team off the field.

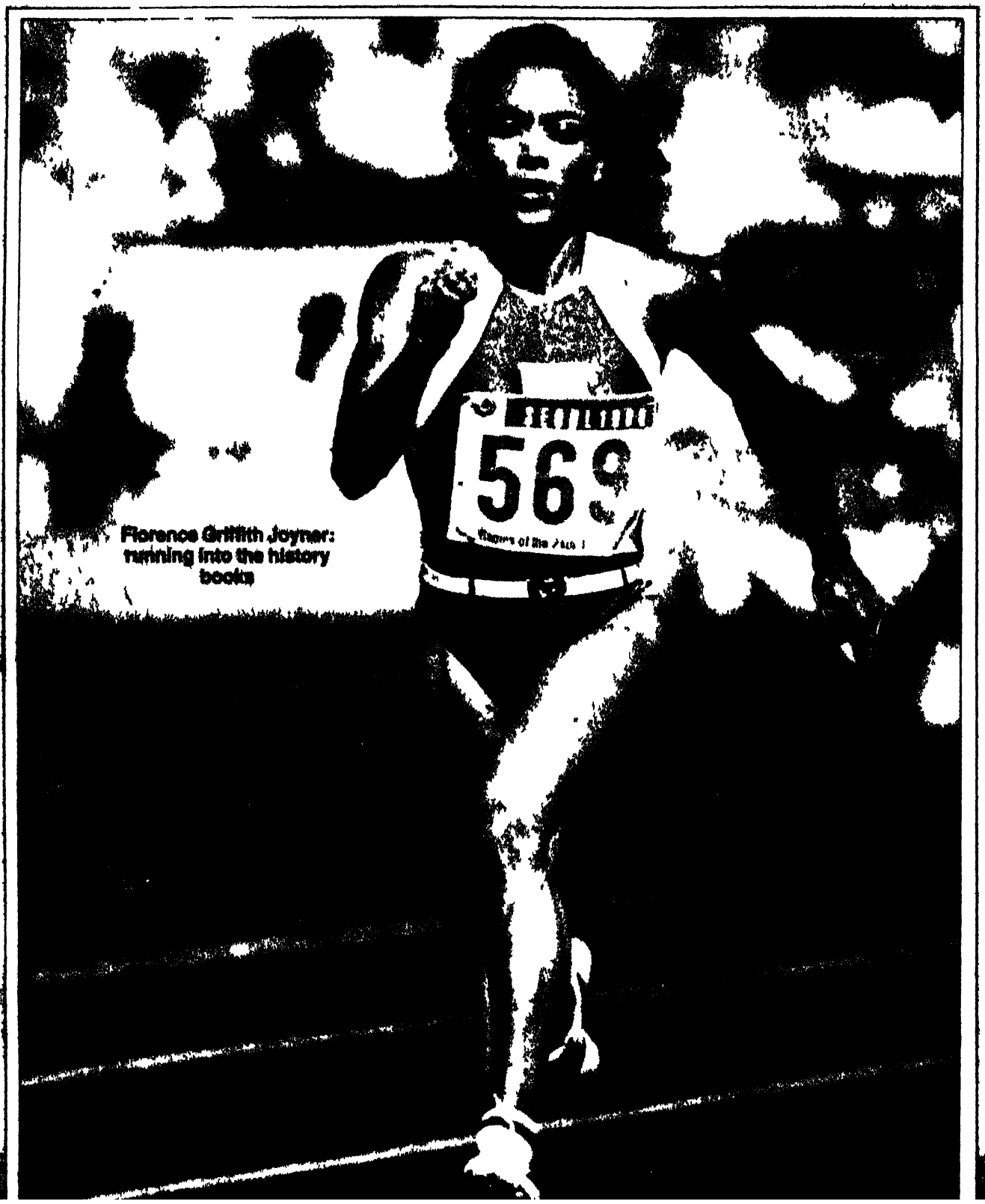
Two days later, with Australia pursuing a very accessible target to win the game and keep the Ashes, Snow took the first wicket and then, in trying to take a boundary catch, dislocated his right little finger so badly that, despite immediate surgery, it remains disfigured now.

He was showing me the damage when a waiter came across. "I think," the waiter said, "England should be looking to call up some of its golden oldies don't you?" Snow simply smiled. In the city where he was reviled as a pommie headhunter and respected as a truly great fast bowler, at least someone still knew him.

COURTESY: THE TIMES, LONDON

FOR YOUR RECORD BOOKS

THE FIGURES TO BEAT



Florence Griffith Joyner: running into the history books

IAAF WORLD RECORDS AS AT 31st DECEMBER 1990

MEN

100m	9.92	Carl LEWIS	USA	Seoul	24.09.88
200m	19.72	Pietro MENNEA	ITA	Mexico City	12.09.79
400m	43.29	Harry REYNOLDS	USA	Zurich	17.08.88
800m	1:41.73	Sebastian COE	GBR	Florence	10.06.81
1000m	2:12.18	Sebastian COE	GBR	Oslo	11.07.81
1500m	3:29.46	Said AOUITA	MAR	Berlin	23.08.85
Mile	3:46.32	Steve CRAM	GBR	Oslo	27.07.85
2000m	4:50.81	Said AOUITA	MAR	Paris	16.07.87
3000m	7:29.45	Said AOUITA	MAR	Cologne	20.08.89
5000m	12:58.39	Said AOUITA	MAR	Rome	22.07.87
10,000m	27:08.23	Arturo BARRIOS	MEX	Berlin	18.08.89
20,000m	57:18.4	Dionisio CASTRO	POR	La Flèche	31.03.90
1 hour	20,944	Jos HERMENS	HOL	Papendal	01.05.76
25,000m	1:13:55.8	Toshihiko SEKO	JPN	Christchurch	22.03.81
30,000m	1:29:18.8	Toshihiko SEKO	JPN	Christchurch	22.03.81
110m Hurdles	12.92	Roger KINGDOM	USA	Zurich	16.08.89
400m Hurdles	47.02	Edwin MOSES	USA	Koblenz	31.08.83
3000m SC	8:05.35	Peter KOECH	KEN	Stockholm	03.07.89
Relays					
4 x 100m	37.79	FRA (Moriniere, Sangouma, Trouabal, Marie-Rose)	FRA	Split	01.09.90
4 x 200m	1:19.38	Santa Monica Track Club (Everett, Burrell, Heard, Lewis)	USA	Koblenz	23.08.89
4 x 400m	2:56.16	USA (Matthews, Freeman, James, Evans)	USA	Mexico City	20.10 68
		USA (Evefett, Lewis, Robinzine, Reynolds)	USA	Seoul	01 10.88
4 x 800m	7:03.89	GBR (Elliott, Cook, Cram, Coe)	GBR	London	30.08.82
4 x 1500m	14:38.8	FRG (Wessinghage, Hudak, Lederer, Fleschen)	FRG	Cologne	17.08.77
Walks					
20,000m	1:18:40.0	Ernesto CANTO	MEX	Bergen	05.05.84
30,000m	2:04:55.7	Guillaume LEBLANC	CAN	Sept-Iles	16.06.90
50,000m	3:41.38 4	Raul GONZALEZ	MEX	Bergen	25.05.79
2 hours	28,165	Jose MARIN	ESP	Barcelona	08.04.79
Field Events					
High Jump	2.44	Javier SOTOMAYOR	CUB	San Juan	29.07.89
Pole Vault	6.06	Sergey BUBKA	URS	Nice	10.07.88
Long Jump	8.90	Bob BEAMON	USA	Mexico City	18.10.68
Triple Jump	17.97	Willie BANKS	USA	Indianapolis	16.06.85
Shot Put	23.12	Randy BARNES	USA	Los Angeles	20.05.90
Discus	74.08	Jurgen SCHULT	GDR	Neubrandenburg	06.06.86
Hammer	86.74	Yuriy SEDYKH	URS	Stuttgart	30 08.86
Javelin	90.98	Steve BACKLEY	GBR	London	20 07 90
Combined Events					
Decathlon	# 8847 (10.44, 8.01, 15.72, 2.03, 46.97, 14.33, 46.56, 5.00, 65.24, 4.35.00)	Daley THOMPSON	GBR	Los Angeles	8/9.08.84
# 1985 Tables					
Best Performance					
Marathon	2:06:50	Belayneh DINSAMO	ETH	Rotterdam	17.04 88
The following performance is no longer recognised by IAAF as a World Record:-					
100m	9.83	Ben JOHNSON	CAN	Rome	30.08.87

IAAF WORLD RECORDS AS AT 31st DECEMBER 1990

WOMEN

100m	10.49	Florence GRIFFITH JOYNER	USA	Indianapolis	16.07.88
200m	21.34	Florence GRIFFITH JOYNER	USA	Seoul	29.09.88
400m	47.60	Marita KOCH	GDR	Canberra	06.10.85
800m	1:53.28	Jarmila KRATOCHVILOVA	TCH	Munich	26.07.83
1000m	2:30.6	Tatyana PROVIDOKHINA	URS	Podolsk	20.08.78
1500m	3:52.47	Tatyana KAZANKINA	URS	Zurich	13.08.80
Mile	4:15.61	Paula IVAN	ROM	Nice	10.07.89
2000m	5:28.69	Maricica PUICA	ROM	London	11.07.86
3000m	8:22.62	Tatyana KAZANKINA	URS	Leningrad	26.08.84
5000m	14:37.33	Ingrid KRISTIANSEN	NOR	Stockholm	05.08.86
10,000m	30:13.74	Ingrid KRISTIANSEN	NOR	Oslo	05.07.86
1 Hour	18,084	Silvana CRUCIATA	ITA	Rome	04.05.81
25,000m	1:29:29.2	Karolina SZABO	HUN	Budapest	22.04.88
30,000m	1:49:05.6	Karolina SZABO	HUN	Budapest	22.04.88
100m Hurdles	12.21	Yordanka DONKOVA	BUL	Stara Zagora	20.08.88
400m Hurdles	52.94	Marina STEPANOVA	URS	Tashkent	17.09.86
Relays					
4 x 100m	41.37	GDR (Gladisch, Rieger Auerswald, Gohr)	GDR	Canberra	06.10.85
4 x 200m	1:28.15	GDR (Gohr, Muller Wockel, Koch)	GDR	Jena	09.08.80
4 x 400m	3:15.17	URS (Ledovskaya, Nazarova, Pinigina, Bryzgina)	URS	Seoul	01.10.88
4 x 800m	7:50.17	URS (Olizarenko Gurina, Borisova, Podyalovskaya)	URS	Moscow	05.08.84
Walks					
5,000m Walk	20:17.19	Kerry SAXBY	AUS	Sydney	14.01.90
	*20:07.52	Beate ANDERS	GDR	Rostock	23.06.90
10,000m Walk	41:56.23	Nadezhda RYASHKINA	URS	Seattle	24.07.90
Field Events					
High Jump	2.09	Stefka KOSTADINOVA	BUL	Rome	30.08.87
Long Jump	7.52	Galina CHISTYAKOVA	URS	Leningrad	11.06.88
Shot Put	22.63	Natalya LISOVSKAYA	URS	Moscow	07.06.87
Discus	76.80	Gabriele REINSCH	GDR	Neubrandenburg	09.07.88
Javelin	80.00	Petra FELKE	GDR	Potsdam	09.09.88
Combined Events					
Heptathlon	7291 (12.69, 1.86, 15.80, 22.56, 7.27, 45.66, 2:08.51)	Jackie JOYNER-KERSEE	USA	Seoul	23/24.09.88
Best performance					
Marathon	2:21:06	Ingrid KRISTIANSEN	NOR	London	21.04.85



Jackie Joyner Kersee



* Awaiting ratification

SUSPENDED

ATHLETE	COMPETITION	DATE	SUSPENSION
IAAF/Area Competitions			
Larry Myricks (USA)	Hamilton Spectator Games	21.1.90	3 months
	EAA Indoor meeting, Seville	27.2.90	until 27.5.90
Arthur Anderson (USA)	Sunkist Invitation, LA	19.1.90	3 months
Greg Foster (USA)	Sunkist Invitation, LA	19.1.90	3 months
Joseph Taiwo (NGR)	Indoor Invitation, Portland	20.1.90	3 months
Luis Delis (CUB)	EAA Meeting, Umea	20.06.90	2 years
	EAA Meeting, Formia	7.7.90	
Randy Barnes (USA)	EAA Meeting, Malmö	7.8.90	Suspended pending a TAC hearing
Harry "Butch" Reynolds (USA)	IAAF Meeting, Monaco	12.8.90	Suspended pending a TAC hearing
Borut Bilac (YUG)	European Championships, Split	August 90	2 years
Felicia Tilea (ROM)	European Championships, Split	August 90	2 years
Viacheslav Lukho (URS)	European Championships, Split	August 90	2 years
Dulce Garcia (CUB)	EAA Meeting, Jerez	3.9.90	3 months
Tested by Member Federations			
Robert Perez (USA)	Ultramarathon, Minnesota	28.10.89	3 months
Bogdan Plochocki (POL)	Polish Junior Champs, Spala	27.1.90	2 years
Greg Moses (USA)	USA Indoor Championships	23.2.90	2 years until 5.5.92
Larry Myricks (USA)	USA Indoor Championships	23.2.90	until 13.4.91
William Payne (USA)	USA Indoor Championships	23.2.90	3 months until 4.7.90
Izabela Zatorska (POL)	Polish X-C Champs, Olsztyn	11.3.90	3 months
Sirje Eischelmann (URS)	Los Angeles Marathon	4.3.90	2 years
Patricia Girard (FRA)	Out-of-Competition	17.3.90	2 years
Adriana Andrescu (ROM)	Westland Marathon, Netherlands	7.4.90	2 years
Slawomir Mjusiak (POL)	Stramilano Half-Marathon, Italy	7.4.90	3 months
H Hentschel (GDR)	German Democratic Republic	27.5.90	2 years
Iana Manuhlova (URS)	USSR Junior Championships	5.7.90	2 years
Elisa Costa (POR)	Portugal	9.6.90	2 years
	West-Athletic-Cup, Austria	24.6.90	
	Portugal National Club Champs	7.7.90	
Larisa Nikitina (URS)	Goodwill Games, Seattle	23.7.90	2 years
Tamara Bykova (URS)	Goodwill Games, Seattle	23.7.90	3 months
L Cherevko (URS)	USSR Summer Spartakiad	30.7.90	2 years
Aleksey Petukhov (URS)	USSR Summer Spartakiad	30.7.90	2 years
Sergey Ivanov (URS)	USSR National Championships	24.8.90	2 years



Butch Reynolds: a world record holder in the 400m was tested positive

KERALA POLICE

THE ENF

CHANDRASEKHARAN NAIR STADIUM. Thiruvananthapuram. 1982. Venue of the All India Police Games. Kerala Police thrashed and bruised in front of a large crowd. An embarrassed Kerala Home Minister, with a blank expression on his face, helplessly suffers the jeers of the spectators each time the results are announced on the public address system. The Kerala Policemen look like a bunch of no gooders...This is just an image from the agonised, anguished past of Kerala Police.

But those moments of agony and humiliation later turned out to be a blessing in disguise. For, the Home Minister who had patiently tolerated the hostile public reaction, vowed then and there that Kerala Police would never again be the laughing stock of the crowds. Not anymore. A blueprint was immediately formulated and work began in right earnest.

As an ambitious plan was launched the Director General of Police M.K. Joseph and sports officer T.K. Gopinath began to work tirelessly, sacrificing their social commitments just to restore the fast decling image of the policemen in the arena of football.

The duo did a fantastic job and won the respects of the higherups in the government too.

But just when things began to move smoothly, misfortune struck, ending abruptly all the good work that has been going on. Gopinath committed suicide with his service revolver.

Football in Kerala had been languishing for a long time until the much-needed break finally came in 1974, when Kerala won the Santosh Trophy heralding in a new era...a revolution now began to take place, especially in the latter part of the seventies.

Many new names, and teams came into prominence. Like Premier Tyres and Titanium. In fact, the team which we saw in the 1978 Calcutta Nationals was probably the most exciting and talented in recent times. Players like Xavier Pius, Najeeb, Premnath Philips held centrestage and the scouts of the host city's big three were on the prowl to hire them.

In the 1978 Sait Nagjee soccer tournament in Calicut, Premnath Philips and Najeeb, playing for Premier Tyres, ruthlessly tormented the illustrious Bagan defence in the semi finals.

PRITI RANJAN KARMAKAR



SUBHASH SARCAR, writing from Thiruvananthapuram, relates the success story of Kerala Police who through sheer willpower have emerged as the newest force in Indian football wading through all the hardships that came their way...

▲ **Federation Cup, 1990: The victorious Kerala Police with the trophies. The journey towards glory begins...**

ORCERS

Pius later opted for Mohun Bagan, while Dinakaran, Najeeb and Philips joined Mohammedan Sporting.

This exodus set off the decline of Kerala soccer once again and the disheartened tyre company finally decided to give up.

The Premier Tyres team quietly passed into oblivion.

It was around 1979 that A.M. Sreedharan entered the scene like a messiah. He had been the goalkeeper of the then formidable Kerala team for 13 years and subsequently coached the Services side for five years.

Back home in Cannanore having gained a good reputation, Sreedharan took over as the coach of Kerala Police as they needed one for a five-year term beginning in 1984. (During this period Sreedharan had Pappachan, Sathyen, Chacko, Saraf Ali and Vijayan.) In a way, Sreedharan's five-year deputation, plus another year's assignment which terminated in June 90, yielded great results.

Sreedharan's comeback into the fold this year was rather dramatic. He was present as a member of the organising committee at the recently-concluded Federation Cup and came to the rescue of the Kerala Police team by giving voluntary advice at a vitally important time when the newly appointed coach T.K.Chathunny 'deserted' his players for 'personal reasons'. The truth is that Chathunny had little rapport with his players and had virtually no control over his team.

And when Kerala Police retained the status of the champion club of India the DGP, Rajagoppalan Narayanan, asked Sreedharan to take charge of the team. He agreed.

Within six years Kerala Police took part in four Federation Cups and won twice; they won the All India Police soccer tournament also the same number of times.

The achievements had a tremendous impact on football in the state. And today, Kerala Police can boast of having five to six regulars in the Indian side. Which indeed is a measure of the progress they have achieved wading bravely through all the hardships that came their way. ●

Chandrasekharan Nair stadium. Thiruvananthapuram. 1982. Venue of the All India Police Games. Kerala Police thrashed and bruised in front of a large crowd. The Kerala Policemen look like a bunch of no gooders...This is just an image from the agonised, anguished and now forgotten past of Kerala Police...



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

▲ **Pappachan surges into the attack against Hungary: guiding light**

Thiruvananthapuram Jawaharlal Nehru Public Library

India Flatter, But

Although India managed a victory over Zambia, they fell



INDIA were on the verge of accomplishing a very rare feat in the Nehru Gold Cup tournament... a second straight victory. A feat so 'unusual' that merely the possibility of such an occurrence was excuse enough to bring out our manual of cliches.

1) Indian soccer was slowly re-awakening.

We were about to write a fresh chapter in Indian soccer history.

3) The public was going to respond with renewed enthusiasm by coming in large members to see India perform.

Bang! Forget it. China's Huang Chong with a decisive strike punctured the Indian balloon again. Okay, we lost. All right, we were inconsistent. Time to go back to the drawing board you would think? No way, in our typical manner, it was merely time to find a scapegoat. And who better than our Hungarian coach, Joseph Gelei.

Yet, instead of asking why the national federation had consistently interfered with Gelei's plans, asking him to work with a 'fragmented team, they questioned why he was being paid so much. Outrageous.

However, coming back to the tournament at Trivandrum's Chandrasekharan Nair stadium (the 1986 meet was held at the same venue) Gelei was never optimistic to begin with about India doing something outstanding. Bikash Panji and company may have tried their best, but Gelei was given negligible time to mould his team into any fighting shape.

Nevertheless, this time there was a slight deviation in India's story. It was initially rather unbelievable that India put up such stiff resistance against a Romanian Olympic B team for about 75 minutes without any decisive result. And when we eventually lost, it was not without respectability.

Equally amazing was that, the Romanian triumph didn't appear to deter the Indian spirit at all. In fact, the players were in no mood to surrender without a fight against the Hungarians. A mood that became apparent when India took the lead through Pappachan and held on to it for as long as 67 minutes. But we lacked that extra bit ..the inability to keep our composure, and in the process made some irretrievable errors. Assistant coach Mohd. Habib's protege Aloke Das tripped Josef Duro inside the box and Tibor Balog neutralised. A moment later India would concede another goal.

Instead of asking why the national federation had consistently interfered with Gelei's plans, they questioned why he was being paid so much

Gelei, though, was satisfied with India's performance and quite confident that they had the ability to score over the teenaged Zambian national team, which has plenty of skill and stamina but lacks experience. So to contain the visitors, Gelei enforced one particular strategy: an all-out attack and it paid off when Bikas Panji became the last Indian to score a goal in the Nehru Cup, his last international meet.

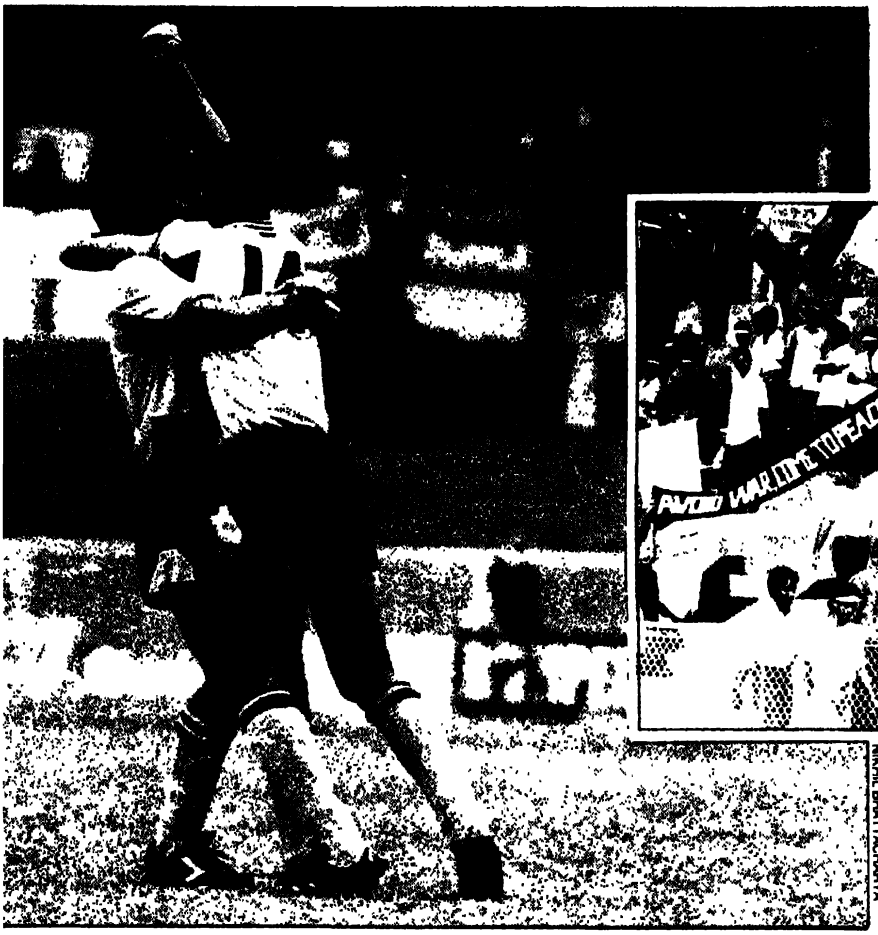
Against China, Gelei turned prophetic when be correctly surmised that Sharaf Ali, despite his excellent overlapping, has the tendency of not marking his opponent and if ever India conceded a goal to China it would come from that particular side. He was absolutely right...just one lapse by Sharaf Ali and Aloke Das was enough to place India behind China.

One of the problems in the Indian camp was dissatisfaction over player selection. Habib was only interested in promoting his TATA Academy footballers, Aloke Das and Cardoz. There were others unquestionably better than Cardoz, who shouldn't have been played against China, as he looked a mere passenger. Aloke Das, at least did a substantial job in the

BY SUBHASH SARCAR, TRIVANDRUM

Not For Long

short of expectations once again



Pappachen and Bikash Panji exult after scoring a goal. Of course the occasions were a rarity



The spectators hold afloat banners condemning the use of force in settling a political issue

NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

"I cannot believe why India can't progress. Everyone loves the game. There is plenty of talent"—Joseph Gelei

back four, but will be remembered for the one error he made which China's Huang Chong took advantage of.

While the coaches did not mention their reluctance to use the older players, it appeared evident through their actions In fact, one wondered why the senior players were inducted into the Indian squad in the first place? Defender Tarun Dey didn't find a place in the team and asked permission to leave...Debashish Mukherjee met with the same fate (he stayed back) because Gelei thought Chacko was doing a better job under the bar

The outcome of the India-USSR match had to relevance—how can we expect any improvement from overaged players who lack stamina and indulge in the habitual mispasses. "I cannot believe why India can't progress. Everyone loves the game. There is plenty of talent. There should be a serious effort made to scout talent from the Subroto Mukherjee Cup, but no one is bothered. It's really disheartening. And clubs must have junior teams to blend the young players with the experienced ones," confessed Gelei. "And there should be one coaching system which will help improve Indian standard. A different style of play will never help."

That, was Gelei's final verdict. But, who cares? ●

HIGH SCORE



Saurav Ganguly (left) and Sachin Tendulkar: two youngsters who fared well during the tournament

NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

THE glamour of Indian cricket had converged in the East Zone this year to vie for supremacy in the Duleep Trophy tournament. The tournament was rescheduled in view of the temporary postponement of Pakistan's proposed tour to India. Despite the introduction of 5-day matches—at all levels—the trend of high scoring matches has not altered in view of the preparation of docile wickets at almost all centres. Last year's pattern of high scoring matches has continued to be the feature this year too.

In the quarter-final played at Nehru Stadium, Guwahati, the strong West Zone batting line up, by the end of the second day, had put up a mammoth total of 604 which included big contributions from Sanjay Manjrekar (122), Sachin Tendulkar (159) and Dilip Vengsarkar (72). Young Saurav Ganguly's medium pace (4 for 113) was most encouraging. In East Zone's reply, Saurav stood firm amid the ruins (at one stage 6 for 178) and finally managed to get an unbeaten century on debut (124) in this tournament. Ravi Shastri did not enforce the follow-on despite the massive first innings lead of 287 runs and wanted to give batting practice to his team. Otherwise absurd, the pretence of portraying competitiveness was evident from individuals who were keen to achieve personal landmarks. In West Zone's second innings, left-handed Vinod Kambli (87)



Ravi Shastri did not enforce a follow-on because his players needed batting practice

UTPAL SORKAR

DULEEP TROPHY 1990-91

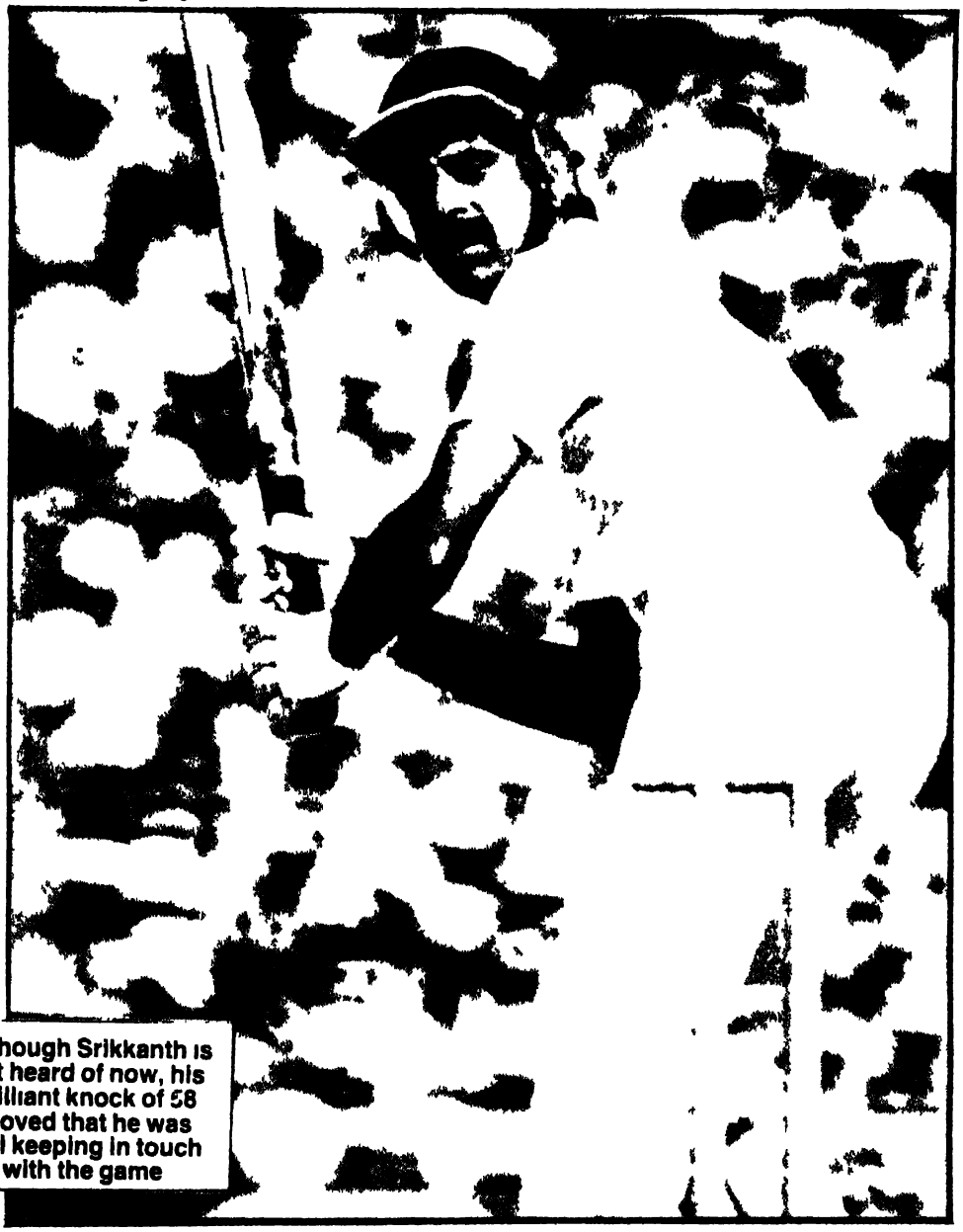
S & DOCILE WICKETS

failed to get a hundred on debut in this tourney and spinner Abinash Kumar became the first-ever player from East Zone to bag ten wickets in this tournament

In the semi-final at Moin-ul-Haq Stadium, Patna, Central Zone batsmen had no clues to the intelligent bowling of North's Atul Wasson and Maninder Singh (match figures of 7 for 137) Central, after folding up for 277 did manage to reduce North to 5 for 175 at one stage but Ajay Jadeja (61) and Kirti Azad (141) and later Manoj Prabhakar (66) and Kapil Dev (69) consolidated North's score to 452 Prashant Vaidya (6 for 128) continued to perform well in Duleep Trophy In Central's small second innings total of 206, Praveen Amre (103), batted brilliantly, notching up his fourth Duleep Trophy hundred in as many matches North beat Central by ten wickets in four days

In the other semi-final at Ispat Stadium, Rourkela with a total of 747 runs, West Zone's dream batting line up of Lalchand Rajput (152) Vengsarkar (94) Tendulkar (131), Kambli (96) and Raju Kulkarni (69) overcame South's total of 515 which included brilliant knocks of Krishnamachari Srikkanth (58) Woorkeri Raman (150) Mohd Azharuddin (65), Syed Kirmani (110) In what turned out to be a wicket tailor-made for batsmen, on the last day South Zone made 337 runs for five wickets in which Robin Singh (123 n o) and Azharuddin (87) were the main contributors West Zone made it to the finals for the 25th time in the 30 year history of the championship

A Correspondent



Although Srikkanth is not heard of now, his brilliant knock of 58 proved that he was still keeping in touch with the game

AUSTRALIAN OPEN '91

"LENDL, EDBERG, BECKER, McENROE...

POWERFUL STUFF"

That was how Patrick McEnroe described the semi-final lineup

STEFFI GRAF might have fallen to Jana Novotna and Gabriela Sabatini might have succumbed to Arantxa Sanchez but the men's semi final line up was the sort that tennis promoters dream about Stefan Edberg versus Ivan Lendl Boris Becker versus Patrick McEnroe Wait a minute what was that last name again? John McEnroe? No you read right it IS Patrick McEnroe the younger but infinitely better behaved brother of the tempestuous young man who burst upon the international scene in 1977

McEnroe the Younger ranked a lowly 114 in the world had never reached the semi final of a Grand Slam event before In fact not even his illustrious older brother had gone beyond the semis at the Australian Open so the two have made history as the first pair of brothers ever to reach the penultimate round of the Australian Open

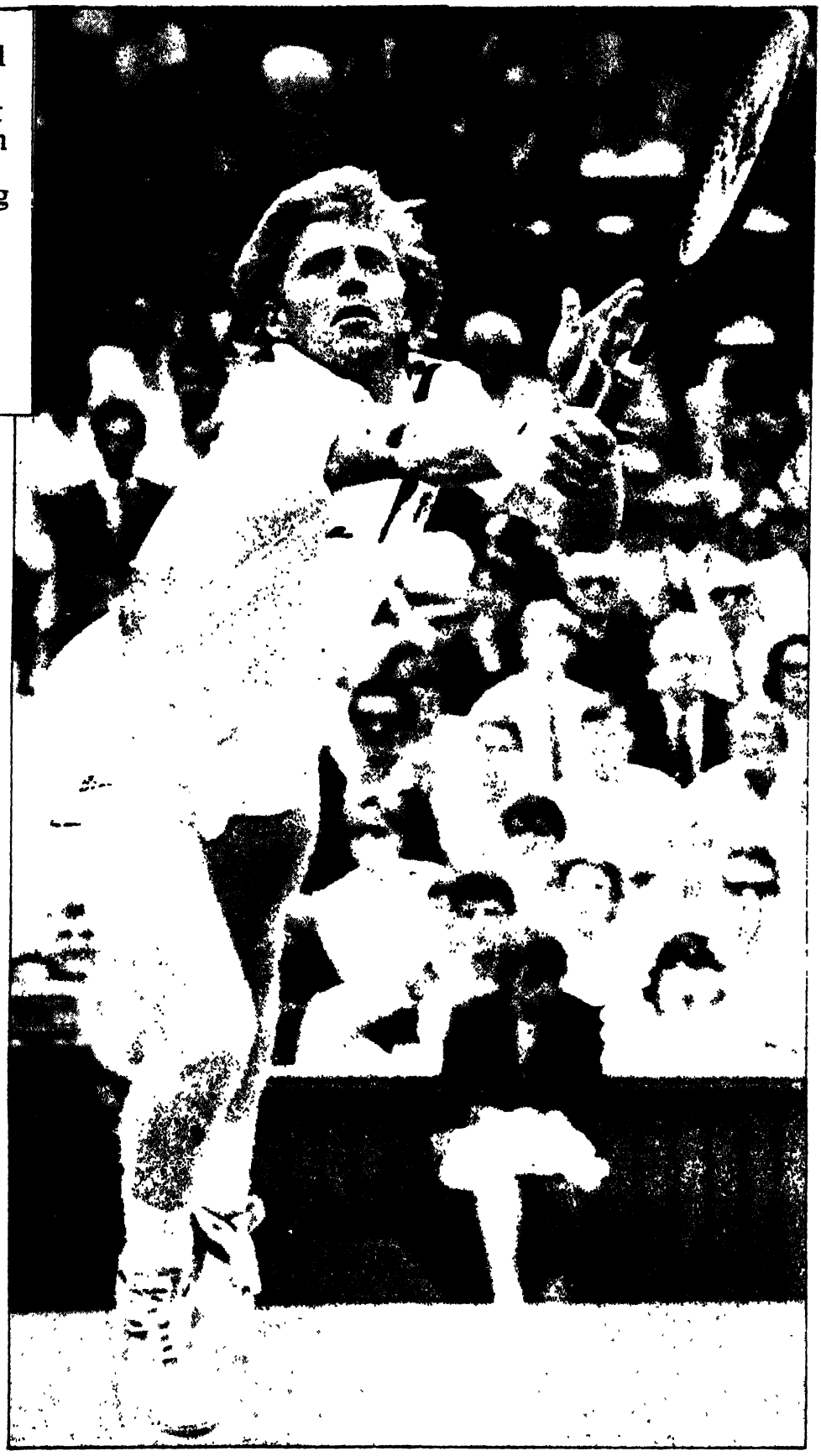
There is none of the touch none of the explosive brilliance of his elder brother but there's a fierce will to win and an equally fierce will to establish his own identity on the tennis circuit Patrick McEnroe went a long way toward proving both here at Flinders Park His quarter final against unseeded Italian Cristiano Caratti ranked 13 places above him on the ATP computer elevated the American to the status of cult figure in Melbourne

On the way to taking the second straight set of the match McEnroe injured his back He



McEnroe the younger's sense of humour is at least as good as his courage, if not better At the press conference, he shrugged off his injury to intone, "Lendl, Edberg, Becker, McEnroe, eh! Powerful stuff" But he was grinning broadly

Becker, the world No. 2 could not help noticing that a woman sitting in the stands persisted in lifting her top, so as to give the tennis player an uninterrupted look at her two twin assets



then took three minutes of injury time to have a wrap-around brace applied, and returned to the fray even as television commentators discussed the possibility that he would have to concede the match McEnroe, proud as ever, would have none of it Because of the muscle injury, his serve lost its sting, his ability to run down wide balls all but deserted him But the will to win inflamed him

As the match dragged on into the fifth set, it seemed that nothing could save the American, yet the crowded stands exhorted him on lustily. McEnroe did not fail them He opened up a 5-2 lead but, serving for the match, was broken. With Caratti serving to stay in the set, McEnroe held triple match point. Caratti clawed back to deuce. McEnroe took a fourth match point. Caratti made it deuce again. Caratti double-faulted to give the American his fifth, then erred in judgment to give McEnroe a berth in the semis alongside the three top-ranked players in the world.

TOMMY HINDLEY



McEnroe the Younger's sense of humour is at least as good as his courage if not better. At the press conference, he shrugged off the injury to intone, "Lendl, Edberg, Becker, McEnroe, eh. Powerful stuff." But he was grinning broadly. Then he pointed out that he had "never lost a five set match." Deadpan, he delivered a one-liner with the panache of Woody Allen. "God, I hope my match with Becker goes to five sets."

Becker who disposed of Guy Forget in straight sets in the quarter final, faced more than his fair share of courtside distraction mid way through the opening week. The world number two and reigning Wimbledon champion could not help noticing that a woman sitting in the stands persisted in lifting her top, so as to give the tennis player an uninterrupted look at her twin assets. While such an act, performed just once, might have been excused as normal in Melbourne summer, the fact that it was repeated at regular intervals made it.

Now Guy Forget declares he has a more positive mental attitude. "Before when I won, I would have been so happy and all day I would be laughing. When I lost it would be black and dark for a couple of days"

GETTING PHYSICAL DOWN UNDER

BRAD GILBERT and David Wheaton. Gilbert had won all their four previous encounters, but only by the slimmest of margins. At Wimbledon last year, Gilbert, 30, had needed all his guile to get past the 21-year-old Wheaton with a 15-13 fifth set. Then, in the Grand Slam Cup final this year, the two had to be separated by officials on court before they came to blows. With both men drawn to meet in the first round of the Australian Open, there could only have been vintage fireworks.

As it turned out, Gilbert prevailed, once again by only a narrow margin, but the dubious distinction of brawling went instead to American Scott Davis and Austrian Alex Antonisch. Davis, whose chief claim to fame is the fact that he led Ivan Lendl by a break of serve in the fifth set at Wimbledon in 1985, is as combustible as the best of them, and tempers flared on court during his first round match against Antonisch. Animosity between the two players continued into the locker room and it was left to the ATP director of tour services, Weller Evans, to break up what promised to be a fullblooded row.

"It was not like Gilbert and Wheaton," said Antonisch later. "This was more a verbal discussion." Antonisch had been annoyed by the way Davis turned his head while shaking hands after their match and retorted "The Americans need guys like you in Iraq." Davis, no slouch when it comes to insults, retorted, "Australia is not even man enough to send anyone there."

So there we have it, two battle grounds. One in Iraq, and one on the tennis courts of the world. Neither trend is healthy, nor is the fact that three of the four men giving tennis an ugly image at the moment are, American.



obvious that she was trying her best to catch his attention.

She certainly succeeded, but Becker did not allow it to distract him from the on-court task. Later, after he had won his second round match against Marian Vajda 6-4, 6-1, 6-3,Becker grinned when asked by the assembled media what he thought of the strange courtside behaviour. "She just had one beer too many and was having a good time. It was nice, but I hope next time she's 25," he quipped.

But Becker was perhaps the player who could afford to breathe the easiest. The withdrawal of fourth seed Pete Sampras with a shoulder injury meant that Becker's task was relatively easier than that of Ivan Lendl Lendl, champion here for the past two years, was in the top half of the draw, with top seed Stefan Edberg, and the dangerous duo of seventh seed Brad Gilbert and fifth seed Goran Ivanesevic. Becker, by contrast, had little to worry about, at least on paper With the withdrawal of Sampras, the US Open champion, he had only to worry about Frenchman Guy Forget, seeded tenth, Emilio Sanchez, seeded ninth and Jonas Svensson, seeded eighth.

It should have been a cut-and dried three-way fight for the title Lendl versus Edberg in the top half, with the winner coming through to meet Becker in the final But the form guide was complicated by events in the previous week. Edberg had looked vulnerable against Sampras in the Rio International at Adelaide just three days before the Australian Open The Swede, surviving four match points, had succumbed to Ivanisevic. Yet Ivanisevic succumbed to fellow Yugoslav Goran Prpic.

And what of Forget, who had won the NSW Open the week before this tournament? If anyone was going to worry Becker at Flinders Park, it would have to be Forget Gone is the erratic attitude of old Now, he declares, he has a more positive mental attitude "Before, when I won, I would have been so happy and all day I would be laughing When I lost it would be black and dark for a couple of days " Now, he focuses more clearly on the task of winning, he says, with the goal of success in view But Forget had played his best tennis in winning the New South Wales Open At Flinders Park against Becker he succeeded in pushing the German to a second set tie-break, but never threatened him

For all three of the top-seeded players, Edberg, Becker and Lendl, this tournament looms as a milestone Lendl needs to win not just to complete his hat-trick of victories at Flinders Park, but to launch himself at what he believes is yet another chance to win Wimmbledon, the one tournament that has always thwarted him. For Edberg, also a former champion here, there is the chance to establish himself as the champion of the Nineties. And for Becker, who has never taken home the Australian Open trophy, there is the first tangible chance to set himself on the road to his ultimate achievement, the status of world number one.

DAVID McMAHON, MELBOURNE

INDIRA GANDHI GOLD CUP HOCKEY

ALL THAT

... is not gold. The fifth edition of the tournament proved that though international in name, it is in reality a B-Grade international tournament used by teams for trial and experimentation

RAJESH KUMAR



IN the inaugural 1987 Indira Gandhi international hockey tournament, ultimate winners Holland came with eight World Cup players For the 1990 tournament at Delhi, Holland sent their Under-21 team. Pakistan, winners in 1988 and 1989 sent their full teams, Shabaz, Wasim Feroze, Qamar Ibrahim and all. Recent winners USSR had just four of their World Cup players in their 14 member squad at Delhi. In 1987, USSR sent 13 World Cup stars for the tournament played at the National stadium in Delhi. Such then has been the fall of India's only international hockey tournament. For the second successive year, no top hockey playing team has participated in what is becoming a devalued international tournament. Still India, with the exception of Pargat Singh, had a complete side, but finished third. Not a happy augury in the Olympic qualification year.

The tournament started as an opportunity to give our national team, exposure to foreign teams. This impact is only partially

GLITTERS....

achieved. Instead foreign teams use this tournament to build sides for the future. Kenya's manager Nashan Randiek said, "we used this tournament to try out winger Jaswinder Sagoo, goalkeeper



Rahim Osman and midfielder Thomas Onyango, all making their international debuts." Soviet coach, Mikhail Osintchev elated at one of his country's major international triumphs in hockey said, "our policy of experimentation paid off. Goalkeeper Rizwan Moruzov showed excellent agility and reflexes and could be our No. 1 custodian if we qualify for the 1992 Barcelona Olympics. Winger Sergei Barabashin and striker Sergei Shatkovsky also excelled. We are not only happy we won, but we discovered a trio of promising players."

Korea came without three of their star players. You Seung Jin, Park Jin Heun and Song Gye Sok who represented Asia in the recent Inter Continental Cup. Still with many new faces, Korea were runners up and were top scorers with 22 goals and skipper, Sin Heum Park was the tournament's top scorer with eight goals, Belgium also had two young players.

The Dutch world champions sent an under 21 squad. Eventual winners USSR had four days practice for the event and had only four world cuppers in their side. The Koreans came sans three of their star players. Even the Kenyans experimented with junior players. India, except for Pargat Singh, had a complete side, but still finished third

The ultimate experiment was by Holland. They used the Indira Gandhi tournament to groom a team for the 1992 European junior championships and 1993 junior World Cup. Five of their promising players are in the 18-19 age group and others were in the 19-20 age group. Teenaged left winger Doris Beer, whose father was an Olympian, was one of the best forwards on view. Coach Ger Eikelboom, a lawyer by profession and assistant national coach said, "we came here for exposure and prepare a team for the future. We knew we would lose some matches."

India should emulate Holland's long term training schemes and use lesser important international tournaments to develop teams for the future. Pargat Singh's decision to avoid the tournament was correct. He stated that he wanted to rest and give younger players a chance for international exposure.

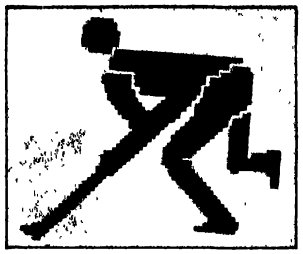
Sadly for India, the gains were few. Only skipper Jagbir Singh and right winger Ram Prakash Singh were consistent. Most of India's penalty corners and goals were initiated by either R.P. Singh or skipper Jagbir. Assistant coach Inam-ur-Rehman said, "we will use Jagbir as an inside forward, as he holds the ball well and has the stickwork to create openings." So Jagbir has to perform the role of Merwyn and Shahid of yore.

Centre half Vivek Singh proved the doubting Jonahs wrong. He excelled in India's two best matches, the 4-1 win over Kenya and the 3-3 draw with South Korea. He showed he is still India's best centre half, a fitting rebuke to his critics who felt he lacked the mobility to support his forwards. Newcomer in midfield Sanjay Bisht has the talent but not the temperament. The other debutant,Ram Saran has the speed but also lacked temperament. Harendra Singh got his chances as right back but his tackling is uncertain. Jagdev, Arif, Shakeel, Darryl, Sanjeev Kumar and Dhanraj Pillay showed ample potential and talent,but still require lots of international exposure.

The hockey on view was not of a very high calibre, but for the

RAJESH KUMAR







India's Sanjeev Kumar weaves past a Korean defender

spectators there was ample compensation as there were plenty of goals. In 21 matches 78 goals were scored

Korea were the fastest team on view But the team with the best defence and quickest breakaways was USSR. Sweeper back Victor Deputatov, stopper back Igor Yulchiev and left back Oleg Khandiev showed world class tackling and interceptions. If only India had such solid defenders, needless goals such as Korea's second and the third goal or USSR's two goals would not have been conceded. De, utatov and Yulchiev were amongst the four Soviet World Cup players on view. The others were midfielders, skipper Vladimir Antakov and Genadi Oganseyan. The way Antakov shackled India's Jagbir Singh was an obvious lesson in man to man marking. So though USSR just scored ten goals they

In spite of the many opportunities the Indians could not penetrate the Soviet defence

FINAL STANDINGS

	P	W	L	D	GF	GA	Pts
USSR	6	5	0	1	10	1	11
S. Korea	6	3	2	1	22	9	8
India	6	3	2	1	16	9	8
Belgium	6	2	2	2	16	10	6
Kenya	6	2	2	2	9	17	6
Holland	6	1	4	1	3	9	3
Poland	6	0	0	6	2	23	0

RAJESH KUMAR



conceded just one goal. No wonder coach Mikhail Osintchev remarked, "we were not exactly consistent. We played well at times and badly at times, as against Poland, but won because of our solid defence." USSR came for this tournament with just four days practice at an indoor stadium in Moscow. The way they are developing, they will be a major threat to India in the Olympic qualifying tournament at Auckland later this year.

Except for India, all the teams played in the 1-3-3-3 formation. Kenya occasionally used four forwards. Kenya's Inderjit Matharu, of Indian origin, was their most lethal forward. His mesmeric stickwork and dribbling skills often with one hand, had the spectators gasping and wishing he could play for Inida. But the accolade for player of the tournament would surely go to Belgium's skipper, the balding Eric Vandenbemden. He played total hockey and was equally effective as sweeper back, midfield or striker. He was truly the jewel in the crown, shining and excelling in every match. His trapping, passing, tackling and dribbling were of the highest class. Belgium with their trio of brothers, Christian, Eric (Belgian player of 1990) and Danny, left back Van Hemmlen and winger Marc Coudron are very dangerous. They could be the dark horses of the Olympic qualifying tournament at Auckland in 1991.

ITC, one of the biggest promoters of sports in India, were the main sponsors of the tournament. They contributed Rs 25 lakhs which helped in five star hotel accommodation and travel of the teams, umpires and other sundry expenses. State Bank of India, the official bankers of the tournament revealed poor ticket sales. An SBI official said, "daily average sale was Rs. 10,000. The highest amount Rs. 27,000 was collected on Saturday, Jan. 19, when India played USSR." So without ITC, the Indira Gandhi tournament committee would have been in a real fix.

Novy Kapadia, New Delhi

FIFTH INDIRA GANDHI HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

INDIAN

RAJESH KUMAR



The joy after beating the Koreans

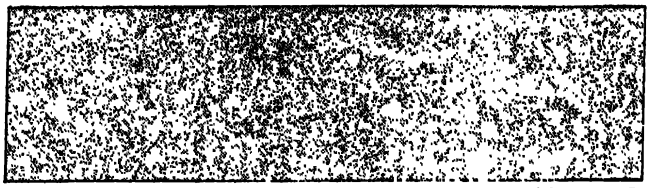
WHERE does Indian hockey go from here? The 1990s was to be the decade of hope, with the maturing of youthful talent, like Shakeel Ahmed, Mohammed Arif, Sanjeev Kumar, Jagdev Singh and Mark Patterson. However judging by the performances at the 5th Indira Gandhi international Gold Cup hockey tournament, the road to glory is a long way off.

There is a crisis in Indian hockey. Adequate replacements have not been found at right half, outside left and in defence if Pargat Singh is not playing. Since Somayya retired after the 1988 Seoul Olympics, India have tried four right halves but found no suitable replacement. Subramani, Angeles Belung, Mohammed Arif and Sanjay Bisht were all found wanting. Arif is a useful tackler and marker but cannot link up with his forwards in attack.

When India lost 0-2 to USSR, R. P. Singh and Jagbir frequently dragged the Soviet defence inwards. But there was no width in the Indian attack, as Arif did not overlap. Hence no quick reverse pass could be given which would have split the Soviet defence. Arif is not to blame. He is not a natural right half. Coach Inam-ur Rehman said, "I would prefer Arif as right back but as Sanjay Bisht did not click in that position, we had to play Arif there, as we have no other right half."

Many felt that John Fernandez of Bombay should have been tried as right half, even though he plays left half for his state. Former Bombay coach Cedric D'Souza says, "John is a versatile half back and can play in any position in midfield. He is the best

BLUES



RAJESH KUMAR



...after being held by a young Dutch side

marker in India and it is a shame that in two tournaments, the Beijing Asiad and Indira Gandhi tournament, he has been confined to the bench. Why hasn't he been given a proper chance?"

If Arif played as a defender then the right half position was weakened. Without Pargat Singh, India's defence was in dire straits at Delhi. But desperate situations demand desperate remedies and the coaches could have experimented more.

Oldtimers criticise Pargat for his upfield sorties. But the Indira Gandhi tournament amply revealed that, an Indian defence without Pargat is like staging Hamlet without the Prince of Denmark. Jagdev may have won the best player award in the Jammu nationals, but his tackling and interceptions against fast paced European teams leaves much to be desired.

Penalty corner conversion was still woeful. India wasted 11 penalty corners and a stroke vs South Korea, 11 penalty corners vs Kenya and ten vs USSR. The same old failings, not enough variety in indirect penalty corners. The hitters do not angle the shot sufficiently. Inam says, "there were too many probables at the short camp at Lucknow and so enough time was not given to penalty corner conversion." Maybe separate training for penalty corners is required. Jagdev shot powerfully but straight into the keeper or wide and Harendra Singh was mostly off target. Arif was the best of the trio but got fewer opportunities.

The saddest example of paucity of talent is at outside left. When Thoiba Singh played there, critics

THE PATH OF NO RETURN?

DOES the Indian Hockey Federation (IHF) really care for the national team? Not really, judging by the preparation of the Indian team for the 5th Indira Gandhi international hockey tournament.



RAJESH KUMAR

For the Soviets it was a maiden triumph in the tournament

For instance, after the Jammu nationals, 48 probables were called for the two week training camp at Lucknow. It was too large a number for a short-duration training camp. Thus when coaches, Jhaman Lal Sharma and Inam-ur-Rehman were questioned about India's inability to convert penalty corners, Inam replied, "we had little time for specialised training, so co-ordination in taking penalty corners was lacking."

Another lapse was the haphazard intimation to states and institutions about release of players for the national camps. Imagine, Indian Airlines' Mukesh Kumar, a star of the Jammu nationals, could not join the national camp, as his employers in Hyderabad did not get an official release order. Only about 35 players came to the camp. So the lack of intimation may have been IHF's Machiavellian plan to curb the number of players in the camp.

At the Lucknow camp, with temperatures ranging between 3-5 degrees Celsius, hot water was often unavailable for the players. When the tournament was shifted to Delhi, the players had to fend for themselves about travel arrangements to the capital. At Delhi even the daily allowance of Rs. 40 was stopped! No wonder some senior players complain about lack of incentives.

Ex-Olympian Ashok Kumar aptly remarked "in case India does not qualify from the pre-Olympic tournament in Auckland this year, it will be the first time since the 1928 Amsterdam Olympics that India will not be figuring in Olympic hockey. Does the IHF realise the magnitude of its task? Is the IHF serious that they allow the senior nationals to be staged on grass when the inter-university was staged on astro turf at Gwalior."

Coach Inam categorically said, "we need more experience against European countries. It would be best if some tours could be arranged." Will the IHF respond and shake off its lethargy? Unlikely, considering it's track record. The IHF is conducting a training camp for the Indian juniors(Under 18 years) at Gwalior for the Asian junior qualifying tournament in October. Ironically, the junior World Cup and the Asian qualifying tournament is for players Under-21 years. But for some reason the IHF camp is for players under-18 years. With such slipshod management can we qualify for the Olympics?

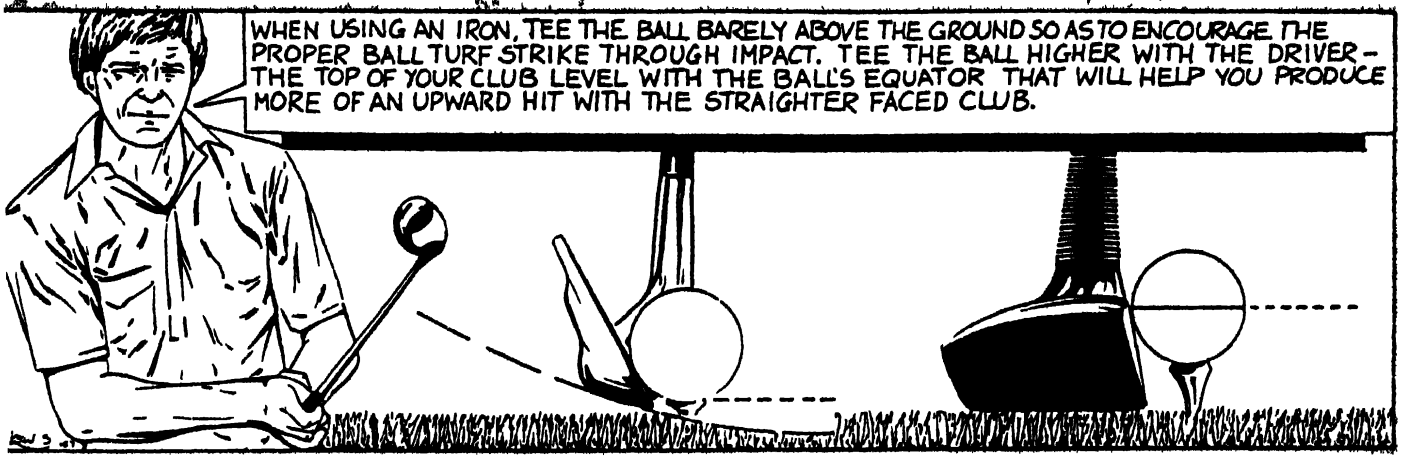
maintained he was not a patch on Zafar Iqbal. Yet people are already lamenting Thoiba's absence. Punjab's Ram Saran seemed sluggish and his crosses were inaccurate. Inam says, "he is young and hard working but got nervous in his first international tournament. He has the potential and should be given more chances." Maybe Inam is right, but Ram Saran did not do justice to the chances he got at Delhi. Sanjeev Kumar, Dhanraj Pillay and Darryl D'Souza were all tried on the left flank but were mis-fits. Sanjeev and Pillay functioned adequately as occasional left wingers in the Jammu nationals on grass and Ram Saran excelled there. But hockey on astro-turf is a different story. The old failings, inability to break a packed defence, lack of mobility amongst the forwards and no off-the-ball work were all evident in the Indian players at Delhi. Indian hockey still has miles to go, before reaching international respectability. Glory is but a distant dream.

BY NOVY KAPADIA

THE FALDO FORMULA

FROM TEE TO GREEN

Tee High or Low?



Posture



Shoulders above Knees



ROMANCING

EARLIER in this column we had dealt with dehydration and its effects. Here we are going to give you another reason to drink that extra glass of water, because it is going to make all the difference to an organ we don't even think of—the kidney.

It's sad but a true medical fact of life: As we grow older we have to start caring for parts of our body that we took for granted. The kidneys, for example, are peaceful little friends that quietly do their intricate job year after year, until one day they face a problem.

The kidney acts as a filter in our body. That is, it filters the excess nutrients from the blood, dumping it into the bladder for excretion in the urine. Add to that the regulation of the body's acid-akaline balance, to help the system run clean and without corrosion. As if that weren't enough the kidneys also help maintain the correct ratio between salt and water in the body, hence affecting blood pressure.

By now, there's probably a pang of guilt creeping through your minds. Hey, this organ performs some of your most vital jobs and you never even think of it The problem arises when chunks of mineral salts form in the kidneys or in the tubes that link the kidneys to the bladder called uretars. These chunks in medical terminology are called 'renal calculi' but we know them as 'kidney stones.

These stones are small, brittle and usually yellow or brown in colour. They come round, jagged, or even branched like a stag's antlers. They are made up of a variety of minerals and amino acids; but most of them are either calcium



THE STONE?

oxalate, calcium phospate or a mixture of the two.

How do these stones happen? Well, if too much calcium winds up in the urine it becomes supersaturated, and calcium crystals begin to precipitate like little snowflakes. But unlike snowflakes these cyrstals don't melt. In fact they snowball and their sharp little edges wreak havoc on the most vulnerable and private parts of a man s body.

The first treatment of choice, unfortunately is time. If the stone is able to pass out of the body through the urinary tract, on its own, then one is indeed lucky. If the stone measures less than a quarter of an inch in diameter, then there s an 80% chance that it will pass out on its own.

But sometimes the stone can t move. In these cases the urethra goes into a spasm, gripping the stone—a situation some medics call 'Romancing the Stone'. In these cases the stones have to be dissolved or removed by surgical means. A non surgical procedure known as Extracorporeal Shock Wave Lithitripsy is fast gaining acceptance in the western countries.

In this procedure the patient is made to recline on what looks like a dentist's chair of the year 2050, in an oversized bathtub full of warm water. A high voltage generator sends up to 3,000 shock waves through the water into the patient's flank. These waves demolish the stones, while rippling harmlessly through the rest of the body.

Another amazing fact is that the patient is caught unawares by the crippling pain, even when one is in the pink' of health. Docs cannot explain the high rate of incidence of kidney stones among men. Some even suggest that this is the closest that a man can come towards experiencing what it feels like during labour.

By now we guess you'll want to do damn near anything to avoid all this. Well, folks the prevention procedure is the easiest of all.

Just make sure that you drink 8-9 glasses of water in a day. Another word of caution. Be on your toes regarding water habits during summer because in the hot season one sweats and that makes it easier for minerals to accumulate in the kidneys. Many regulate their water habits so they can avoid that 3 a.m. walk to the bathroom. But in reality one should drink a glass of water before going to bed and should have another glass of water at 3.02, when you come out of the bathroom.

Eating less meat, cutting back on salts, and putting the lid on ice-creams and cheese will do a lot of good for the kidneys. One should also go easy on foods such as chocolate, tea, cola, peanuts, spinach and citrus fruits.

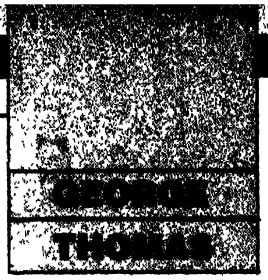
Remember, kidney stones are as bad as they sound. Take our word for it, because you wouldn't ever want to find out for yourself. ●

THE HEALTH COLUMN



An excruciating pain is the result; very low in the gut and dead center front. The pain hits in spasms and one moment you are perfectly all right and the next moment you are curled up like a tube of toothpaste, howling like a banshee and wondering whether someone far away had created a voodoo doll in your features and had jammed a red hot pin into the mid section. Although a tendency toward kidney stones run in the family, environmental factors like chronic dehydration, or a diet rich in meat or dairy products can also be the cause.

A New Champion



THE Indian Railways duo comprising Bisht and George Thomas crowned themselves the 'queen' and 'king' of the Puma-Carona national badminton championship which concluded at the Lal Bahadur Indoor Stadium.

For Madhumita Bisht it was really a special occasion to celebrate. Firstly she set a new record by winning the singles title for the eight time, eclipsing the 25-year old record of Meena Shah. She also equalled the seven-in-a row win by Meena. Significantly, Madhumita earned a triple, winning the singles, doubles and mixed doubles partnering Sudha Padmanabhan and Harjeet Singh respectively. This she has done for the fifth time.

Starting off from the base line, Madhumita played hard to avenge her defeat against Seema Bhandari who had thrashed her in the SAARC meet a couple of years ago. Facing no resistance from her rival, Madhumita excelled in using her drop shots and deft placements to win easy points.

In the first game both looked equally good. With the score at two-all. Service changed many a time and then it was three-all. But from here onwards, Madhumita changed her game plan and took a good five point lead by keeping the service to herself.

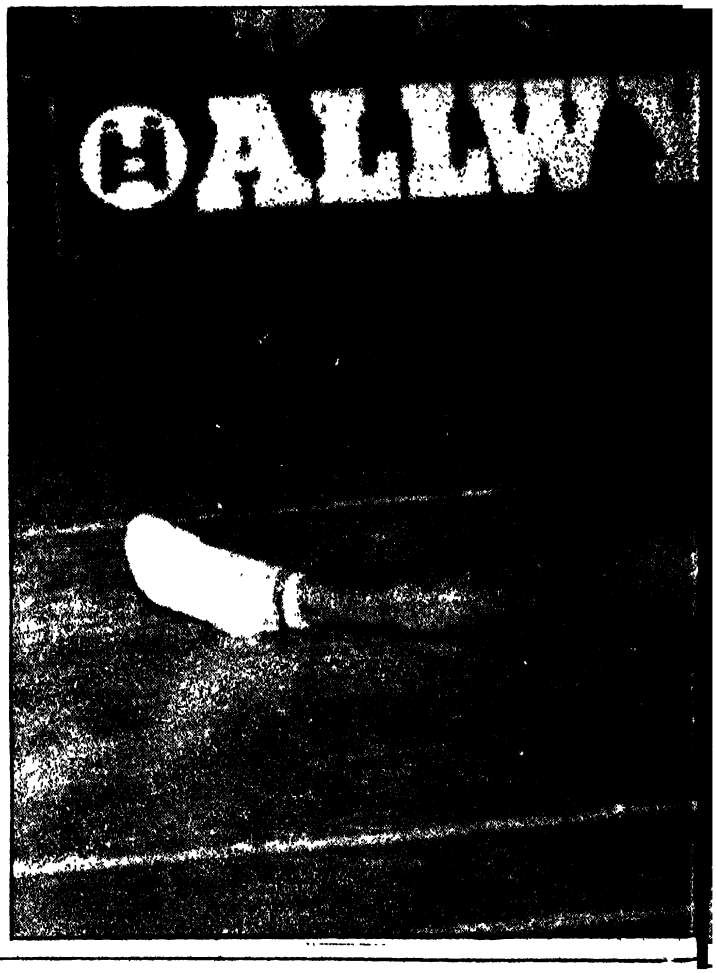
When Seema Bhandari, tried desperately to come back into the game, Madhumita sent a couple of cross court smashes to take the first set at 11-3 in 14 minutes.

In the second game, Seema Bhandari did not look nervous. She worked hard to make up for the earlier loss,but to no avail. Madhumita Bisht gained a two point lead, serving high and returning the shots with some deft placements. Then Seema changed her strategy and equalised at two all by improving her speed and drop shots. This did not deter 'Didi' (as called by Railway players) who shrugged off all resistance to pick another three points in a row to make it 5-2.

Sensing victory, Madhumita Bisht toyed with Seema Bhandari for a brief spell before winning the game, 11-7.

TWENTY-FOUR year old George Thomas, an engineer in the Railways, was brimming with confidence after his victory over Vimal Kumar. In the final against Praveen Kumar he started off on a very cautious note giving away two points to Praveen by wrong line judgement. Controlling himself by muttering a few words, George caught up with his rival to make it two all. Then wresting a one point lead, Praveen failed to keep the lead when he netted the shuttle for George to equalise at three-all.

Knowing fully well Praveen's lack of fitness, George Thomas began to play his natural game of pulling his opponent towards the net and sending the return behind. By doing so,



George Thomas lies flat on the floor in joy after he won the national title for the first time. He defeated Praveen Kumar in the final

Champions: Madhumita Bisht and George Thomas

George Thomas tired out his rival and started gaining points with placements to forge 7-3 ahead.

Unable to cover the court properly due also to a thigh injury, Praveen caved in meekly at 15-3.

Game two, seemed to go in favour of Praveen Kumar. He took a comfortable 4-0 lead, and then extended his advantage to 10-3. A cool and composed George Thomas concentrating on his rallies slowly started hitting the shuttle from one end of the court to another thus, forcing Praveen Kumar to commit as many errors as possible.





Playing from mid court George Thomas used his half jump smash with renewed vigour to equalise at twelve all. During this period, Praveen Kumar put all his returns into the net or hit them over the baseline. While Praveen began to wilt George kept himself calm, served well, volleyed well and smashed powerfully to emerge as the new national champion at 15-12.

Speaking to this reporter, George said, "I dedicate this victory to my brother Suresh Thomas, railway coach Dipu Ghosh and to my former tutor Muralidharan".

In the mixed doubles, Harjeet Singh and Madhumita Bisht of Railways beat Anirudh and G. Vijaya (A.P) 15-4, 15-4 to claim the title. Madhumita Bisht playing alongside Sudha Padmanabhan triumphed over Sindhu Guplati and Neeru Nijahwan (Delhi) 15-8. 15-0 to take the women's doubles title.

The top seed men's pair of Uday Pawar and Vinod Kumar (BAI) eliminated defending champions Partho Ganguli and Vikram Singh (Gujarat) 15-9, 15-8 to bag the doubles crown.

Maharashtra won the Rahamatulla Cup derailing Railways in the Inter-state championship by three sets to two. The Chadda Cup went in favour of the Railway women 2-1 when they outclassed holders Maharashtra.

A Correspondent

KARATE MAKES CONTACT

Full-contact karate is an art that requires guts...especially if you're going for the glory

IF your concept of karate doesn't go beyond Bruce Lee and *Enter The Dragon*, then the Oyama Cup was bound to be a disappointment. Like it was for the hordes of Calcuttans who turned up at the Netaji Indoor Stadium in the hope of witnessing acrobatic flying kicks and somersaulting attacks. They were in for a rude shock. Full-contact karate is full of action,

The grand champion in a reflective mood... Satnam Singh composes himself before yet another assault



The coincidence was amazing. Less than a month ago I was seated in a suite at the Taj Bengal, interviewing 'The Greatest'—Muhammad Ali. Probably the best boxer ever. Certainly the biggest name in the sport of pugilism. Now, I was back at the same hotel, interviewing the 'living God of Karate'—Masutatsu Oyama. The greatest exponent of the art of full-contact karate. A man undefeated in his prime.

Wait, there's more. While Ali and I understood each other, it took painfully long for him to frame an answer. Even when he finally did speak, it was almost impossible to pick up his diction ad verbatim. Dictaphone cast aside, I had to literally rub shoulders with him to understand what he was mumbling. Oyama didn't have any such problems. He spoke loud. Fast. Even shouting at times. Just one problem, though. He spoke in Japanese!

Two legendary fighters. Both gracious enough to grant me some of their time. One hardly able to enunciate. The other getting through via an interpreter. What a disaster.

What follows, however, is Sosai—that's Japanese for 'Grand Master—Masutatsu Oyama's translated answers to some questions. But as with anything coming through a third person, the zing is missing. There was no way the very erudite Mr. Sarkar, the interpreter, could emulate the animated involvement of this great man. In spite of his 69 years of age, he still is bursting with vigour, speaking loud and clear, a big vein running down the side of his neck throbbing with the effort. How I wished we spoke the same language...

ON CALCUTTA

It's my first visit here, but it's not very different from the other cities of the world. I've been to New York, London, Moscow...and if you have friends, like I have here, it's a matter of great joy. I am very happy to be here. I have fond memories.

ON INDIAN KARATEKAS

I have seen enough of them to comment on their [illegible]. From the few who have come to Japan, like Shivaji Ganguly, I feel that the Indian has a tremendous spirit. Even if I [illegible] into the floor, he has the determination and the spirit to get up again and fight. [illegible]

WANT TO KILL ME? I FOUGHT BULLS

Myths about the art he invented

in Japan for training, they rarely last the three-month period. However the Europeans display better discipline. Some of them have even stayed with me for five years, perfecting the techniques.

But it's the karatekas from the relatively poor countries of South East Asia who display the best fighting spirit when they come all the way to Japan.

ON HOW HE COMPARES TO THE CHAMPIONS OF TODAY

Things have become more strategic nowadays.



We did it out of love for the sport and even put our lives on the line. But the champions of today are much more mentally agile. All their moves are strategically planned. They only want to do what is required. Nothing extra.

ON HIS UNBEATEN RECORD AND WHO HE CONSIDERED HIS TOUGHEST OPPONENT

It's not that I didn't ever lose. There were times when I withdrew from a bout, but that was because of my principles. In America there is so much money involved, in the form of gambling, that I used to be told in very threatening terms that I had to lose certain bouts. So, rather than disobey them and risk my life, I withdrew. But I kept telling myself that there was no one stronger than me. If I heard anyone was great and strong, I immediately went and challenged him. In fact, in Japan where none of this gambling used to exist, I have never lost to anyone.

ON HIS METHOD OF TRAINING

I was a regular martial arts exponent when the Second World War ended. One day, getting angry at the sight of some American soldiers harassing a few Japanese women, I challenged them. In the ensuing fight, I pulled a gun from one of their belts and shot him dead. After that I went into the mountains to hide from the soldiers—no not soldiers, they were gangsters!

I stayed there all alone, training hard and building my strength. But when I came down after six months, the Japanese Government told me to go back since the Americans were still searching for me. I had to go back for another year. It was during this year that I really sharpened my skills. Very lonely, I kept wanting to go down, especially in search of female company. I even decided to castrate myself to stop such thoughts from distracting me. But my teacher forbid me when he heard of my plans. Finally, I channelised all my frustrations and energy into building my strength, eventually even crushing stones with my bare hands and walking on just thumbs and a finger. I even shaved my eyebrows to make sure I felt ashamed to leave the mountain.

Finally, when I did come down, I was so strong that there was no man who could stand against me in a fight. Sometimes I didn't want to kill them. I fought bulls, killing them with my bare hands.

but of a very hardcore kind. Where the painful thud of bone meeting flesh supersedes all fancy yells and techniques. Where the all-important aim is to floor your opponent. Where winning is what matters. Not how you do it.

Watching the karatekas parade docilely around the stadium, no one could have guessed the violent aggression that was brewing inside them. From the opening bout of the final evening itself, it was clearly evident that none of these guys had come here to impress the crowd. They had come with the sole intention of carrying home the impressive trophy...and the spoils that went with it.

Divided into two weight categories—under 61 kgs and open—the karatekas were a trifle overawed by the presence of their Grand Master Masutatsu Oyama. But managing to shake off the awe, they eventually got down to business. And it was not a pretty sight. Punches and kicks flowed with abandon as each fighter strove to get the vital points that would take him through into the next round. And with Subhankar Biswas making his way steadily through the lighter weight category, it was Satnam Singh who used his height to deadly effect in the open category.

About the tallest karateka in the competition, Satnam's favourite weapon was a high roundhouse kick.

PHOTOGRAPHS: SANTOSH GHOSH





One of the victims of Satnam Singh's deadly roundhouse kicks... he eventually had to be given first aid

Something he used very frequently, and successfully. While his quarter-final opponent had to be stretchered off, both Hemant Chopra and Suman Saha (who he fought in the semi-final and final respectively) fell prey to it.

In the other weight catgory, Subhankar Biswas' unrelenting aggression saw his opponents fall back, till he came up against Satnam Singh in the grand final which pitted the two winners against one another to decide the grand champion.

Shrugging off Biswas' body punches, Satnam resorted to his high kicks, eventually getting through with a left roundhouse that totally disoriented his opponent. That point—or *ippon*—was enough to get him through to the overall

Black belt (6th Dan) Peter Cheong demonstrates the art of breaking bricks with the edge of the hand

title and the coveted Oyama Cup.

Also on the agenda was a demonstration by the senior black belts who were present. While the Branch Chief Shivaji Ganguly used his skills to break tiles, the visiting 6th Dan black belt from Singapore, Peter Cheong, enthralled the crowd by stepping onto, standing, and even jumping on two trays of eggs...without breaking a single one. The two other karatekas who had come from Japan, Akira Masuda and Shinichi Sotodate, also displayed their breaking skills on baseball bats and slabs of ice.

It was a small reward for the crowd which had impatiently sat through the earlier bouts. Untutored in the art of unarmed combat—a very tiring business of keeping the hands and legs in perpetual motion—they kept voicing their dissent whenever the tired fighters eased off the pace, especially in the extensions.

Maybe what the crowd should understand is that Bruce Lee had a stunt director to coordinate his flashy moves. And the villain was paid to fall flat on his face. But here, at the Oyama Cup, we're talking real karate. Where both men want to win. And the price of success is pain.

Pradeep Paul

KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND

CARRYING on with the kata, here are the next four steps Step forward one step and throw an upper block with the right hand Then repeat the movement with the left hand as you move forward another step One more step forward and yet another right upper block After that, sweep your left leg around behind you as the body twists and you prepare to make a 270° turn

That's it for this week Stay tuned in since we'll be continuing in the coming weeks

By Shivaji Ganguly

Kyokushinkaikan karate

PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA

Step forward and perform right upper block



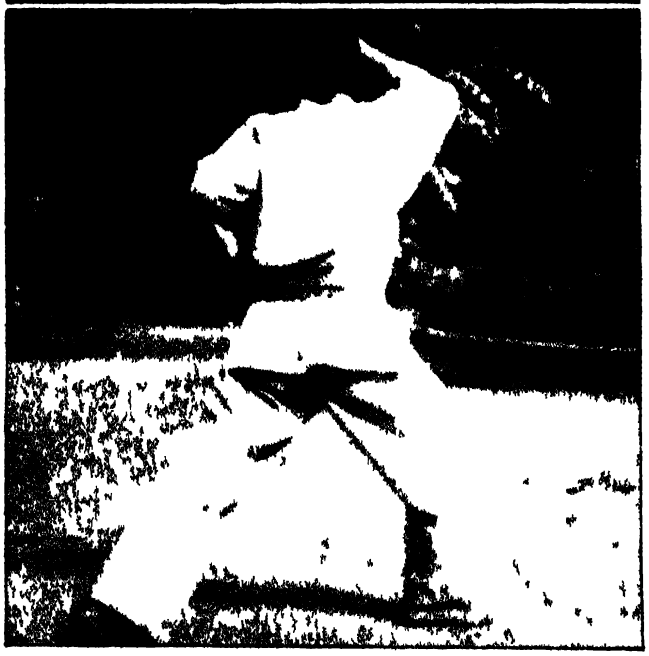
Step forward and perform left upper block



Step forward and perform right upper block



Sweep left leg around and prepare to turn



CALCUTTA

Goodricke Chess

THE second Goodricke International Open chess meet was held recently at the Alekhine Chess Club, Gorky Sadan. It was a very strong 9 nation Swiss System tournament with 8 Grandmasters, 11 International Masters and four women International Masters among the 60 participants battling for the Rs 120,000 prize money and the Goodricke rolling trophy.

The eventual winner GM Niaz Murshed of Bangladesh started in lacklustre fashion. He lost his first game to IWM Anda Safranska of the USSR and after that conceded a couple of draws as well.

It was only in the seventh round that Murshed found his touch. Winning in quick succession against English GMs Julian Hodgson and Glenn Flear and then against Russian IM Valery Neverov and Polish GM Alex Wojkiewicz, he put the championship on ice with a quick last round draw with GM Yuri Yakovitch (USSR). Murshed scored 8½ points out of 11 and received Rs 35000 and the Goodricke trophy for his labours. A wonderful result for the first sub-continental GM especially when you recall that he was seeded tenth.

There was a four way tie for second place. GMs Yakovitch Hodgson, Flear and IM Neverov all scored 7½. Second seeded Hodgson was leading in the early stages but he went off the boil after two losses to Wojtkiewicz and Murshed, eventually struggling to draw his last round match with Praveen Thipsay after drifting into an inferior position.

Wojtkiewicz had an unfortunate result. The Polish Refusenik whose career has been punctuated by spells of incarceration was leading till the last stages. But two consecutive losses to Murshed and Flear in the last two rounds held him back when he looked likely to take first place. Even more unfortunate was the fact that he had excellent positions in both games when he blundered.



Niaz Murshed: winner of the Goodricke Chess tournament

A great disappointment was the performance of top seed Aleksandr Schnieder (USSR). He never looked like justifying his high rating and tied for sixth spot despite being unbeaten.

Another disappointment was local IM Dibyendu Barua. Barua was released by his employers Tisco to participate here, despite being committed to play in the inter steel plants meet which coincided with the Goodricke tournament. The reason was that Barua is just one step away from attaining the GM title, needing just 8½ points here to become India's second GM.

Barua never looked like doing it and he ended tied for sixth place after scoring 7 points. A loss to Hodgson when he lost control in a time scramble, a loss to IM Maxim Sorokin (USSR) in a difficult endgame, a narrow escape against national champion D.V. Prasad—Barua was just not in good form. His old bugbear—weak opening preparation—also showed him up for he could not get active positions with black. That is essential if one is to do well in a Swiss format where wins with both colours are needed.]

Praveen Thipsay played good chess after a second round upset by IWM Vasanti Unni. In that game she was much better prepared and forced Thipsay into an unfamiliar position, by employing an Ivanchuk idea in the Bird Defence to the Ruy Lopez.

After that, Thipsay played solid chess and if he had converted his last round edge against Hodgson into a full point he would have come second. Sharad Tilak and V. Ravikumar also had good results, both scoring 7 points and tying for sixth. Ravikumar was the only Indian to go through the meet unbeaten. A.B. Meetei (7) was unlucky to miss the IM norm by just half a point drawing with Schnieder in the last round.

GM Ye Rongguang, the first Chinese player to participate in an Indian tournament, was playing under a handicap. His luggage had disappeared at Hongkong, so he was minus his books and could not prepare adequately. In the circumstances he did a good job, also tying for sixth.

Several Indians improved their ratings including P. Mithrakanth and K. Shantaram, both of whom came close to scoring IM norms. Prasad played with his customary

courage losing to GMs Palatnik and Schnieder while taking risks in order to win.

As many as 29 of the 60 players received prizes which is a superb ratio for a Swiss meet. A sign of the increasing credibility of Indian chess was that several of the foreign GMs and IMs could not make it to the top ten. However Anda Safranska must have been pleased with her result for she confirmed her IWM title with a very impressive show.

Devangshu Dutta

LUCKNOW

Single Wicket Tourney

RANJI player Sunil Chaturvedi registered an impressive victory over Ram Samir of Green Park Hostel fame by defeating him by 7 runs in the R.P. Bajpai State cash prize single wicket competition held at Kamla Club Stadium here. Sunil Chaturvedi was given a cash prize of Rs. 3000 while Ram Samir received Rs. 2000.

The final match was indeed very interesting. Chaturvedi won the toss but invited Samir to bat. In the very first over, he scored 10 runs to show that he was fully prepared to amass a big total but when he reached 26, he got out LBW. Thereafter, he was run out and later on declared caught. Consequently, his score slumped down to minus two.

In reply, Chaturvedi started slowly but steadily. But, as he reached double figures an attempted sweep saw him bowled. But he scored five runs while on the crease and won the match.

Kailash Agarwal

MANGALORE

State Powerlifting

B. REVANNA of Beereshwar Gymnasium, Davanagere was declared Junior Strongman of Karnataka in the 12th state junior powerlifting championship held at Mangalore recently,. He lifted a total of 422.5 kg (165 + 82.5 + 175) in the 52 kg category.

Balanjaneya Gymnasium, Mangalore won the team championship, while Pulikeshi Vyayamshala of Shimoga were placed second..

Competitors from 21 gymnasiums in the state affiliated to Karnataka Powerlifting Association participated in the championship in 11 weight groups, with Arjuna award winning powerlifter P.K. Yashodhara giving away the prizes.



Income Tax Commissioner Raj Narain presenting the winner's trophy to Sunil Chaturvedi, the winner of the single wicket tournament

Inter-University Athletics

THE second South Zone inter-university athletic meet was held recently at Sri Dharmasthala Manjunatheshwara College ground, Ujire about 60 kilometres from Mangalore. With 461 athletes from 27 Universities in the fray, Kerala University bagged the men's team championship with 37.5 points, while the women's team championship went to Mahatma Gandhi University with 65 points.

R. Anand Natarajan of Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu was declared individual men champion. He set a national university record in the 100 metres race with a timing of 10.6 seconds.He also set a meet record in the 200 metres with a timing of 21.6 sec.

Sylvinia Pais of Bangalore University emerged individual woman champion bagging two golds in the 200 metres with a timing of 25.3 seconds and 400 metres hurdles (1 min. 2.4 sec.)

Michael R. Patrao

CALCUTTA

Inter-school cricket

SOUTH POINT made it to the East Zone final of the Thums Up inter-school cricket tournmanet, but only just. In the final of the Calcutta leg at the Kalighat ground, South Point edged out Calcutta Boy's School by nine runs.

Overnight rains reduced the final to a 20-over affair and South Point scored 143 for seven in the

stipulated overs. The South Point score was built around A. Lahiri's 37. Arijit Ghosh was the wrecker-in-chief for Calcutta Boys as he finished with three for 31 runs.

Ghosh again came good with the bat when it was Calcutta Boy's turn to bat last. He fetched 26 runs with two sixes and as many fours, but that was not enough to overhaul the South Point score. Calcutta Boys finished at 134 for eight when the overs ran out.

The only consolation for Calcutta Boys was that Ghosh got the man of the match award.

Samrat Tiwari got the best batsman's award in the Calcutta leg, while Adeshir Jeejebhoy was adjudged the best bowler.

National Archery

ARCHERS from Rajasthan and Bengal were among the best in the national archery championships, the 13th edition of which concluded at the SA-NIS, Salt Lake recently. Among the top six men in the country, there were three from Rajasthan, including Limba Ram, who finished champion in the individual events.

Bengal's dominance in the distaff side was perhaps clearer. Bengal archers bagged the first and the third place in the individual championship and had two more places in the best eight finishers Bengal girls also, won the team championship title ahead of Bihar. Manipur got the bronze.

Limba Ram had it rather easy in the men's individual championship. He was hardly challenged in the elimination rounds, held according to Grand Fita rules, leading the 24 qualifiers into the final stages of the individual championship. Only teammate Dhulchand Domar was within striking distance of the champion archer.

From the Bengal standpoint, only two men—Rajat Halder, an ex-national champion, and Supriyo Kundu—managed to enter the final stages. But at the end Halder finished last in the best eight.

Bengal's success in the team championship centred around Tira Samanta, Phalguni Chatterjee and Jaya Dutta. Together they logged 3453 points, 136 points better than runners-up Bihar, whose Royna Roy was in fine form throughout the tournament.

Tira's fortunes fluctuated in the elimination rounds. On the penultimate day of the elimination rounds, she led the field, but on the final day she slipped to the second spot, with Jammu and Kashmir's Sonam Yangchan leading the 18 qualifiers of the finals.

But Sonam's aim went haywire on the final day while Tira was dead sure with her arrows. It was the Bengal girl who capped her team championship winning form with the individual title. Tira logged 318 points to clinch the gold, while Sonam could only go as far as fourth place with 296 points.

Nagaland's Vesuzuola and Bengal's Jaya Dutta tied with 298 points, but the Nagaland girl was given the silver on technical grounds. Others in the women's last eight included Toyna of Bihar, Manipur's H. Louimaola and Bengal's Krishna Das and Phalguni Chatterjee.

Bihar's Sanjeev Singh came very near to upsetting Limba Ram's applecart on the final day.



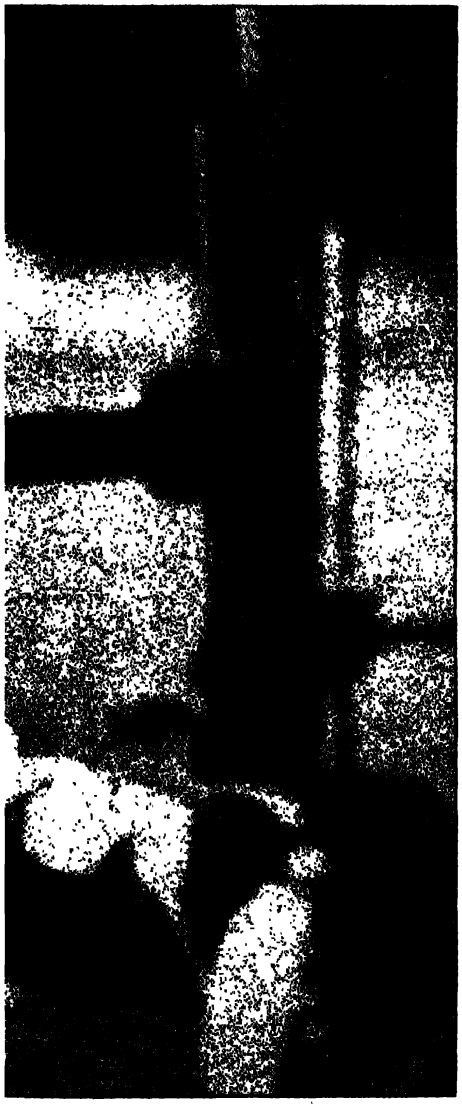
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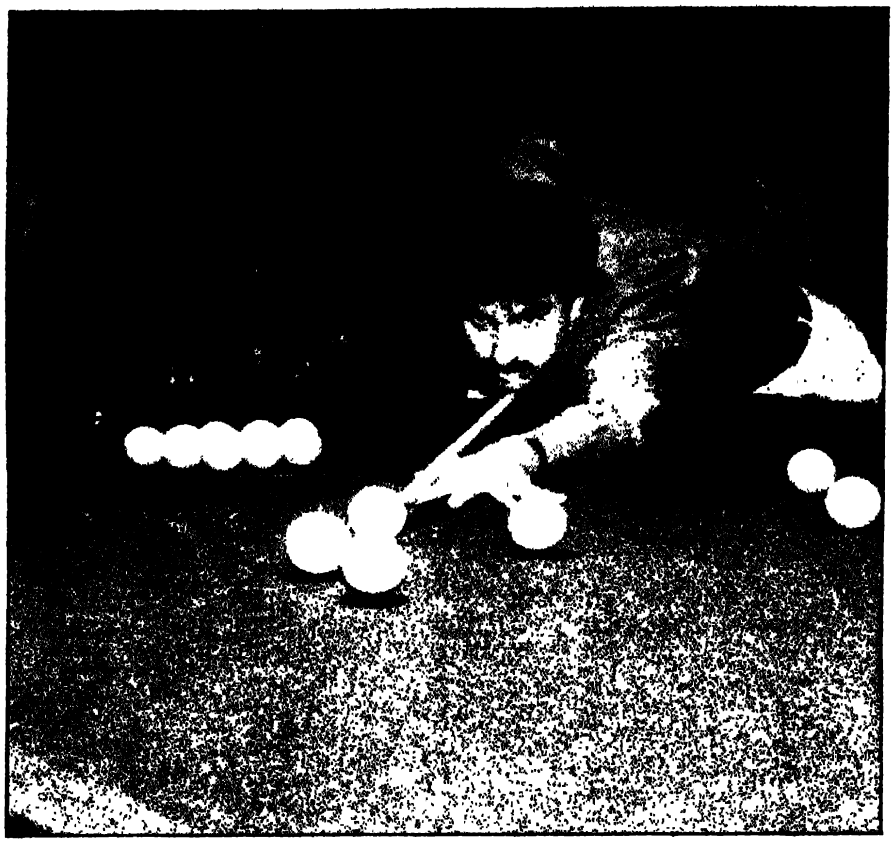
Tira Samanta: women's national champion in the archery championships

When all their arrows were exhausted Limba was just three points better than Sanjeev with 28 points. The bronze went to Mizoram's C. Sanga (317 points). Rajasthan's Shyam Lal and Domar finished fourth and fifth, respectively.

All-India Snooker

IT was some sort of an anti-climax in the final of the U.K. Shulka Memorial Gold Flake invitational snooker championship which brought together the six best cueists in the country. National No. 2 Ashok Shandilya simply crumbled under some excellent play by





Yashin Merchant: men's champion of the All-India snooker championships

international, Merchant, getting whipped by five frames to nothing as Merchant grabbed the inaugural title in style.

Merchant's effortless win in the final was quite unexpected. His calm confidence and breaks of 30 and 40 were enough to put Shandilya's game awry and give him the title, in a tournament that pitted every player against each other. Naturally making for excellent fare at the Saturday Club.

Soumitra Bose

KOLLAM

Sports Festival

KOTTAYAM District, with 46 points, won the overall championship in the 15th State Women's Sports Festival held at the Lal Bahadur Stadium.

In athletics, K.R. Deepa of Trichur created a new meet record in the 100 mts, timing 12.6 seconds against 12.71 set by Betti C. Jose (Trivandrum). Deepa also won gold in the 200 mts. (26.8 sec.) and the 4 × 100 mts relay (51.8 sec.). Sibi Varghese of Ernakulam District sparkled by collecting golds in the shot put (9.55 mts) and discus throw (29.5 mts). Later Deepa and Sibi were adjudged individual champions.

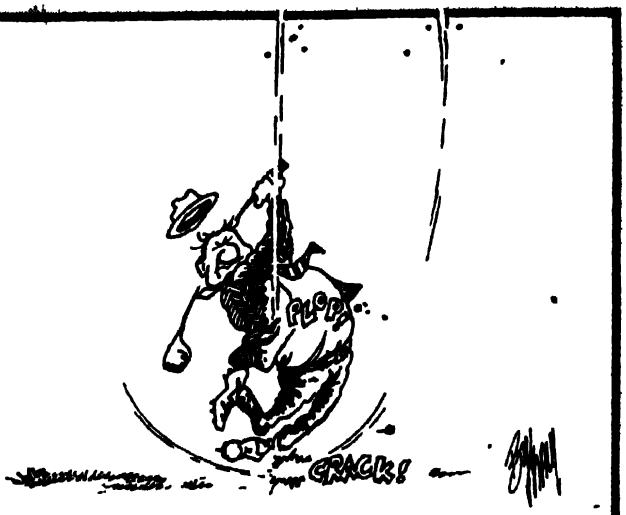
Nisha Philip (Kottayam) came first in the 400 mts hurdles, clocking 1m: 13 seconds. The Wynad team won the 4 × 400 mts relay in a time of 4m: 17.4 sec.

In the table tennis final, top seeded A. Radhika (Tvm) defeated Saji. Other results: Volleyball—Kottayam beat Kollam; Kho-kho—Trivandrum beat Kottayam; Basketball—Pathanamthitta beat Ernakulam; Hockey—Ernakulam beat Kottayam.

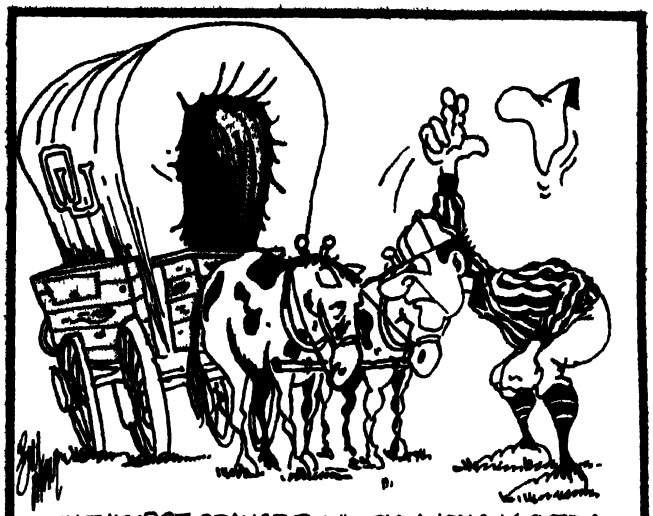
State Minister Baby John distributed the prizes.

Sajeev Kumar. T.K.

SPORTS HALL OF SHAME — BY NASH & ZULLO



AUBREY BOOMER. WAS PLAYING THE EIGHTH HOLE AT ST ANNE'S GOLF COURSE IN SCOTLAND IN 1923 WHEN HE LOST SIGHT OF THE BALL AFTER HITTING HIS THIRD SHOT STRAIGHT UP IN THE AIR. A SEARCH PROVED UNSUCCESSFUL AND OFFICIALS WERE PREPARED TO HAND BOOMER A PENALTY FOR LOSING HIS BALL. BUT THE STARTLED GOLFER FELT A SOLID OBJECT IN THE RIGHT-HAND POCKET OF HIS JACKET, REACHED IN — AND PRODUCED THE MISSING GOLF BALL!



IN THE 1985 ORANGE BOWL, OKLAHOMA KICKED A 22-YARD FIELD GOAL THAT WAS NEGATED BY AN ILLEGAL PROCEDURE PENALTY. SUDDENLY THE TEAM MASCOT, **SOONER SCHOONER** — A MIDGET-SIZED COVERED WAGON PULLED BY TWO PONIES — CAME ONTO THE FIELD TO CELEBRATE WHAT THEY THOUGHT WAS A SCORE. THE REPS TACKED ON AN ADDITIONAL 15-YARD UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT PENALTY AGAINST OKLAHOMA AND, FROM 42 YARDS OUT, THE MUCH LONGER SECOND FIELD GOAL TRY FAILED. IT BECAME THE TURNING POINT IN A 28-17 LOSS TO WASHINGTON.

THE FUNNY SIDE OF GOLF

RULE 5-3 BALL UNFIT FOR PLAY:
A BALL IS NOT UNFIT FOR PLAY SOLELY BECAUSE MUD OR OTHER MATERIALS ADHERE TO IT



RULE 9-2 INFORMATION AS TO STROKES TAKEN
A PLAYER WHO HAS INCURRED A PENALTY SHALL INFORM HIS OPPONENT AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE



What's Going On?

LOOKING at the inconsistent performances of the Indian cricketers in the recently concluded Asia Cup, the unprofessional attitude of the Indian cricketers was very much evident. The Indian cricketers play to their full potential only when there is some dividends waiting for them in the end. Otherwise they are least bothered, when they play a match against a team that is weak on paper. The Indian team surely lacks the instinct to win that is so evident in the Pakistan team.

It was only the mercurial performance of Azhar that saw India through and saved them from losing face. Praveen Amre, Raju Kulkarni and others are still being sidelined. Could someone explain, what's going on?

SUBHENDU MISRA,
Sambalpur.

Thanks And Regrets

THANKS for publishing my quiz in the issue dated 2-8 January. However there was an error in the copy that I had sent. In question No. 1 the name of Shivlal Yadav was included by mistake. He was actually dismissed in the first ball in his second Test and not on his Test debut as indicated. The error is regretted.

P.B. MOHAN,
Jamshedpur.

Pardon Me

THIS has reference to Gavaskar's comment on Kapil Dev that was carried in the *Voices* column. While Gavaskar was generous in equating his 10,000 runs with Kapil's 300 wickets, he is incorrect. Sunil was the first to cross the 10,000 runs mark whereas Kapil was the 6th bowler to take 300 wickets. At any rate it is nice to know that the two greats have buried their past differences and are getting on well with each other now.

A.G. BHAGWAT,
Bombay.



Keep It Up

THE best thing that could have happened to Indian cricket is the advent of Sachin Tendulkar. His maturity, flair and talent is sure to impress cricket lovers from all parts of the globe. The way he executes his shots seems incredible for a cricketer of his age. Above all he has shown the world that a Test can be turned around by a batsman of such a tender age. If Germany can feel proud of Boris Becker and the US can feel proud of Jennifer Capriati, then Indians can hold their heads high in the corridors of world sport because of a phenomen on called Sachin Tendulkar.

S. SURESH,
Madurai.

Lessons From The Euro Heroes

ON the afternoon of the match between India and PSV Eindhoven there were thousands of people to see our country's best football team take on a club side. How ironical is the fact that it took only a club side from the West to give the Indian team a drubbing that they would remember for some years to come. The crowd of 60,000, maybe comparable only to the Asiad of 1982, expected to see some good quality soccer, if not a decisive win for India.

But once the match began it was evident that our team was nowhere in comparison to their opponents. The first move towards the Dutch goal could have been opportunistically converted into a goal, but it was allowed to drift out. Before we could even fathom as to what was going on the visitors had already netted seven goals.

One could see several reasons for this disappointment despite Mr. Rusi Mody's contagious enthusiasm and the huge bill that Tata must have footed for the tournament. The foremost reason for this debacle is the selection procedure of our team. In physique and strength the Dutch were definitely stronger. This was another case of David fighting Goliath. And since the modern Goliath can seldom be beaten by David the Indians may have to take a lesson or two from the short statured South Koreans. One way would be to catch the players young and then impart training in a systematic manner. Perhaps the public schools of our country should be the breeding grounds of the football teams of the future. The boys confines of the Indian Army could also help.

Secondly, the tactics should also be developed so that we are at least aware of the modern techniques in the world of football.

A reappraisel of strategy to select, train and improve the techniques of our footballers is called for. It's time we did some heart searching before we invite an overseas club to play here, or send our team to play the next Asiad.

CHANDRA. B. KHANDURI,
New Delhi.

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Who was the first Australian wicket-keeper to score a century against England?
2. Where and against whom did S.M.H. Kirmani score his maiden Test century?
3. An English Test cricketer was nicknamed 'Godders'. Who?
4. What is common to Tony Greig, Greg Chappell and Clive Lloyd?
5. Who was the only Asian gold medallist in the 24th Olympic Games swimming competition?

ANSWERS

1. Rodney Marsh
2. At Bombay vs Australia in 1979-80. (He scored 101 n.o.)
3. Godfrey Evans.
4. All of them were great slip catchers.
5. Daichi Suzuki (Japan)

CHESS

This game really proved the psychological turning point in the world title contest. Karpov came well prepared and must have liked his position after 20 moves when he seemed to have ample play with the bishop pair. Kasparov found a good manoeuvre to retain an advantage and gradually forced victory. After this the world champion dominated the concluding phase of the match.

White: Kasparov Vs Black: Karpov 18th Game Lyons '90

1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 0-0-Be7 6 Re1 b5 7 Bb3 d6 8 c3 0-0 9 h3 Nd7 10 d4 Bf6 11 a4 Bb7 12 Na3. This move more efficiently protects the d4 pawn with the option of Nc2 while pressurising b5.

12—ed4 13 cd4 Nb6. A new move-in game 12 Karpov tried 13—Na5 14 Ba2 b4 15 Nc4 Nxc4 16 Bxc4 Re8 17 Qb3 with an interesting position.

14 Bf4 ba4 15 Bxa4 Nxa4 16 Qxa4 a5 17 Bd2 Re8 18 d5 Nb4!? This must have been Karpov's idea. He sacs the pawn for the bishop pair and counterplay. **18—Ne5 19 Nxe5 Be5 20 Nc4** is lifeless **19 Bxb4 ab4 20 Qxb4 Rb8 21 Qc4!** After this Karpov started thinking. White calmly returns the pawn but he keeps all the play. (see Diagram) **21—Qc8?** Certainly 21—Bxb2 22 Ra2 Bf6 23 Nb5 is inferior for black but now he should lose by force.

22 Nd4 Ba6 23 Qc3 c5 24 dc6 Bxd4 25 Qxd4 Qxc6 26 b4 h6 27 Re3 Re6 28 f3! White is now a pawn ahead with the better position to boot.

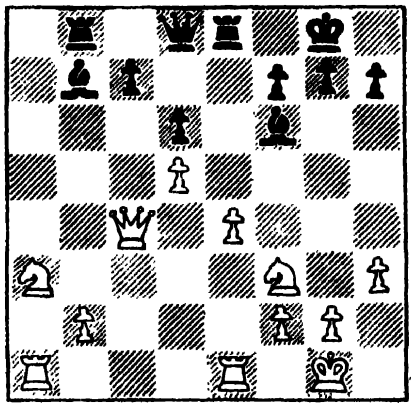
28—Rc8 29 Rb3 Bd5 30 Rb2 Qb7 31 Nc2 Qe7 32 Qf2 Rg6 33 Ne3 Qg5 34 Rbb1 Bd7 35 Ra5 Qe7 36 Ra7 Qd8 37 Nd5 Kh7 38 Kh2 Rb8 39 f4 Re6 40 Qd4 Qe8 41 Re1 Bc6!

A diabolical trap which Kasparov avoids. White should not allow complications with 42 Nc7 Re4 43 Qd3 Qe7 44 Nb5 Qe6 45 Nxd6 Rb4 46 Nxe4 Bxe4 with pressure on g2.

42 Qd3! Qf8 43 Rc1 Bxd5 44 ed5 Rg6 45 Qf5 Kg8 46 Rac7 Rf6 47 Qd7! Rd8 48 Qxd8! Qxd8 49 Rc8 Qf8 50 R1c4 Rf5 51 Rf8 Kxf8 52 Rd4 h5 53 b5 Ke7 54 b6 Kd7 55 g4 hg4 56 hg4 Rf6 57 Rc4! (1-0)

The rook cutoff leads to something like 57—Rh6 58 Kg2 Rh8 59 Rc6 Kd8 60 Ra7! forcing the b-pawn's promotion.

Devangshu Dutta



BRIDGE

The multi-coloured two diamond opening was created primarily to confuse the opponents. Later on some players started using it at the 3-level to differentiate between constructive major suit pre-empts and nasty ones. As with all weapons, however, it backfires occasionally. This is a hand from the 1990 Proton Intercity at Taipei:-

Dealer West — N-S Vul.

NORTH(dummy)
♠ A K Q J 4 3
♡ A K Q 5
◇ A
♣ A 3

WEST
♠ 10 9 8 7 6 5 2
♡ 6
◇ K J 3
♣ 7 6

EAST
♠ - - - -
♡ J 8 7 3
◇ Q 10 9 8 7 6 4 2
♣ 10

SOUTH
♠ - - - -
♡ 10 9 4 2
◇ 5
♣ K Q J 9 8 5 4 2

West	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
3◇	4♠	5♡	6♣
Dble	Rdbl	All Pass	

Playing East-West were members of the British team that finished second behind USA. After the multi three-diamond opening by Irving Rose, West, intended to show a nasty pre-empt in a major, North bid a confident four spades. This was followed, to Rose's horror, by an equally confident five hearts by East. As Rose was considering what to do, South bid six clubs. To Rose this was a heaven-sent opportunity to get out of the mess- he doubled to stop East from further competition. No matter what happened to six clubs, it could not be worse than laying down this dummy opposite a heart slam where East, having *worked* out that West had hearts, would find dummy with six hearts less than expected. The hand was quickly over, made seven, minus 2230 for the Brits.

When Rose compared scores with teammates Andy Robson and Tony Forrester, that also went quickly. When they got to the board, Rosbon, who had bid and made seven no-trumps, said, "Plus 2220". Rose said, "Push". Forrester asked, "did they have any trouble with it?" "None at all," said Rose. "What did you do on the next board?"

At most other tables the contract was seven no trumps or seven clubs. At one table, East Lightner doubled seven clubs and was overjoyed when West found the spade lead. His joy was rather short-lived!

Santanu Ghose

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK

In spite of having so many budding fast bowlers, the Indian pace bowling department ain't looking up at all. Even the talented Vivek Razdan (left) and Atul Wassan look for divine intervention to get that all important 'break'

Photograph: Sanjay Kapur



YEAR OF THE BRAT?

What are superstars made of? Sugar 'n' spice and other things nice? Perish the thought! Many of today's sporting wonders are a bunch of tunnel-visioned brats whose guiding light is not just to win but to stay on top even if it means a display of pettiness, crazed histrionics and eccentric lifestyles

Psyching opponents, bad-mouthing umpires, rebuking press reporters is just a part of their abominable arsenal. Even their personal lives are tempestuous in keeping with their fiery demeanour. Some are just wired up and the foul behaviour is a result of their ever-gnawing tension to win. But many sporting wiskids carefully cultivate their coarse stagecraft to keep the arc lights focussed on them

They are charismatic and flamboyant. Outrageous and provocative. And they usually leave behind a trail of fines, penalties, verbal and physical assaults. They are also sporting wonders who lend a splash of resplendence to the game. Their aim is just not to win but to stay on top even if it means juggling between heroism and pettiness. Will 1991 see the continuous rise of these eccentric champions?

TAKE Garry Kasparov for example. A worthy successor to the seventies chess wizard, Bobby Fischer. He is a past-master at psychological and psychic disruptions and claims to have in his team a parapsychologist to clutter the mind of his opponent. Karpov says that he has been a victim of Kasparov's mind attacks and felt turbulence in his brain during their 1986 match in Leningrad. Kasparov whose brashness is by now chess folklore also created a sensation when he accused Karpov of winning the Leningrad championship by using notes supplied by a 'traitor' from Kasparov's camp.

But beneath Kasparov's hype is a genius at work. He continues to stun the chess world with new creative interpretations of moves on black and white squares. Before the current world series his Elo-rating of 2800 was the highest ever in the history of chess surpassing Bobby Fischer's 2785.

But his personal life is equally flamboyant and eventful. In 1988 in Seville (Spain) when his title was on the line against Karpov, the champion got off to a shaky start. He acknowledged later that he had been distracted by non-chess events. With his mercurial behaviour he was constantly in the limelight, which he seemed to enjoy—in contrast to his more quiet and introspective rival. For example, the champion took time to promote his new book, *Child of Change*, and he filmed commercials for Spanish television. The book made for lively debate between the contestants. In it, Kasparov says his rise was a result of Glasnost, pursued by Gorbachev, and that Karpov was a product of the old, conservative bourgeois regime.

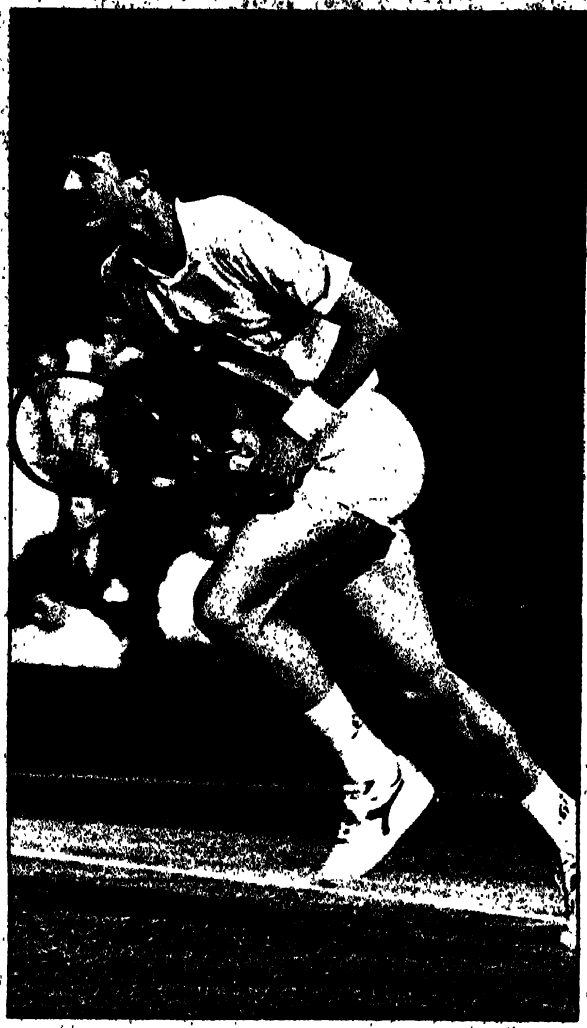
Keeping up with the policy of openness, Kasparov has now acquired a British manager to look after his financial and other professional interests. He appears live on Western TV and has let himself be interviewed by the *Playboy* magazine. Recently he married Maria Aratova, an English translator for a Soviet news agency, *Novosti*. The hasty marriage came after the end of his stormy affair with a Moscow stage actress Marina Neyolova, 18

years his senior. She had a child whose paternity is still in doubt. She claims Kasparov is the father but the chess champion hotly denies it.

Kasparov enjoys the decidedly unsocialist privileges that come with being champ. "I love my country. All my friends are there. I have considerable power. I'm a star," says the Soviet chess wizard who is already a millionaire from book royalties, appearance fees and tournament earnings.

LIKE Kasparov, money has never been a problem for the golf wonder man Nick Faldo. One of the greatest the sport has ever seen, he capped his career with a golden crown when he won the 1990 St. Andrews Championship the second time in four years making him the greatest ever in the history of golf. But like Kasparov, he is not the gentleman where his career is concerned.

Intense and driven Faldo plots his future in five year plans and works relentlessly on his game. But despite being acknowledged as the greatest he still chokes on defeat and even a loss in a minor game can crush him for days. His relations with the press and other golfers have been thorny as he can suddenly erupt at reporters. When, last month, a scribe caught him striding grimly, head down after a five-over-par 77, he asked him to comment on the round. Faldo replied with a torrent of abuse and expletives.



GORAN IVANISEVIC

'People admire McEnroe but they say he was crazy' he says and adds, 'I know I'm not crazy but I'll never be a Bjorn Borg. My mentality is competitive and where I came from, if in your sport you are manly, you are out to get the other guy.'

Golfers the world over still cringe at an incident in Kenya when Faldo reported his best friend and British rival Sandy Lyle for rules infraction which resulted in his disqualification. Lyle's fault was that he had stuck a piece of tape on his putter to avoid the sun glare. It was a minor aberration which most clubs overlook but Faldo, to the shock of everyone, insisted the rule be applied and Lyle suspended.

It is little wonder that a British paper wrote: "Faldo began life in a small terraced house in Welwyn Garden City. Sadly it remains quite big enough to stage the party when the US Masters Champion comes home in his green jacket. The friends of Faldo are still few."

SNOOKER champion Alex Higgins too cannot lay claim to having a long list of friends. One of the most gifted men in the Game, he won the world championships in 1972 and 1982 but his wins and losses have left behind a trail of fines, penalties, verbal and physical assaults. His personal life too has been eventful. In 1988 he had a violent fight with his girlfriend who allegedly pushed him out of her second floor apartment. The 25-feet fall left him with head and foot injuries. A week later he was at the European Open championship in bandages and crutches ready to participate despite warnings from his doctors.

In 1988 Higgins was fined £12,000 and suspended for five tournaments for sacking an official. In 1988 he was slapped another fine of £20,000 for abusing fellow players and officials. Currently, he is facing a



Senna doesn't have many friends on the circuit. But he does have the support of the Honda backup team

AYRTON SENNA

In the Australian Grand Prix of 1987, Mansell was clobbered by Senna after a mishap. Fellow countrymen Nelson Piquet too has been a victim. When Piquet married Senna's girlfriend he received two resounding slaps as a wedding gift from the fiery Brazilian

charge of sending out death threats to a fellow North Ireland player Dennis Taylor. In his personal life too a court had fined him £3,000 last year for a drunken brawl in which he smashed up his girl-friend's flat.

But despite his querulous outbursts Higgins lent colour to the game and is held in awe by newcomers. Says Stephen Hendry, "Alex

has still got potential to make it to the top once again if he chooses to do so." But he has now lost his power due to self abuse. Party-hopping and drinking binges have finally taken the toll. His cueing hand has just given up and the wayward genius is looking pale and gaunt as he sits chain smoking with one hand and drinking with the other and mouthing abuses between gulps.

ABUSES also come naturally to the up and coming tennis star Goran Ivanisevic. The tempestuous 18-year-old Yugoslav burst upon the tennis scene with an explosive serve, aggressive game, rude rebukes and a scowl. "People admire McEnroe but they say he was crazy," he says and adds, "I know I'm not crazy but I'll never be a Bjorn Borg. My mentality is competitive and where I come from, if in your sport you are manly, you are out to get the other guy."

But of late Ivanisevic has let tennis take precedence over his temper. He has vowed not to let out a volley of abuses at every line call but simply to argue it out and also not to break his racquet at every loss. "Such behaviour is too costly for my public image," says Ivanisevic.

AYRTON SENNA, the maverick F-1 champion couldn't care less for his image. He ended the 1990 season as a world champion and also left behind a trail of controversy. At the Suzuka track he banged his car into the car of his bitter rival Alain Prost. If Prost had won the race he could have become the champion for the fourth time. But Senna had other plans. So livid was Prost that he later remarked: "I thought Senna was one of the human race. But he is not. He is just a disgusting fellow."

British ace driver Nigel Mansell would heartily agree. In the Australia Grand Prix of 1987 he was clobbered by Senna after a mishap. Fellow countryman Nelson Piquet too has been a victim. When Piquet married Senna's former girlfriend he received two resounding slaps as a wedding gift from the fiery Brazilian.

Despite being twice champion, Senna's foul behaviour has diminished his popularity on the F-1 circuit. Everyone knows that he will go to any extent to win. On more than one occasion he has flouted the rules but has been lucky to get away with it. Senna today is the most self-centred but fastest F-1 driver with a record 51 pole positions.



MIKE TYSON

In Moscow, during the last days of their marriage, Tyson chased his wife all over the hotel, beat her up and later locked himself in the bathroom threatening suicide and hung precariously to a balcony

A DESCRIPTION which would suit Carl Lewis to the hilt. One of the quickest men on the track, Lewis is a lonely runner having lost most of his friends because of his verbal whiplashing of fellow athletes. For two years now he has not got tired of taunting Ben Johnson whom he has



called a 'junkie' and a 'druggie'. So furious is Johnson that he says that defeating Carl Lewis is an obsession "I'll seek him anywhere," says Johnson, "even in his backyard. He can't run away from me now." Evidently the jeers and taunts of Lewis have left a scar on his psyche So is the case with Florence Griffith Joyner whom again Lewis obliquely accused of taking drugs

Today Lewis is not the man who was once the darling of the crowds. Fans are known to have jeered him, colleagues are scared of his poison barbs and experts believe that he will have scant chance against a rejuvenated Johnson

MIKE TYSON too is rejuvenated and raring to go. The only trouble is he doesn't know who to fight against to become a world champion. The fire-and-ice youngman is undoubtedly the most charismatic boxer in the world. And he has a lifestyle to match His fights with his former wife Robin Givens are legion In Moscow, during the last days of their marriage, Tyson chased his wife all over the hotel, beat her up and later locked himself in the bathroom threatening suicide and hung precariously to a balcony.

Later in her divorce plea Givens accused Tyson of being 'chemically' unbalanced and a manic depressive who was trying to do her 'bodily' damage. But apart from the messy divorce, Tyson's life has been marked by brawls,

NICK FALDO

It is a little wonder that a British paper wrote: Faldo began life in a small terraced house in Welwyn Garden City. Sadly it remains quite big enough to stage the party when the US Masters Champion comes home in his green jacket. The friends of Faldo are still few.

[illegible] and [illegible]. In this [illegible] he was a [illegible] and a failed [illegible] he was in a detention home before coming under the tutelage of Cus d'Amato. There started his rollercoaster ride to megabucks and sporting stardom. Now after his defeat at the hands of James "Buster" Douglas he is determined to come back to the top and prove that he is the greatest ever in the sport.

THIS is unlike Ian Botham, the cricketing wonderboy, who has thrown his career in the gutter consumed by his own maverick lifestyle Botham first came into world cricketing eminence with his fists As a young man of great potential he was given a cricket scholarship by Australia There, while training, Botham showed his hitherto unknown personality traits One evening he met the then Australian captain Ian Chappell who launched a bitter attack on English cricket attitudes. In a flash Botham was up on his feet and pounced upon a startled Chappell Within seconds the Aussie legend was lying sprawled on the floor with the future England hope pummelling him ferociously.

That was the end of anonymity for the young cricketer and Ian Botham, the stormy petrel of the game, was born. As his career progressed the world just sat up and looked amazed. One week he'd hit a century which The Times on its front page would declare that it was



ALEX HIGGINS

Party hopping and drinking binges have finally taken their toll. His cueing hand has just given up and the wayward genius is looking pale and gaunt as he sits chain smoking with one hand and drinking with the other and mouthing abuses in between gulps



GARRY KASPAROV

He appears live on Western TV and has let himself be interviewed by Playboy magazine. Recently he married Maria Aratova, an English translator for a Soviet news agency Novosti. The hasty marriage came after the end of his stormy affair with a Moscow stage actress Marina Neylova, 16 years his senior. She had a child whose paternity is still in doubt.

the greatest ever played. A few weeks later a lady would allege on the front page of *News of the World* that her night of love with him in West Indies was so virile that they broke the bed!

And as his prowess in cricket would keep growing his somewhat alarming extracurricular exploits would also keep pace. One moment he'd talk of a massive Hollywood film contract. The next moment he would walk from John O'Groats to Land's End raising almost a million pounds for Leukaemia research and en route hammer a few cops. Back on the cricket field he'd keep up his winning spirit by emerging victorious in a lost-cause match against Australia in Leeds, almost single-handed. But soon enough a court would find him guilty of drug abuse resulting in temporary suspension from the game.

Many authors have tried to psychoanalyse sportsmen like Botham, Tyson, Kasparov and Higgins. But none get close to defining the forces that drive them to acts of heroism and outrage. No one knows for sure who started it all but the art of erratic comportment has been honed and refined by the likes of Mohammad Ali, Ilie Nastase, John McEnroe and Bobby Fisher. The torch has been passed into hands of Tyson, Ivan Lendl, Kasparov and many more who are grunting, sulking and scowling their way into the club of disrepute.

C. MARCUS ROSE
NEWSMAN FEATURES

FITNESS

Slim Waists Don't Come Easy

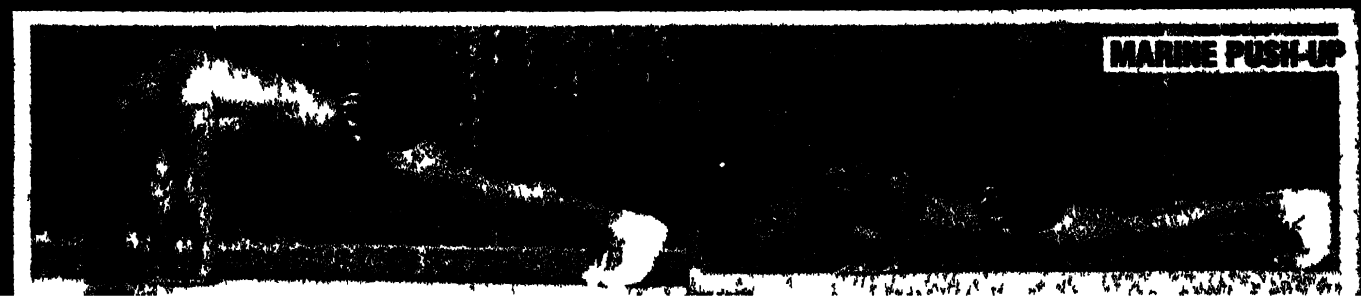
CARRYING on with the shoulder—wideners we had started discussing last week, it's time to get used to the idea of push—ups. Agreed, most of you will find these easy too, but if you've never done push—ups before, it's better to let your body get used to the strain gradually.

And remember, the aim of doing so much work for the shoulders isn't just to fill out the shirts admirably. We're also trying to cheat a little...by making the waist look small in comparison! So if you've just joined us here at the fitness column, don't get put off with the muscle—building stuff. It's the waist—the visual angle, for now-that we're actually tackling.

The fist push-up we'll do this week isn't actually a push-up, it's a Knee High Pushoff. Putting your hands on a knee-high surface, slowly lower yourself by bending the elbows till your chest touches the

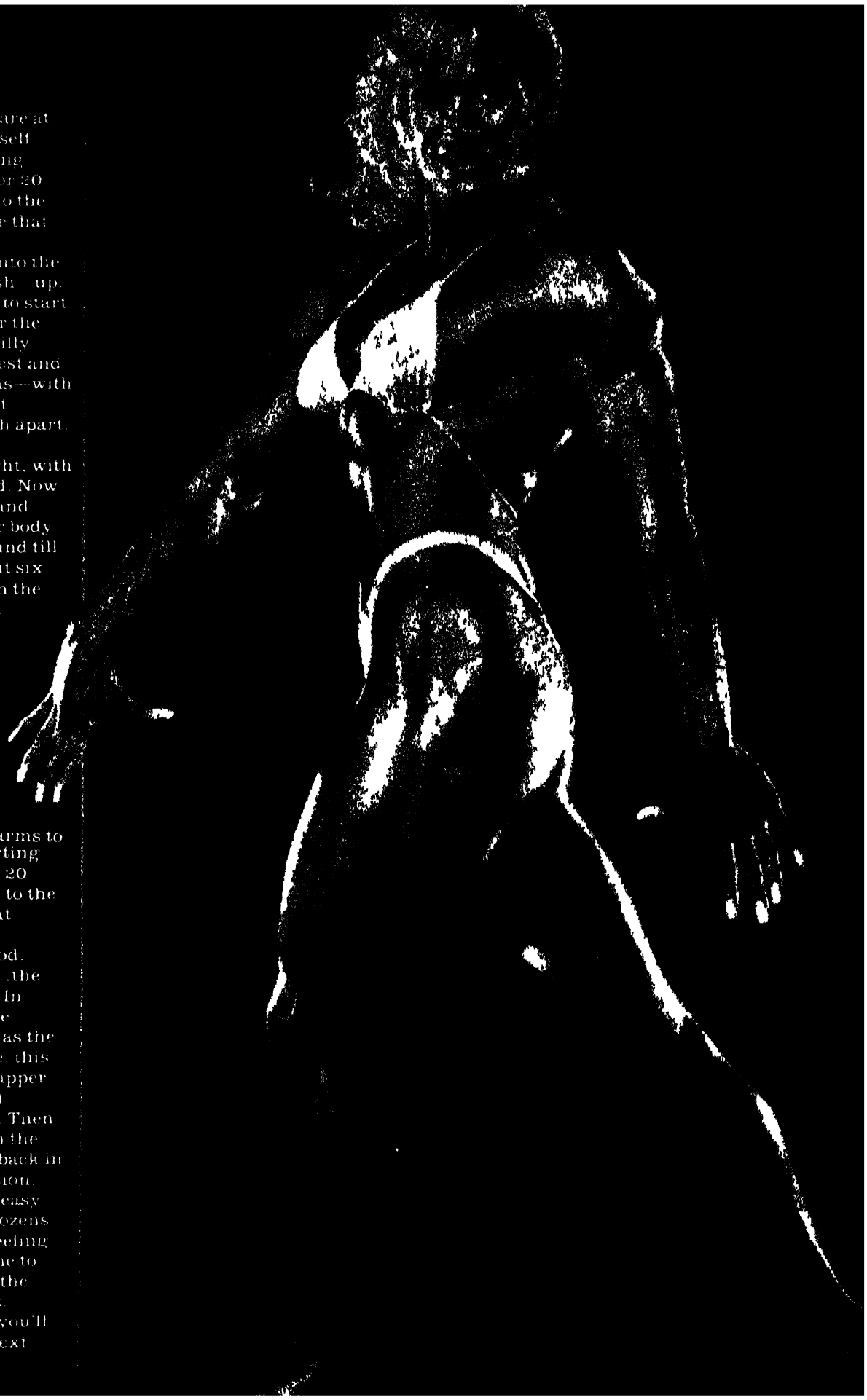






spot your hands are at. Then, push yourself back to the starting position. Shoot for 20 reps, moving onto the next version once that gets easy.

Now to move onto the real McCoy-a push—up. But a partial one to start off with. Head for the floor—no more dilly dallying with chest and waist—high areas—with your hands about shoulder—width apart. Arms are kept absolutely straight, with the elbows locked. Now bend the elbows and lower your upper body towards the ground till your chin is about six inches away from the floor. From here,



straighten your arms to return to the starting position. Aim for 20 reps, graduating to the next one once that becomes easy.

This one's a good, ol'fashioned one...the Marine Push-up. In basically the same starting position as the previous exercise, this time lower your upper body till the chest touches the floor. Then slowly straighten the arms till you are back in the starting position. Once this gets so easy that you can do dozens of reps without feeling the strain, it's time to experiment with the really tough ones.

But, for those, you'll have to wait till next week. Patience

JOHN BARNES: LIVERPOOL HE



Question: why does John Barnes play better for Liverpool than for England? Is it connected with (a) his colour? (b) his class? (c) his character?

By HUNTER DAVIES

ENGLAND ZERO



JOHN Barnes was born in Jamaica 27 years ago, on November 7, 1963. His father Ken was in the army. When John was 13 the family moved to London. He went to Marylebone Grammar School where he got five O-levels. At 17 he joined Watford FC, quickly becoming one of their star players. After six years, he moved to Liverpool where he has been playing brilliantly for the last three seasons. In 1988 he was elected Footballer of the Year, the first black player to be so honoured. He has got 60 caps for England. It is agreed by everyone in football that he is one of our most naturally talented players. It is also generally agreed that he did not shine in Italia 90.

'I can still clearly remember my first view of London. It was early on a Sunday morning in January and we were flying from Jamaica to Heathrow. I'd been worried at first about leaving home. I had so many friends in Kingston and I was just about to start senior school. The plane got lower and lower and I was staring out of the window, looking at London for the first time, feeling a bit apprehensive. I suddenly saw all these football matches around Heathrow. It was mainly kids, but they had proper goal posts and linesmen. They looked to me like little pro-players. In Jamaica we never had the proper kit when we played matches. I thought, this looks great, I'm going to like this..'

WHILE still at school, he was invited along with some other likely boys to train at Queen's Park Rangers, which is the London team he supported. 'I turned up at Rangers one evening in February and found the place closed. Someone told me there was no more training for boys till April, so that put me off. When Watford came along, and asked me to sign forms for them, I said yes.'

His parents were about to return to Jamaica and they were concerned about him staying in England on his own. 'I told my mum not to worry. I was going to be the best footballer in the world.

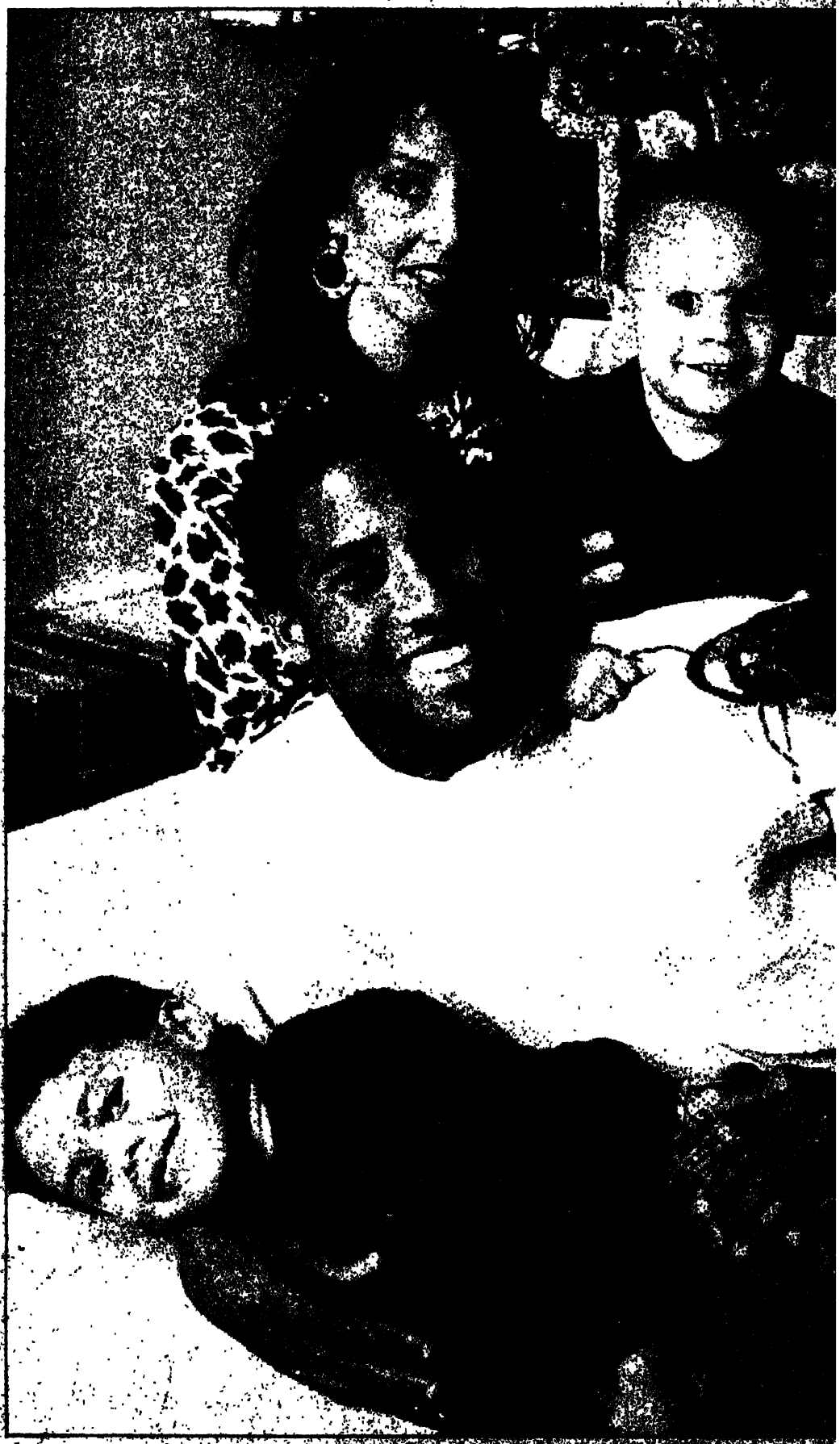
'I'd grown to love England, and wanted to stay. I was lucky in going to Watford. I was in the first team in two months. Everything was exciting. I never felt lonely. I was well looked after by them.'

But what about success at the very top, playing for England, as England's first recognised black star player? Not quite as consistent, alas.

At one time, many British coaches used to shake their heads when they saw talented black players. They start off well, but they ain't got the

John does get taunted by rival supporters with racist shouts. "It's meaningless. They shout anything at you," says John, "Off the pitch, if someone made racist remarks in the street, then that would be different, and I would retaliate"

Suzy Bicknell first became his girlfriend... They have lived together now for about six years and have Janie, aged five, and Jordan nearly two... "It works for us. It suits. We're happy," says John



[illegible] as they said. They won't stick at it. Fancy-[illegible], just no character.

Totally wrong, of course, as we now know. There are black players in every club, in every position, displaying the whole range of footballing skills and character. But John does get taunted by rival supporters with racist abuse. Could they perhaps have put him off at that moment?

'It's meaningless. If I was short and fat, I would get shouted at for being short and fat. You accept that in football. They shout anything at you, just to put you off. Of course I can hear them, but I always ignore them. It honestly never worries me. Off the pitch, if someone made racist remarks in the street, then that would be different, and I would retaliate.'

Today, as a glamorous player, people react to him as a glamorous footballer rather than as a black footballer even at Liverpool, where until he came along there had been very few black players. John is the one to make remarks about his colour.

I was with him a couple of weeks ago at Anfield after training, and I was chatting to him about the real personalities of the Liverpool dressing room. You know, there is always a joker, for example. Yes that's Steve Nicol. There's always someone who gets teased. That's David Burrows. And there's bound to be a moaner, there always is, and someone they all hate. So where do you fit in, John, what's your perceived character in the dressing-room?

'Me? Didn't you notice? I'm the black player.'

OK, John. You win. We'll move on to the next consideration, which is one of class.

John Barnes is middle class. That is far more remarkable than his colour. Such animals rarely exist in professional football. In fact I am pondering hard and can't think of one other player in the first division who is middle class. True, there are one or two graduates, but they come from the working class.

John's father is an officer and gentleman, trained at Sandhurst. He came to London as a diplomat, the Jamaican military attache. He rose to the rank of colonel, retiring, quite recently, as deputy chief of the defence staff of Jamaica. He is now running a country club near Kingston. Could his social background be relevant?

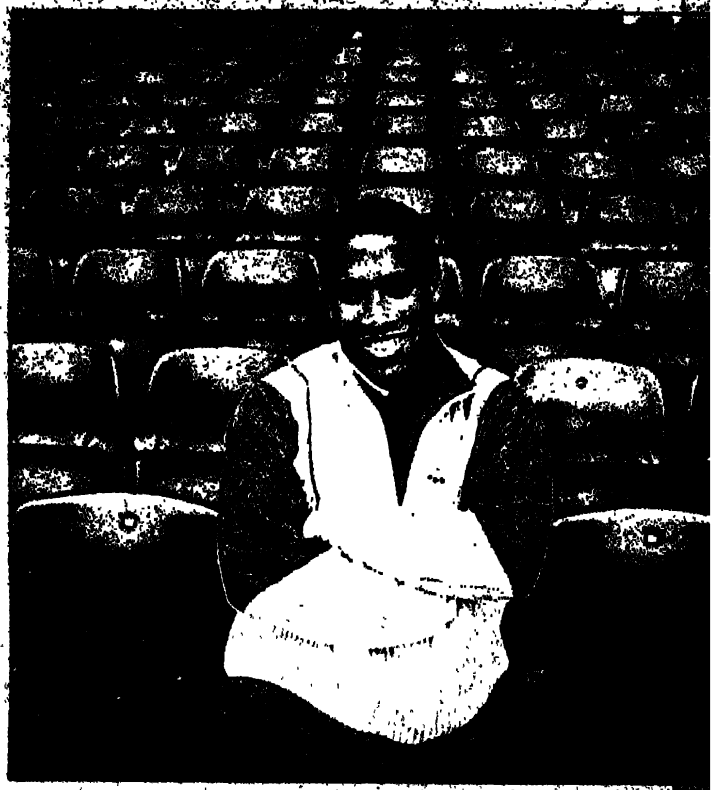
If you are born with even a hint of silver on your feeding spoon, are you as likely to try as hard as someone from the gutter, from the slums, who has to fight his way up every rung in life?

'I'm not middle class,' said John.

Oh, come on. You're from an officer family.

'It's only you British who think in terms of class. In Jamaica you are either poor, comfortable or rich. We were comfortable.'

That's the same thing.



NOT long ago the phone in his Liverpool flat was cut off because he didn't pay the bills. He earns plenty of money as a star player. Off the pitch he also makes quite a bit. This Christmas, for example, there is a whole video on sale, devoted to his life (*The John Barnes Story*, £9.99 from video stockists). It's just that he finds opening boring letters, paying bills, writing letters, a bit tedious. Suzy, the mother of his children, had to contact the phone people make excuses for him, and get him connected again.

John's personal life is a bit complicated. Suzy Bicknell first became his girlfriend in Watford when he moved into digs next door to her. They have lived together now for about six years and have Jamie, aged five, and Jordan, nearly two.

When he moved to Liverpool, they bought a big house in the Wirral and furnished it in style. But Suzy hated living there. She missed her friends and life back in Herts. A year ago she could take it no longer, so they sold the big house in the Wirral and bought an equally big one in Hemel Hampstead. Suzy, who has changed her name by deed poll to Barnes, lives there with the children. John visits at weekends, after the match is over on Saturday evenings, usually returning on Mondays.

People are always asking why he's not married, as the relationship appears so stable. He says he's just never got round to it. It's a big step to take. But he will. Some day. 'I don't know why you are surprised by our arrangement. How can any outsider judge if people are happy? Football wives do have to put up with a lot, but it works for us. It suits. We're happy.'

DRIVE IN MOVIES

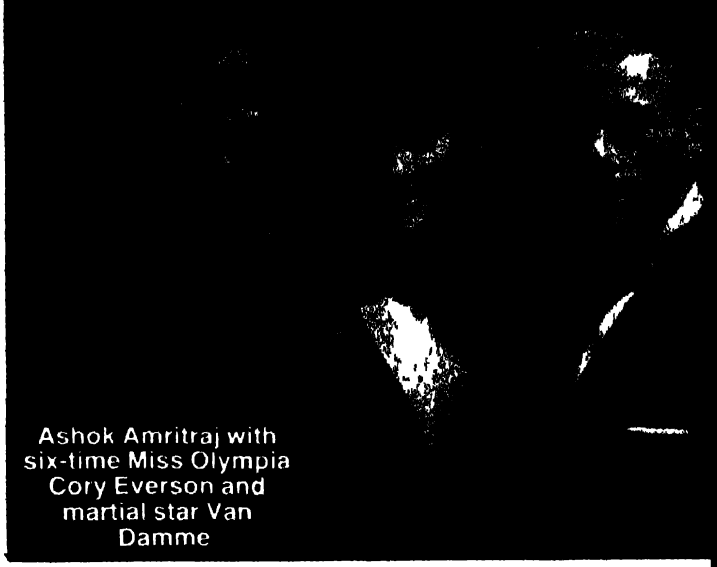
AMRITRAJ ENTERTAINMENT

"SPORT and the entertainment business are very similar," says movie mogul and ex-tennis star, Ashok Amritraj. "The only way to succeed is to dive straight in." That was the advice he had received nine years ago from actor friend Charlton Heston and Sidney Poitier.

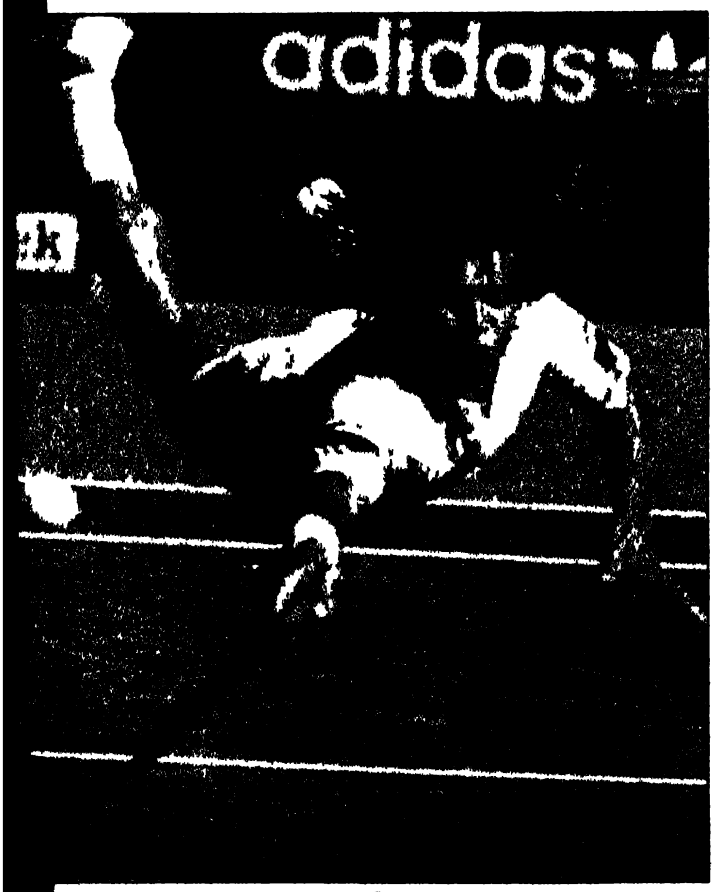
It's really difficult to digest how successful the youngest of the Amritraj brothers has become. Once upon a time he played tennis—though not with a lot of success—at each and every major tournament. Now Amritraj Jr. is finally doing what he always wanted to do, directing from behind the camera. "I always wanted to be behind the camera though no-one in my family wanted me to make the switch," he explains.

Ashok's company Amritraj Entertainment is based in Santa Monica, California but he was in Hong Kong recently, to shoot a film titled *Double Impact* which he is co-producing with Belgian martial art star Jean Claude Van Damme. The film also has Cory Everson, six times Miss Olympia, whom Amritraj describes as the 'female Arnold Schwarzenegger'.

The man sure is in good company



Ashok Amritraj with six-time Miss Olympia Cory Everson and martial star Van Damme



Noah: Off grass

END OF THE RASTA

NOAH'S GRASS PROBLEM

JUST when Andre Agassi has agreed to give Wimbledon a look up another of the time worn heroes on the pro tennis circuit has decided to call it a day. It's Yannick Noah who's saying goodbye this time. Noah's reason for calling it a day at the Big W is that in the not so recent past he has been subjected to a series of humiliating defeats there. The French Cameroonian star has never got past the third round at the courts of the All England Club.

Dennis Ralston, Noah's coach for a brief while last year believed that Wimbledon was the ideal hunting ground for Noah's big serve and acrobatic athletic style. Noah had agreed to give it one last shot, last June but the result was a first round straight sets defeat.

A morose Noah later said, "I love the tradition of Wimbledon but I'm never playing there again, at least not in the singles. On grass you not only have to serve well but also have to return serve superbly. The return of serve is probably the worst part of my game and it was cruelly exposed last time. For years, I got frustrated losing early on, playing like an average player no matter how hard I tried. It was really embarrassing."

Maybe you should visit that witch doctor who lashed you with the panthers tail to cure you last time, Yannick.

PRIVATE EYE

WE LOOK WHERE WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO!

MOOR OF EVERYTHING

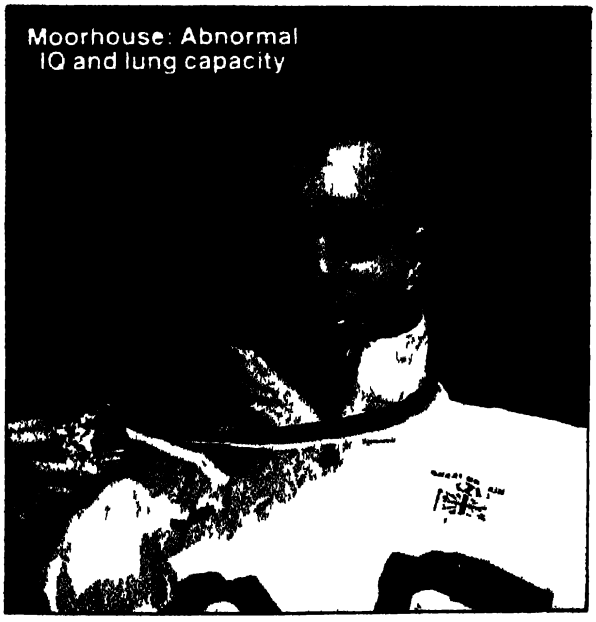
BEST STROKE

TWENTY-six year old Adrian Moorhouse is a real cool customer. In fact, if the 6ft 1 in tall hulk had not been a swimmer he would probably (with a little bit of luck) have been a scientist at NASA.

For a swimmer, Moorhouse is big, really big. His hands and feet are huge, like paddles. He's got an enormous chest, too. "That's because of my asthma," he explains between wheezing. "My asthma had a lot to do with me going into swimming. At school, I couldn't run a 100 yards race without running out of breath. So I saw a specialist and he told me to swim. It would help widen my diaphragm and increase my lung capacity."

His lung capacity is now about 7.7 litres! Double that of a normal human being. But the most notable among his statistics is his IQ of 170 which places him among the top one per cent of mankind. "All that means I have a great capacity for knowledge. In fact, I don't have much knowledge," he admits.

Moorhouse refused a swimming scholarship at the University of California in 1982. In 1987, he promptly went and sat for his Mensa—the

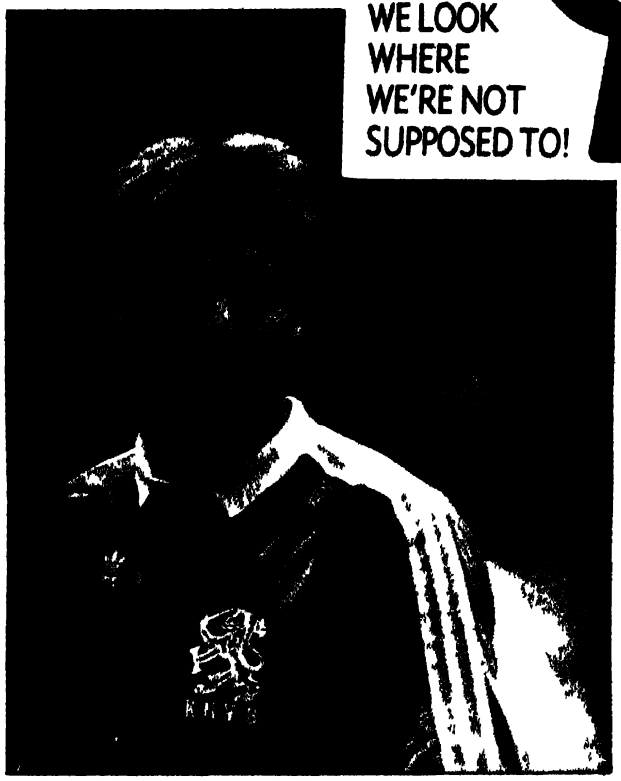


Moorhouse: Abnormal IQ and lung capacity

high octane brainpower society. "I see Mensa as my badge, my diploma," he said. "At least until I get one from University."

But he has false hopes when it comes to his pet event: the 100mts breaststroke. His ultimate timing? "Zero seconds," he snapped. Sorry Adrian, after seeing you coming second to Rozsa in Perth recently we feel you'll have to wait sometime to realise your dreams.

Van Breukelen: No keepers



HANS ACROSS EUROPE

WHEN TIME RAN OUT

MOST of us saw PSV's Hans Van Breukelen in action in India during the Super Soccer laugh-riot but what most of us didn't know was that on his return to the Netherlands, one of Europe's finest goalkeepers might be without a job. In fact, Van Breukelen may have played his last match for PSV Eindhoven.

Breukelen's contract with PSV expires this season and he will be free to negotiate offers from abroad. In fact he has already negotiated with Brian Clough of Nottingham Forest, Breukelen's former club.

PSV have already offered Breukelen a new contract and it is to be signed by February 1. So time is running out for Nottingham Forest to complete a deal with Breukelen. On the other hand if Breukelen does not sign the contract PSV offers him, the offer will be withdrawn. The goalkeeper had that in mind when he made a sudden airdash to England and hoped to continue negotiations with Forest after his return from India.

This is probably going to be the most difficult decision of his career, it's just a matter of time.

freewheeling

WAR What a disaster—thanks mainly to the warped thoughts of one man And the blood has started flowing in the Gulf

Not surprisingly every place in this world even editorial offices of hardcore sports magazines is abuzz with the topic Jargon like Scuds, Stealth and Patriot are tossed around with casual abandon Strategies are analysed Often criticised As though each of these armchair Field Marshals is a battle scarred veteran Iraq's ploy of using POWs as human shields draws a mixed response While the humanitarian faction feel its mighty cruel, the practical group say all's fair in love and war

In the middle of all the missile strikes and air raids, sport—hey, that's my job, remember'—has kept lumbering on Relegated to a poor second place surely But still very much happening The English are desperately trying to figure out a way of handling a rejuvenated Bruce Reid Edberg is halfway to an Australian Open title And at home, the national hockey and football teams played perfect hosts when they allowed visiting teams to win their respective tournaments

Which brings me to the point in an age where we have analysed, reanalysed -and re reanalysed even—the futility of war, why were people allowed to start pulling triggers? Couldn't all those negotiators figure out some other way of settling this issue? Especially since they had all of six months to work with

Why on earth wasn't sport used? Sure, it's physical Even violent at times But it's governed by rules, and the issue is settled within a set time period If I may Id like to draw a parallel with my school days Students of St Xavier's Calcutta of the '70s vintage will surely smile when they recall the all-too-popular challenge "Meet you at 3 30 backfield" Those were fighting words But very rarely did it degenerate into a scrap Both protagonists, and their supporters, would descend onto the sports field situated at the back of the school—hence, away from disciplinarian eyes—and make a show of muscle The point in question eventually being carried over into the next hockey or football match these two played against each other

Maybe Messrs Bush and Hussein should have chosen their best team and sent them out to play on some neutral venue The stakes--the same objective these guys have in mind while resorting to such mindless mayhem resulting in the death and maiming of innocent people

The Americans would have preferred a game of baseball, American football or even basketball But considering the Iraqis don't play any of those, it'd probably have been a game of soccer Not too bad, since the Yanks are playing host to the world in three years and the Iraqis are a force to contend with in the Gulf

Or it could even be made one-on-one A spectacular show of strength where USA's chosen one is pitted against his Iraqi counterpart Either in unarmed combat or some display of speed or strength On land or in water All that had to be done was decide on the event, make a date, prepare for a couple of months and settle the issue

But then again, knowing the stubborn attitudes of both countries, they'd probably have started unbuttoning their holsters while arguing about which sport to choose!

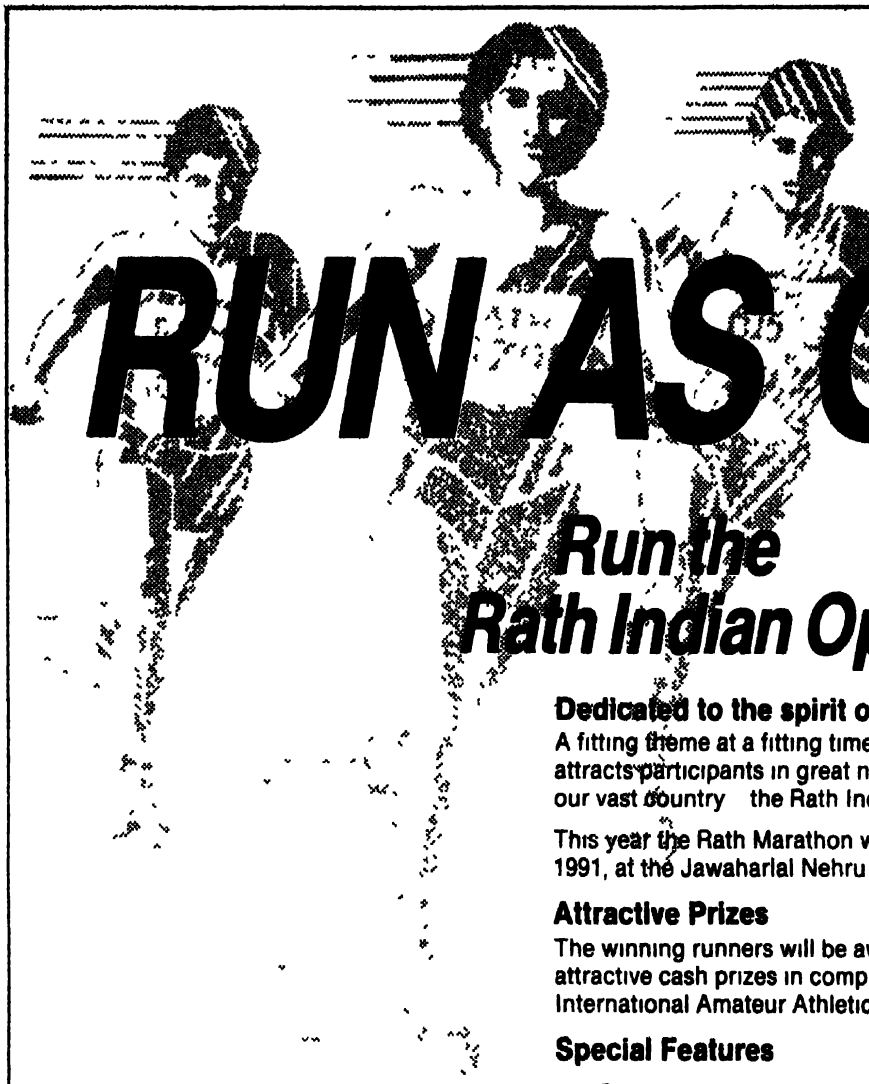
Maybe this isn't such a good idea after all

Pradeep Paul

Maybe Messrs. Bush and Hussein should have used sport to settle their dispute



ILLUSTRATION: SUBRATO GANGULY



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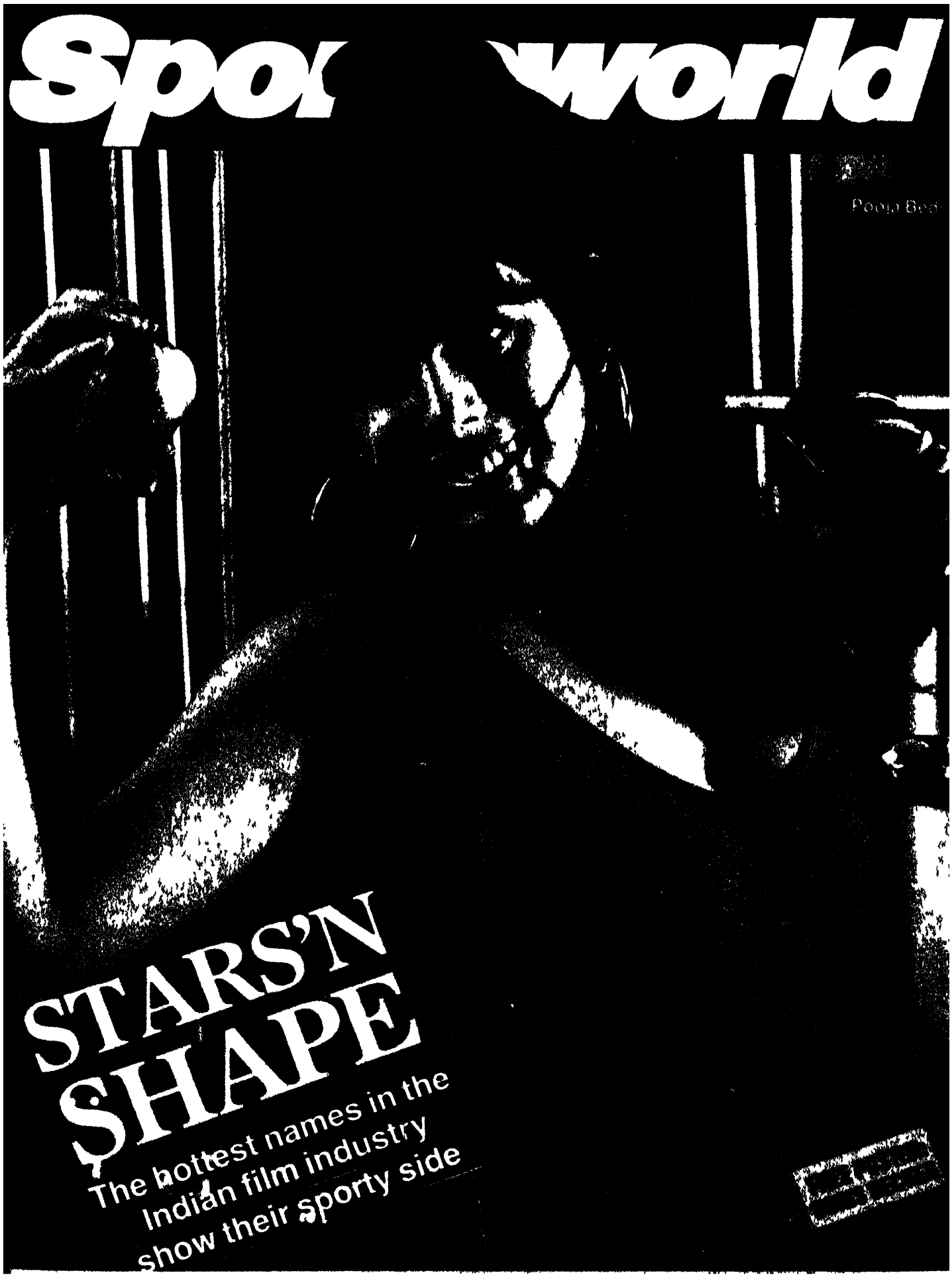
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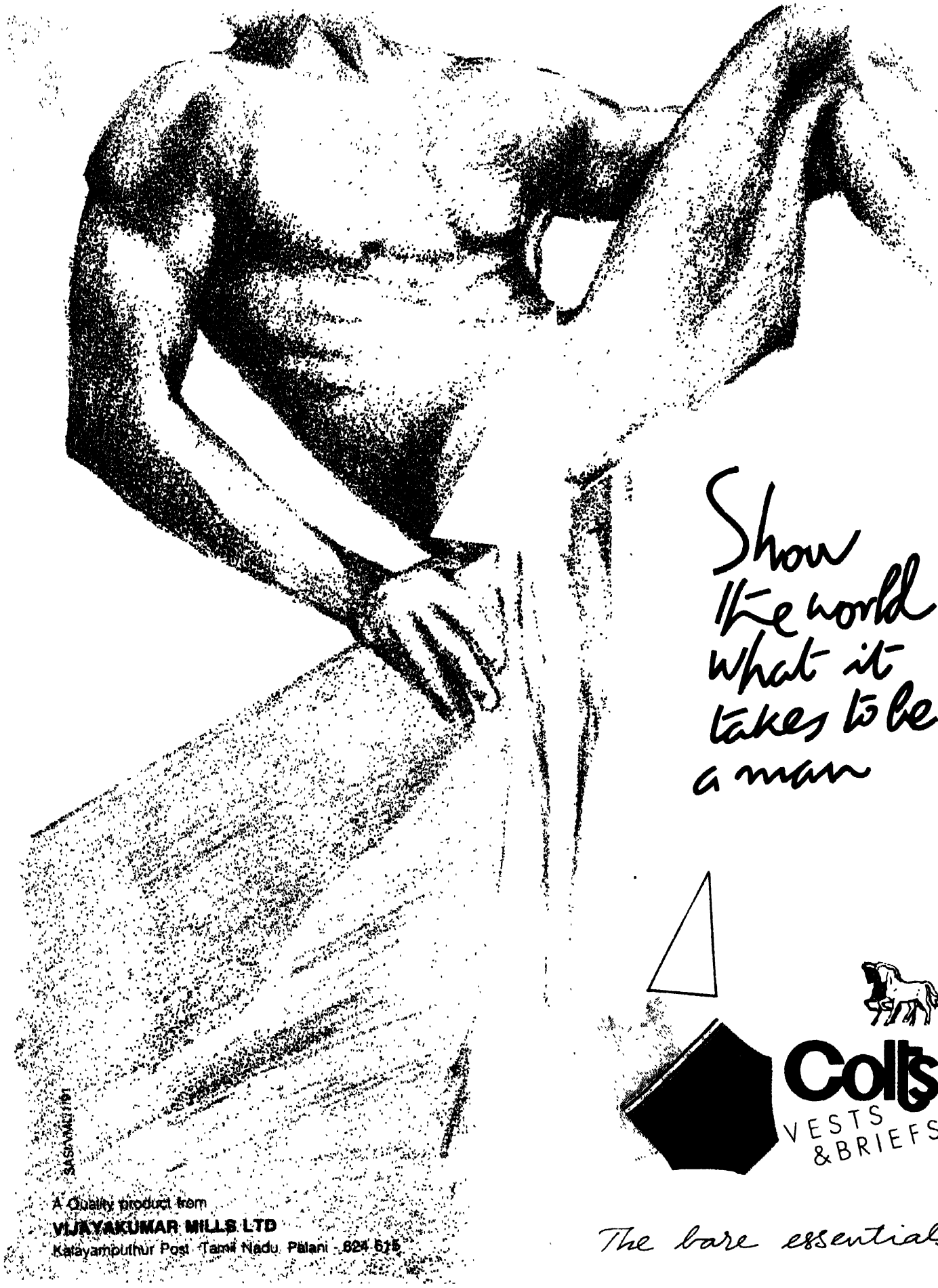
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STARS'N SHAPE
The hottest names in the Indian film industry show their sporty side

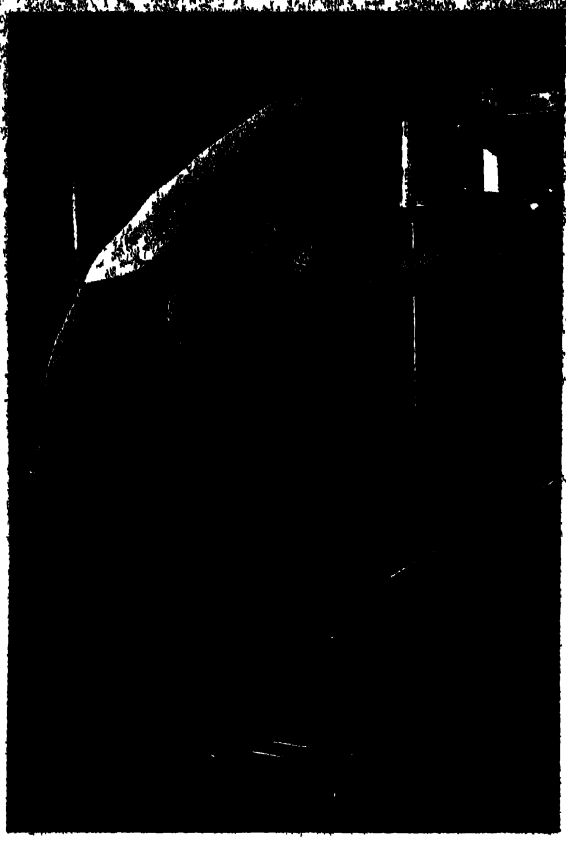

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And All Other Regular Features



8 **The expression 'Indian girls don't swim' is still in vogue in many circles. What is far more expressive, 'Miss' isn't loud looks and health food. The fad is fast catching on. Even the stars in Bombay were 'sporting' enough to let us confirm this statement. Presenting a pictorial peek-a-boo.**

Cover photograph by Shipra Shukla

Poster photograph by Action Plus

All illustrations by Debashish Deb



16 **Boris Becker overcame injury and a Lendl onslaught to not only win the Australian Open, but also capture the world No. 1 spot. And Monica Seles picked up her game to finally break Jana Novotna's winning streak**

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COVER STORY

STARS 'N

Soft, cuddly looks are out. Now it's all about macho he-men and sinewy, strong ladies. Robin Chatterjee prowled Bombay's film city to find out how the stars stay in shape, and found out that sport does play an integral part in each one's life off the sets

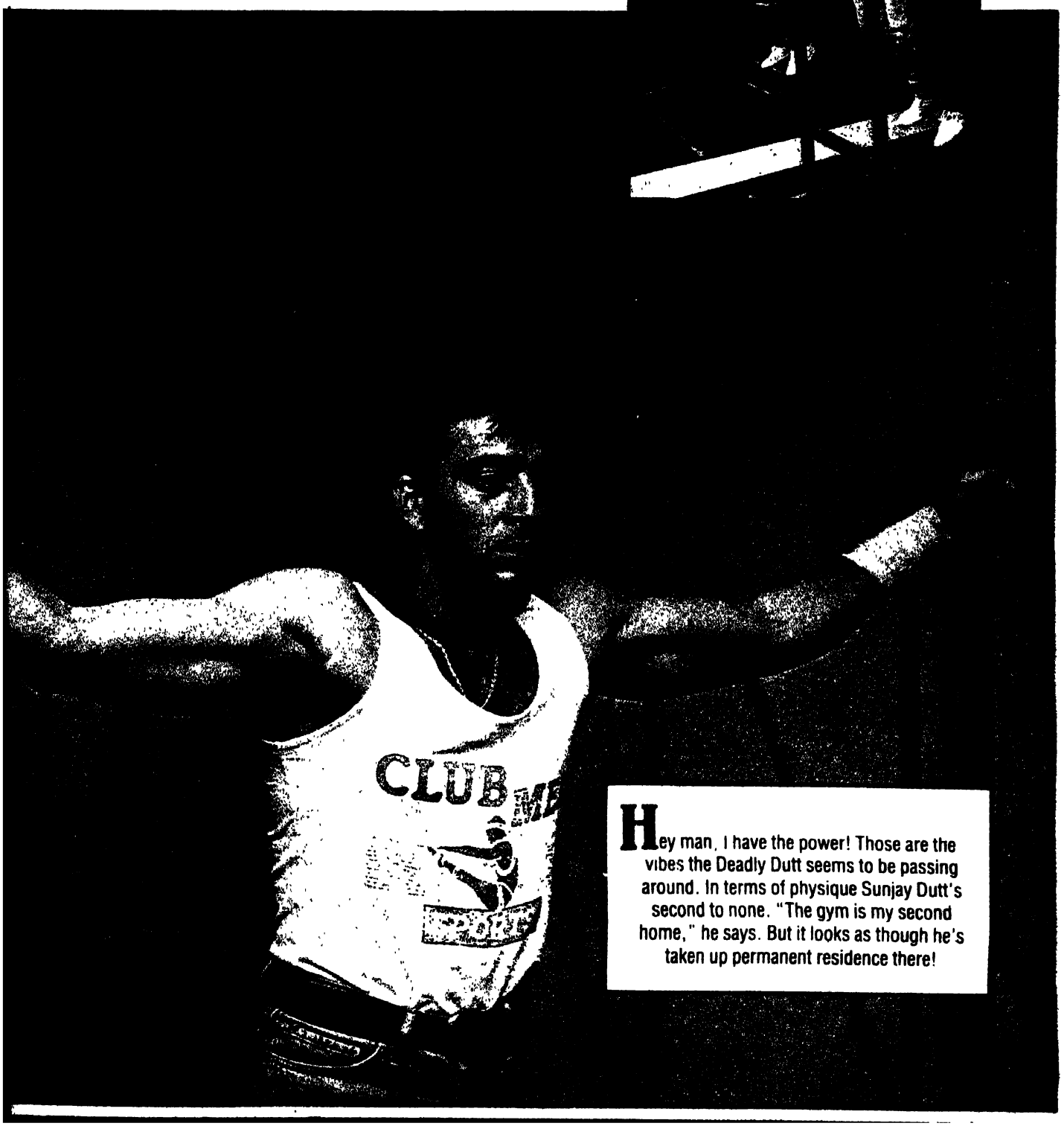




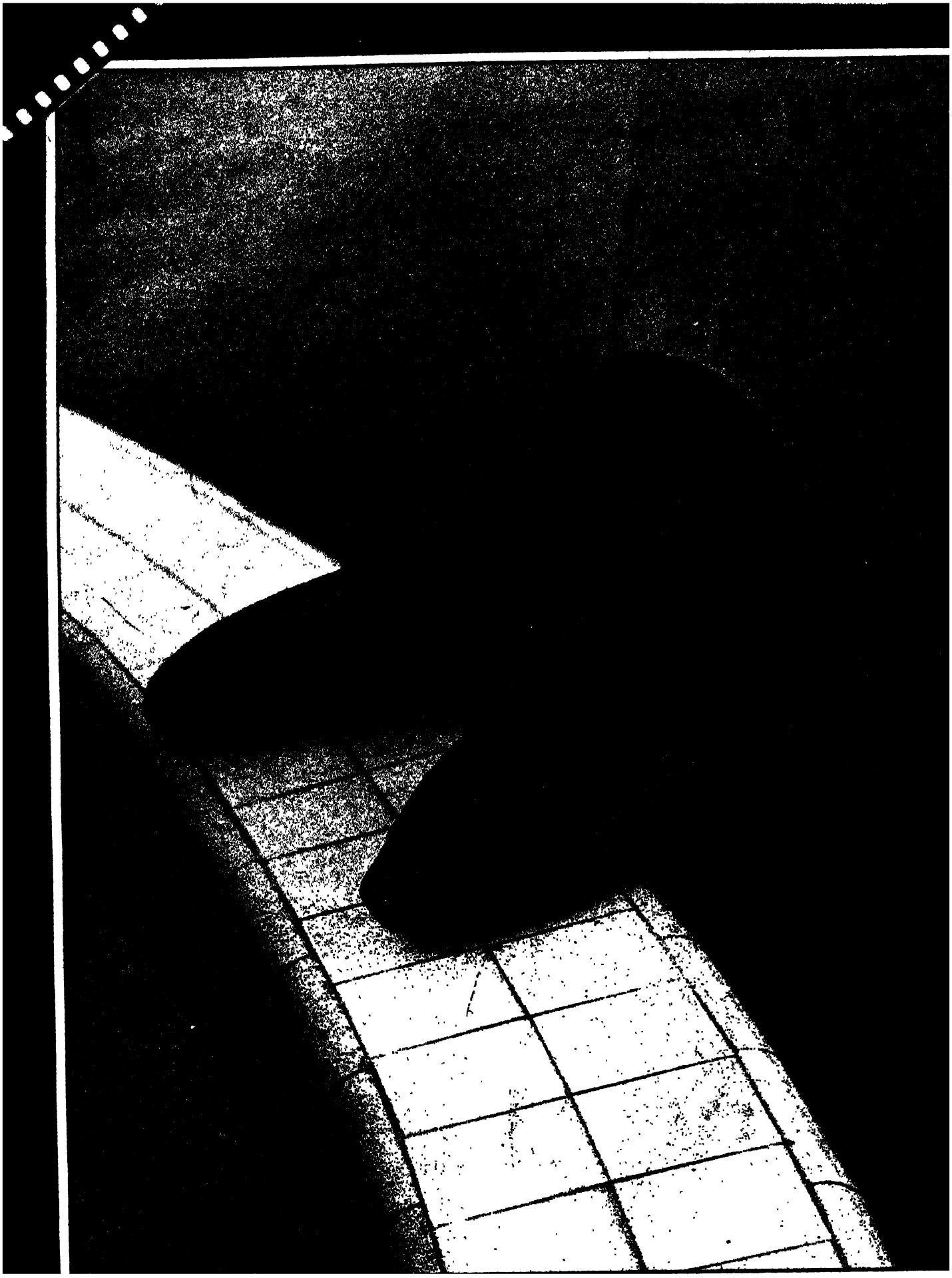
Karishma Kapoor scion of the Kapoor *khandaan* prefers the do-it-at home gadgets Not for her the regular visits to the gym Us stars just don t have the time she cooes So the cycling machine and the Jane Fonda cassettes are just what the doctor ordered

SHAPE





Hey man, I have the power! Those are the vibes the Deadly Dutt seems to be passing around. In terms of physique Sunjay Dutt's second to none. "The gym is my second home," he says. But it looks as though he's taken up permanent residence there!





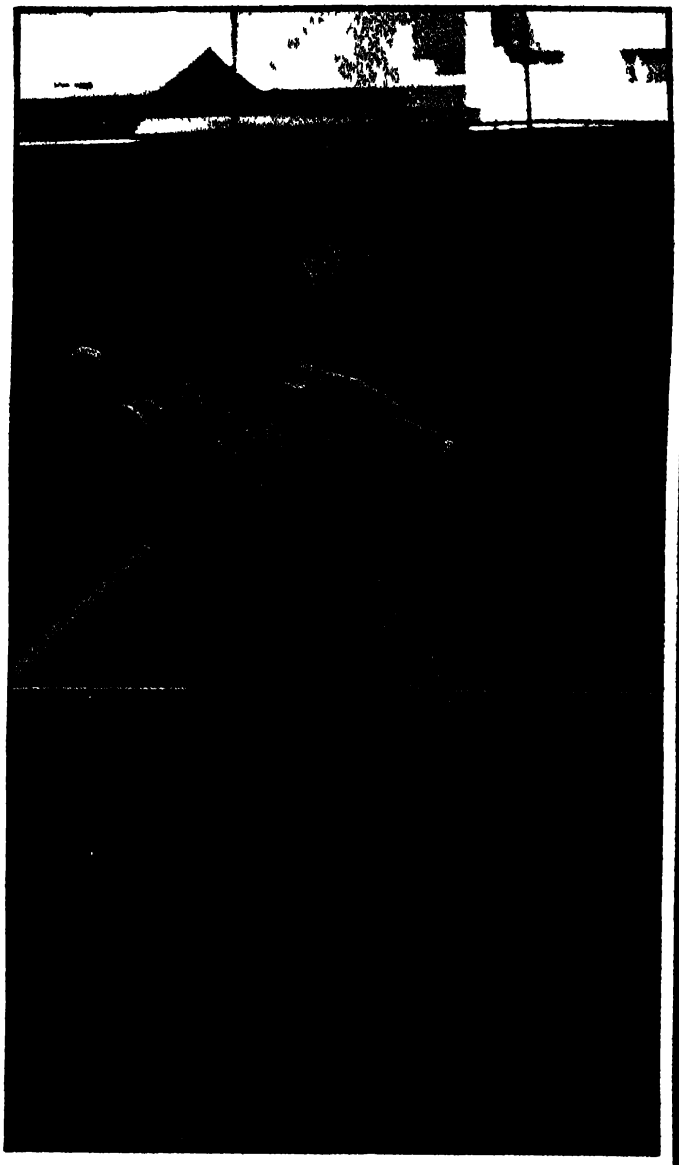
A fish called Sonu? Making quite a splash is the model-turned-actress Sonu Walia as she cleaves through the water and keeps herself in great shape I simply love swimming she gushes Keep it up Sonu and we re sure a lot more people will do so too!



Freehand forms the corepoint of Sanjay Kapoor s fitness concept A trifle offbeat in his approach cos it s the solitude of the beach he prefers this brother of Anil Kapoor is muscling up for his entry into stardom The results are slow but sure







Tennis anyone? Newcomer Shilpa Shirodkar stays in tune with the times —and in shape as well—by swatting the ball around Holiday Inn s tennis courts Love games? No that s not her style She s into drop shots and smash hits

Zip Zap Zoom It s Aamir Khan himself! An avid fitness enthusiast he s into cricket tennis and even cycling Matter of fact he s taken part in the cycling leg of Bombay s Triathlon and finished creditably So c mon girls if you re aiming for this teeny bopper start pedalling after this dream pedlar



SHIPRA SHUKLA

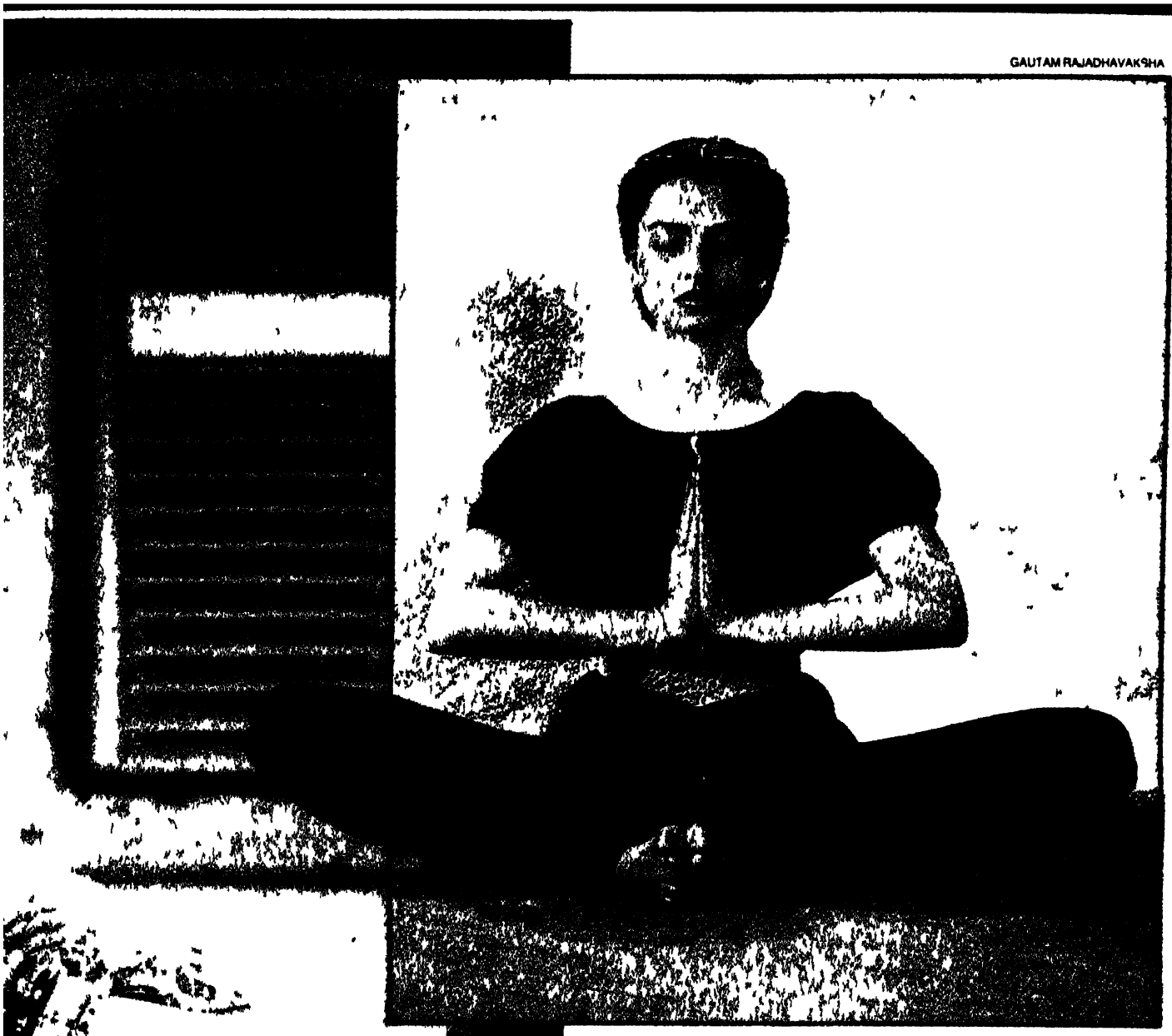
Dekho dekho dekho.....Archana Puran Singh may have pumped iron with Naseeruddin Shah for the camera in *Jalwa*, but off the sets she prefers a more feminine fitness program; read aerobics, fellas. Does it help? Take a look at her now, and you'll see how gorgeous the dividends are



With all her sporting pursuits—squash, karate, riding, swimming—where does Raveena Tandon find time to act? Well, "if you wanna do it, you can" is her answer. And judging by the intensity with which she attacks that small squash ball, she could just as easily swap her acting career for one in the glass-backed courts!

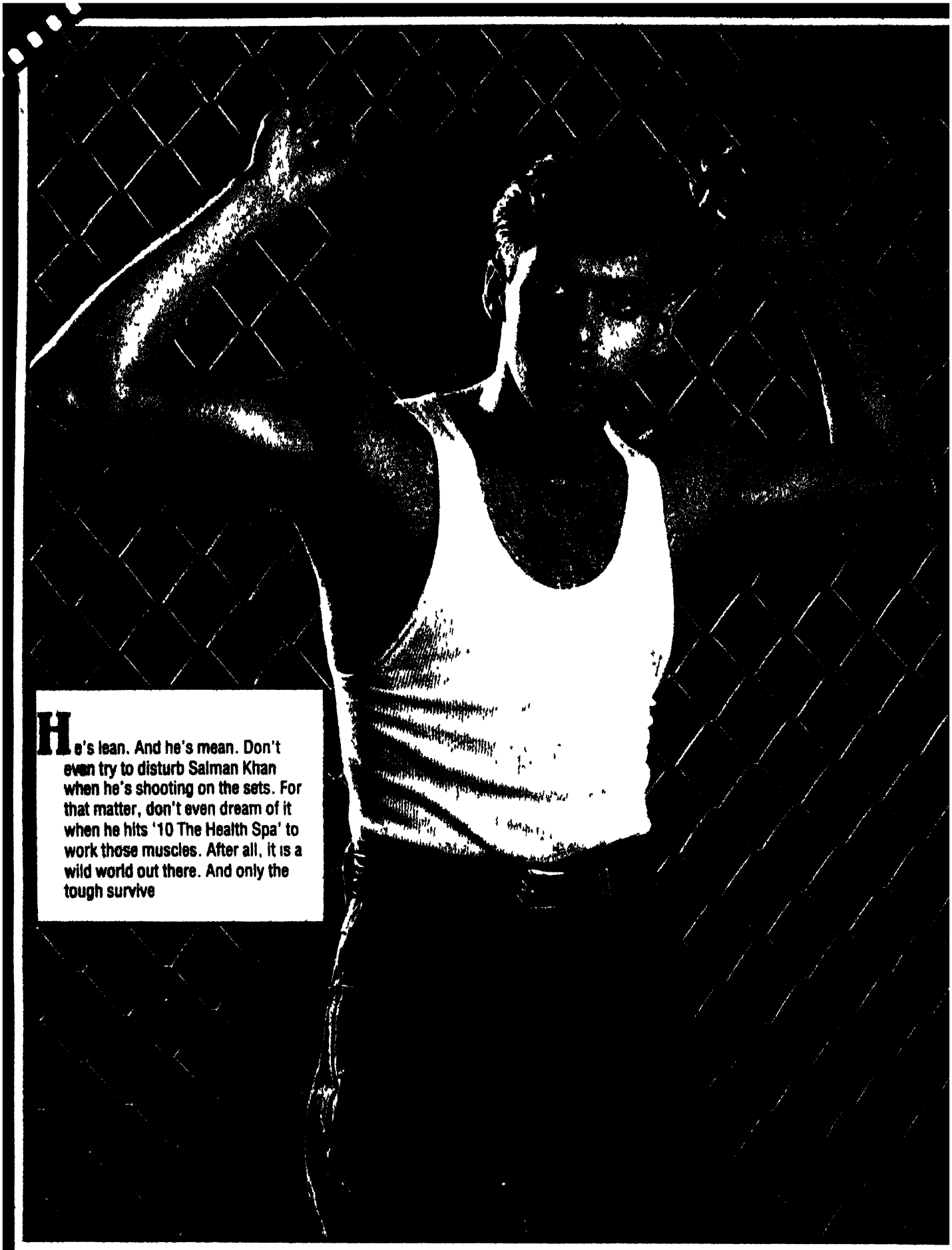


GAUTAM RAJADHAVAKSHA

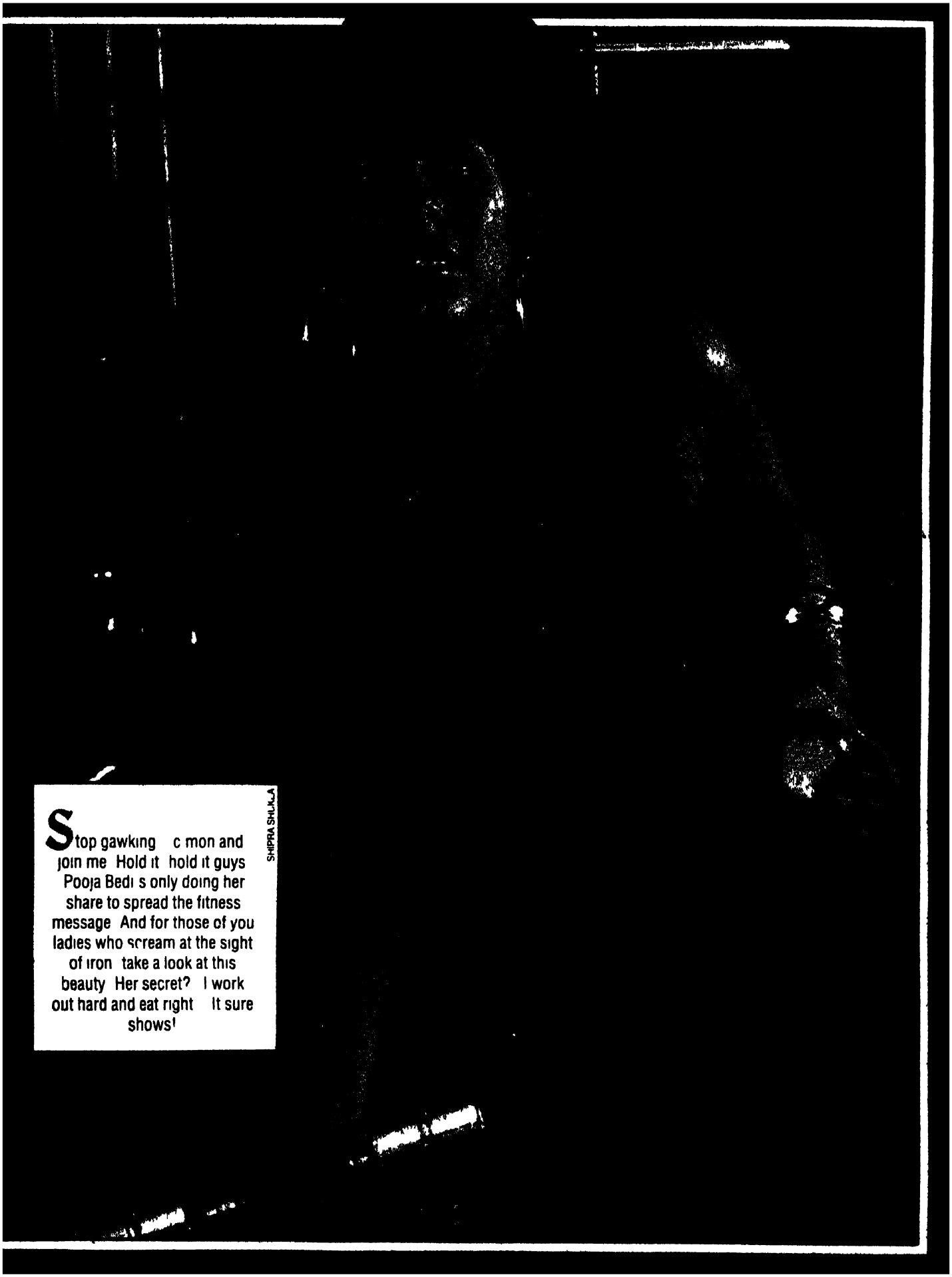


Five years ago just as lazy housewives realised how out of shape they were Rekha was a messiah Doing a desi version of Jane Fonda she started her Mind and Body Temple The message? Get fit— and stay fit—with yoga And her line? Pack that fat!

None of the sweaty muscle-pumpin stuff for filmdom s rising star Madhuri Dixit She s into more cerebral pursuits Like chess Not that it shows on her body The slim svelte ek do teen girl sharpens her killer instinct in between takes And isn t that what you need to reach the top?



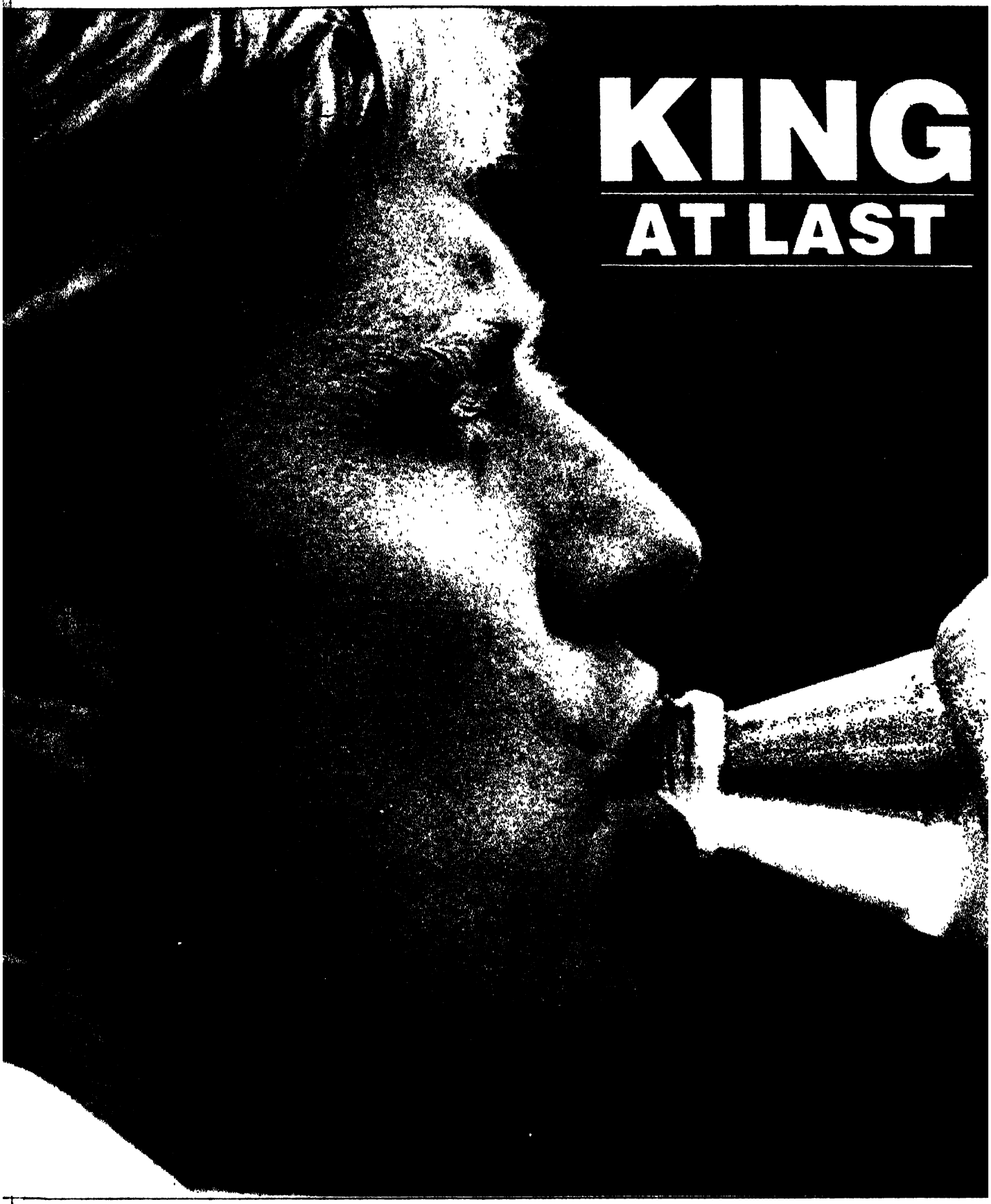
He's lean. And he's mean. Don't even try to disturb Salman Khan when he's shooting on the sets. For that matter, don't even dream of it when he hits '10 The Health Spa' to work those muscles. After all, it is a wild world out there. And only the tough survive



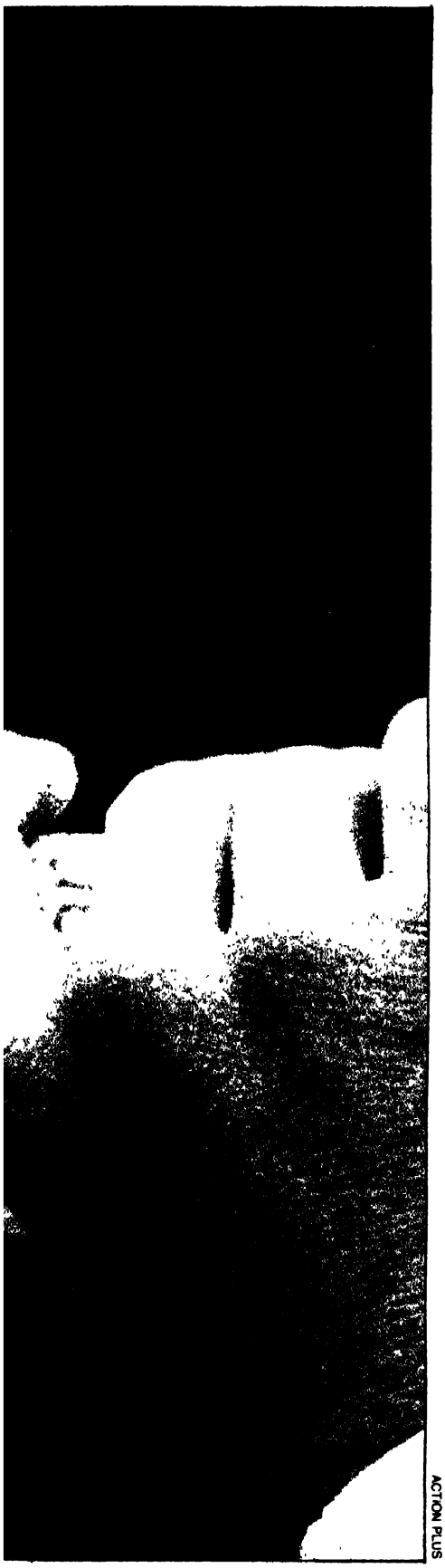
Stop gawking c mon and join me Hold it hold it guys Pooja Bedi s only doing her share to spread the fitness message And for those of you ladies who scream at the sight of iron take a look at this beauty Her secret? I work out hard and eat right It sure shows!

SHIPRA SHUKLA

BORIS BECKER



KING AT LAST



ACTION PLUS

EVERY kid who's held a tennis racket thinks of No. 1. To be the best.

That, if there's a better player around, he must be walking funny and talking funny, because he ain't from this planet. Aliens don't count. Human endeavour does

It is a fair description of Boris Becker

We have known for long that he has the requisite talent. It is also admitted, though in some quarters reluctantly, that he posesses at least a streak of genius. If these are innate, then for Boris Becker we must also say, that he has worked well, and hard, to make best use of them.

Becker's endeavour, his pursuit for greatness, through times both troubled and pleasing, is best exemplified by the fact that he has become No. 1, 66 months after his first Wimbledon win Indeed, he was first No. 2 as far back as September 8, 1986.

It has been a long time by any standards It is indicative of the demands placed upon a player if he desires greatness, it also explains how valued No. 1 is

He might have been the best player in the world in 1989 after reaching the French semi-finals, taking home the Wimbledon and US Open titles, and finally the Davis Cup. But he was not No. 1. And although it reopened arguments over the computer's ranking system, some of them impressive arguments, nothing changed. The computer asked for consistency, 12 months of it, and Becker didn't have that.

He was not brilliant in 1990-- he could not alter his damning record of never having won a tournament on clay, he lost to Edberg at Wimbledon, to Agassi at the US Open, to Agassi again at the ATP Championships. He raced Edberg for the No 1 spot late in the year but was narrowly edged out Yet he was winning more than losing, he was there, chipping away, and that was vital

The Australian Open was the very last place where Becker was expected to lead a charge. In the past, he'd been as successful there as McEnroe is in keeping his hair And when Omar Camporese took him valiantly to a fifth set in the third round, it looked like the missing jinx had finally re-appeared

Camporese was defeated, but not, it transpired, the jinx. On the morning of the final, a lower back muscle spasm, resulting in a vertebrae rubbing against his sciatica nerve, had Becker in agony and down 0-5 to Lendl in the first set.

Bye, bye Boris? No, bloody way It was bye-bye Lendl, as Becker, first tentatively, like a violinist checking his strings, and then later, explosively, like an orchestra at full tempo, made wonderful music with his racket. He was too quick, too strong, too brave, too intelligent for Lendl, or any man who would have been there. He will wonder when he sees the video tape, of whether he has played as outstandingly ever before To outrally, outhit, outthink a well tuned Ivan Lendl, from the baseline · what arrogance, what magnificence. No man has become No. 1 in better style—a style that makes it inconceivable to begrudge him his greatness.

Coach Bob Brett, who has worked tirelessly for and with Becker, cried. So perhaps did Becker, as he inexplicably disappeared for five minutes just seconds after he had won.

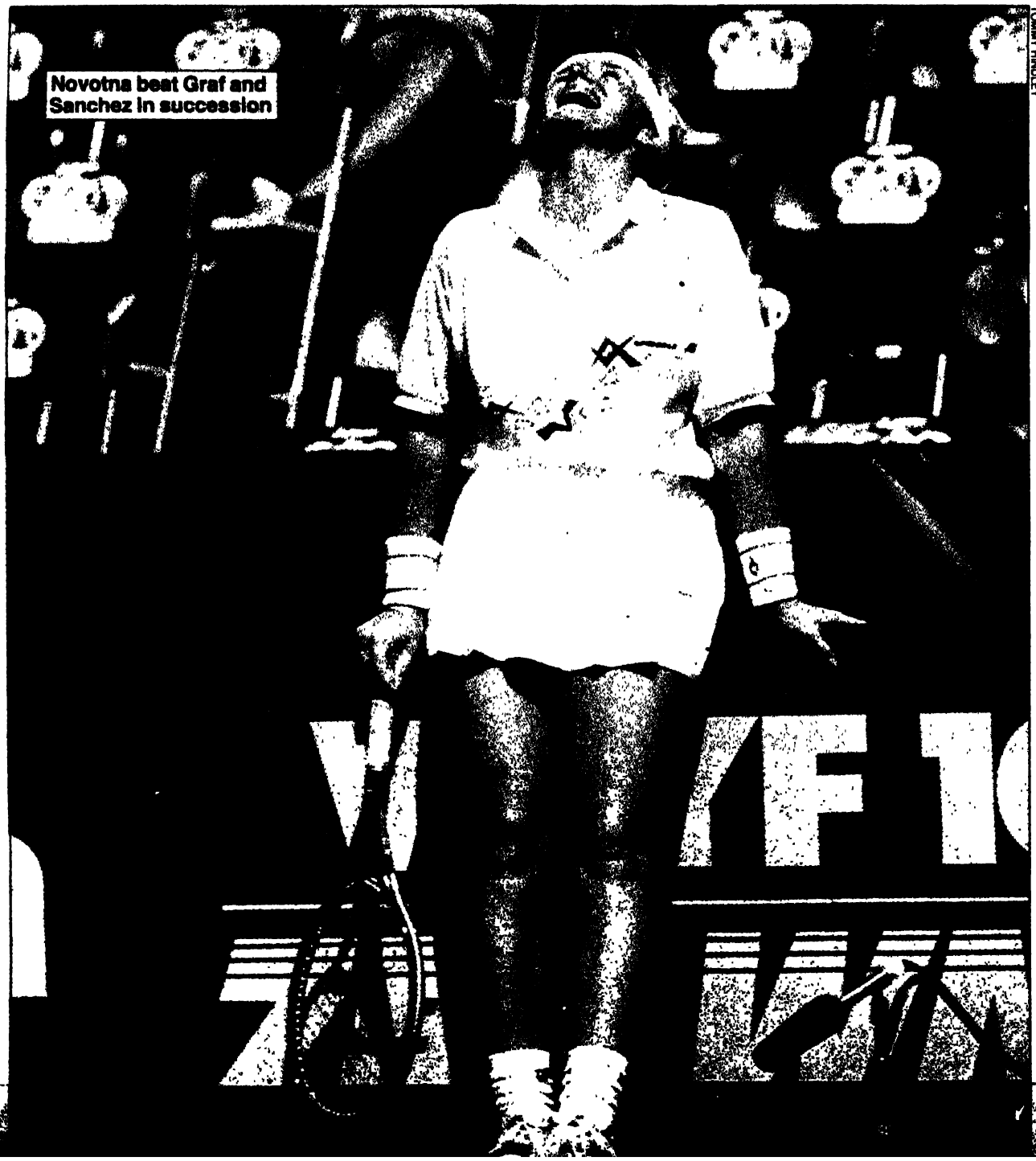
When he returned, and tremulously accepted his prize, he could not speak on the microphone as all champions Down Under are wont to. All he could manage was, "I don't know what to say. This is too unbelievable".

Well, so is he.

ROHIT BRIJNATH

AUSTRALIAN OPEN '91

CHAOS DOWN UNDER



Novotna beat Graf and Sanchez in succession

TOMMY HINDLEY

David McMahon writes from Melbourne on an unpredictable tournament, where Boris Becker became world No.1 and Steffi Graf fell from grace yet again

YOU learn something new about Boris Becker with every Grand Slam tournament you cover. Here at Melbourne less than an hour after he had taken not only the Australian Open crown from defending champion Ivan Lendl but the world No 1 ranking also Becker was opening up his heart to European journalists who had first watched him as an anonymous junior.

Talking about the pressure of being a world ranked player he grinned as he confessed "Sometimes I have these fantasies." What fantasies the media probed? "No, no, not those sort of fantasies," laughed the new world No 1. "I fantasise that I am just an everyday sort of person. I fantasise that I am a journalist in Hamburg, or a taxi driver in New York. Just your ordinary sort of person."

Here was the new world No 1 who had won his first Grand Slam title at the age of 17. Now he had made history once again as the first German to win the premier





tennis tournament in this country, as well as the first German ever to take the world No 1 ranking On a less serious note, he almost had the shortest reign as world No 1, for, less than a minute after he had sealed the match and flung his racket high into the stands in delight, Becker had vanished

He sprinted down the tunnel leading through the underground car park and ran out onto busy Batman Avenue, the street that runs alongside the Yarra river, which in turn runs parallel to the stadium There, to the collective surprise of astounded motorists, Becker did a victory jig and, screaming for joy, released the pent up pressure with glee Drivers who recognised him honked their horns to salute him yet the German could just as easily have been run down by a speeding car

With Lendl beaten 1 6 6-4, 6-4 6 4 Becker spoke frankly of the victory dance on Batman Avenue ' It s a special feeling and you can't plan it Obviously it's a very wonderful moment and I couldn t find the words to address the crowds It will take many weeks to realise what I have done I will have to sleep on it many nights before I realise this It's difficult to explain what it means to me

' I've been so close for so many years and I didn t expect to make the final step here I had to move I couldn t sit down and relax I went outside to a park where there were a couple of trees"

Speaking of the injury that had occurred with the muscle spasm in his back, early in the match, Becker said "The back was stiff and I couldn't move it at the beginning But after an hour it started to feel better Todd Snyder the trainer, tried to stretch me out and rubbed hot cream on the muscle spasm and that helped me no end

"I am not the type of person who likes to be world No 1 for five years I would like it to be that way, but then I would like to move on in my life, to do something else I hope I can be strong enough to stay on top for a couple of years "

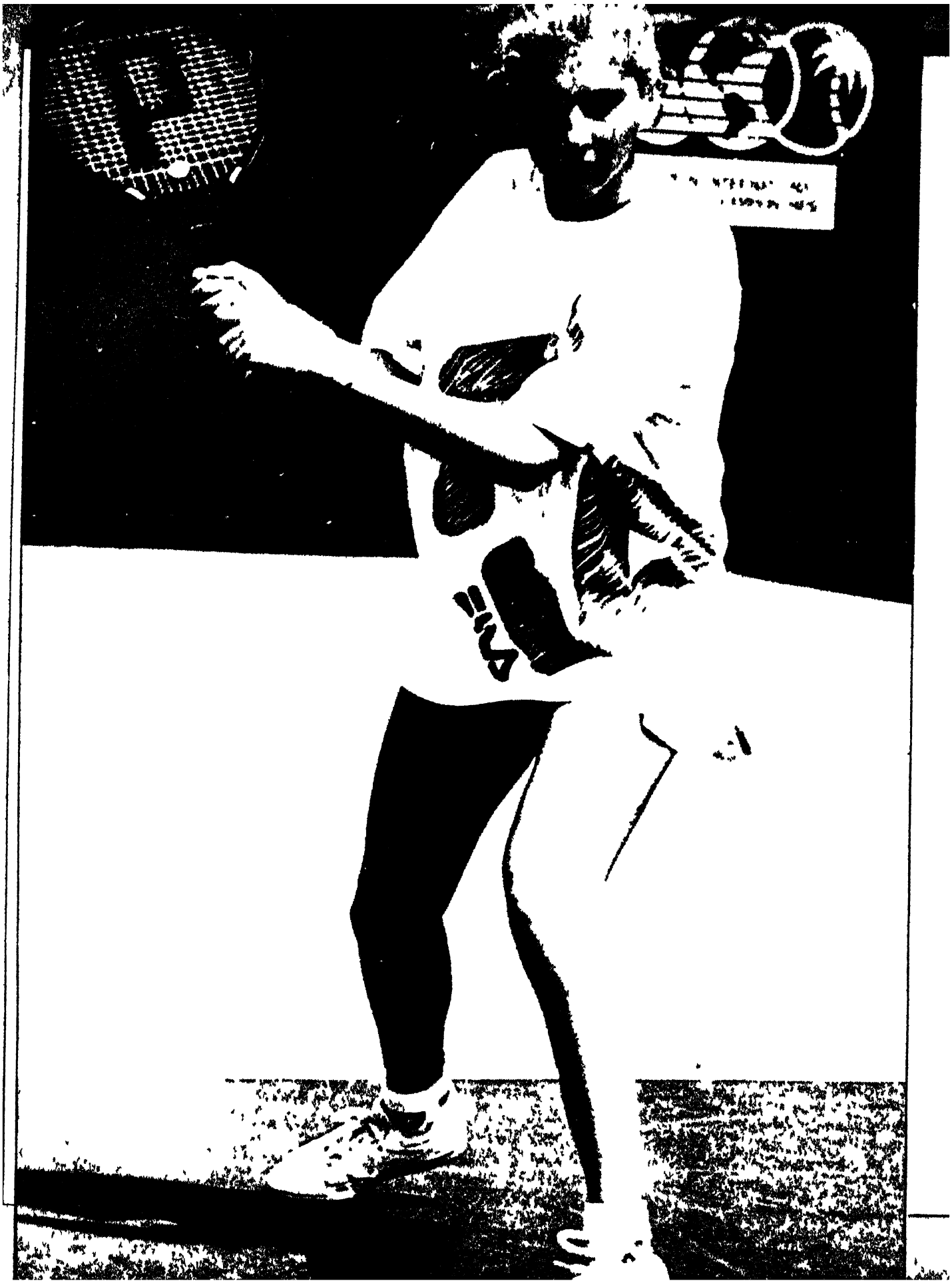
"I'm a person like Mats Wilander, very extreme and I have to be very careful I also have a little fear that it doesn't go on and on Bob Brett, my coach, and I have been together three and a half years now and it's a very special moment for him too It's very special as he is from this town

"It's a very emotional time You go through a lot of ups and downs with an athlete I guess this is the icing on the cake It's always a great moment when there are so many people here who have helped me In the past, one of the greatest problems here in Melbourne was the heat and I wanted to make sure that this time I got the feel of it '

Lendl, beaten just when he looked set to achieve a hat-trick of Australian Open victories, was more eloquent than Becker at the post match trophy presentation There was a certain sadness about him, a certain air of resignation Here was a man who had fought, had used every weapon in his

"I thought my strategy was right. I tried to make Boris play great shots, and he did. I didn't lose by being passive. I took chances, and it just didn't work out"
—Ivan Lendl





arsenal and yet had not had the heavy artillery to dislodge Becker. Yet, despite the transparent sorrow, Lendl was gracious.

"I thought my strategy was right. I tried to make Boris play great shots, and he did. I didn't lose it by being passive. I took chances, and it just didn't work out."

Just as Lendl had been beaten and had lost his crown, so too had Steffi Graf, the only difference being that Graf, who has now gone without a Grand Slam win in 12 months, managed to retain her world No. 1 ranking. Graf, beaten for the first time in Melbourne since 1988, had lost, surprisingly, to Czechoslovakia's Jana Novotna in the quarter-finals. Novotna, emboldened, then beat Arantxa Sanchez to move into a Grand Slam final for the first time in her life. Winning the first set, 7-5, against world No. 2 Monica Seles, she then lost her grip on the match and won only four games in the next two sets, going down 5-7, 6-3, 6-1.

Seles, as always, was philosophical after her victory. Unwilling to gloat about her second Grand Slam title, she offered introspection instead: "When I lost the first set, I just said to myself, 'forget it and play'

"I still think that in my game I can improve as much as I want myself to. I saw how Steffi was playing. I saw how Gaby (Gabriela Sabatini) was playing, after the long break. I know what I have to work on when I go back home because I am going to have a long break. I just think I have to improve my serve a lot. It's just really bad. I mean, if I could have the consistency of winning my service games the way some players do it, it would be much better.

"I'm going to experiment when I get back. It might not work for a couple of weeks, so I'll need at least a month. I have a pretty good kick serve when I want to use it. I just don't have the power serve...the power to serve an ace when you really need it.

Novotna, understandably subdued after her loss, despite the fact that her world ranking had improved from 12 to 8, said: "I felt before this tournament that I always had a very tough draw. When I got to the quarters or semis I was too tired to play against the top players. I have had so many tough matches in this tournament, and even last week in Sydney and that made me very strong, mentally and physically.

Novotna emphasised that Graf still deserved to be world No. 1. "It's not one match or the tournament. It's how you play all the time in all the tournaments and Steffi is still the best.

"It's interesting I ended up playing tennis, a highly individual sport, but I started just for fun. We had the courts next door to our house where I lived and I said 'I'm going to try' and I have tried and here I am. In the final against Monica I wasn't even approaching the net, I was missing. I would always say that my best surface is grass. But I can play an all-round game as well. There is a great possibility this year in the French Open."



And then she disappeared from the interview room, left to ponder on how, having beaten the world's leading player, she had lost from a one-set-to-love lead against the world No.2. For Jana Novotna, that answer will not come easy.●

"I'm going to experiment with my serve when I get back home. I have a pretty good kick serve when I want to use it. I just don'g have the power serve...the power to serve an ace when you really need it
—Monica Seles

SPORTING CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
3: Aust vs Eng 5th Test (Perth), New Zealand vs Sri Lanka 1st Test (Wellington) National Women s Hockey chps (Gurgaon), ATP Britannia Challenger tournament (Bangalore) Nizam Gold Cup football (Hyderabad), ITF Junior Tennis Tournament (Jaipur) World group, Davis Cup 1st round matches, Ranji trophy, M P vs Bombay (Indore) Ranji trophy, Maharashtra vs Karnataka (Pune)	**4:** Aust vs Eng 5th Test (Perth) New Zealand vs Sri Lanka, 1st Test (Wellington) National Women's Hockey Chps (Gurgaon), Nizam Gold Cup Football (Hyderabad), ITF Junior Tennis Tournament (Jaipur), Ranji pre-qtrs M P vs Bombay (Indore) and Mah vs Karn (Pune)	**5:** Aust vs Eng 5th Test (Perth) National Women s Hockey Final (Gurgaon) Nizam Gold Cup Football (Hyderabad) ITF Junior Tennis Tournament (Jaipur) Junior National Polo Chps (Delhi) Ranji pre qtrs M P vs Bombay (Indore) Mah vs Karn (Pune)	**6:** 25th National Cross Country Chps (Lucknow) for men women, jr boys and jr girls Nizam Gold Cup Football (Hyderabad) ITF Junior Tennis Tournament (Jaipur) Junior National Polo Chps (Delhi) Ranji pre-qtrs M P vs Bombay (Indore) Mah vs Karn (Pune)
10: Satellite masters Tennis Chps (Cochin), Nizam Gold Cup Football (Hyderabad), ITF Jr Tennis tournament finals (Jaipur), India vs Thailand, Davis Cup (Bangkok)	**11:** Satellite Masters Tennis Chps (Cochin), Nizam Gold Cup Football (Hyderabad), 5th Jr Inter-State Athletic Chps (Cuttack), Polo, Royal Challenge trophy (Delhi) Asian Jr Chess Championships (Calicut)	**12:** Finals of Satellite Masters Tennis Chps (Cochin) Nizam Gold Cup Football (Hyderabad) 5th Jr Inter-State Athletic Chps (Cuttack) Polo Royal Challenge trophy (Delhi) Asian Jr Chess Chps (Calicut)	**13:** Nizam Gold Cup Football (Hyderabad), Asian Jr Chess Chps (Calicut) 5th Jr Inter State Athletic Chps (Cuttack) Polo, Royal Challenge trophy (Delhi)
17: Aust vs President s XI (St Kitts), Asian Jr Chess (Cochin), Final of Royal Challenge Polo Trophy (Delhi) Modi Hockey (Meerut), Ranji Qtr-finals Santosh Trophy Football (Palghat)	**18:** Aus vs President s XI (St Kitts) Asian Jr Chess (Cochin), Final of Nizam Gold Cup Football (Hyderabad), Modi Hockey (Meerut) Ranji Qtr-finals Sr National Table Tennis (Jaipur), Santosh Trophhy Football (Palghat)	**19:** Aust vs President s XI (St Kitts), Asian Jr Chess (Cochin), Modi Hockey (Meerut), Ranji Qtr-finals, Sr Nat T T (Jaipur) Santosh Trophy Football (Palghat)	**20:** Asian Jr Chess (Cochin), Modi Hockey (Meerut), Ranji Qtr-finals, Sr Nats T T (Jaipur), Santosh Trophy Football (Palghat)
24: Aust vs Jamaica (Sabina Park), Sr Na T T (Jaipur) Asian Jr Chess (Cochin) Santosh Trophy Football (Palghat)	**25:** Final day of Asian Jr Chess Chps (Cochin), Finals of Senior Nat Table Tennis Chps (Jaipur) Santosh Trophy Football (Palghat)	**26:** West Indies vs Australia 1st One Day International (Jamaica), Final of Northern India Polo (Delhi) Santosh Tropny Football (Palghat)	**27:** Dalmia Resorts, Sir Partab Singh Cup Polo (Delhi) Santosh Trophy Football (Palghat)

FOR FEBRUARY '91

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1. Aust vs Eng 5th Test (Perth). New Zealand vs Sri Lanka 1st Test (Wellington), National Women's Hockey Championships (Gurgaon), Charminar Challenge Ladies Golf (Calcutta), ATP Britannia Challenger Tournament (Bangalore), World Group, Davis Cup 1st round matches	**2.** Aust. vs Eng 5th Test (Perth); New Zealand vs Sri Lanka, 1st Test (Wellington); National Women's Hockey Chps (Gurgaon); ATP Britannia Challenger (Bangalore), Nizam Gold Cup Football (Hyderabad), World Group, Davis Cup 1st round matches; Ranji trophy pre-qtrs Madhya Pradesh (M P) vs Bombay (Indore), Ranji trophy pre-qtrs Maharshtra vs Karnataka (Pune)
7. Satellite Masters Tennis Chps (Cochin), Nizam Gold Cup Football (Hyderabad), ITF Jr Tennis tournament (Jaipur) Jr Nat Polo chps (Delhi)	**8.** Satellite Masters Tennis Chps (Cochin), Nizam Gold Cup Football (Hyderabad) ITF Jr Tennis Tournament (Jaipur), India vs Thailand Asia-Oceania Group-1 Davis Cup (Bangkok)	**9.** Satellite Masters Tennis Chps (Cochin), Nizam Gold Cup Football (Hyderabad), ITF jr Tennis tournament (Jaipur), India vs Thailand Davis Cup (Bangkok)
14. Nizam Gold Cup Football (Hyderabad) Asian Jr Chess Chps (Calicut), 5th Jr Inter-State Athletics Chps (Cuttack), Polo, Royal Challenge trophy (Delhi)	**15.** Asian Jr Chess Chps (Cochin) Nizam Gold Cup Football (Hyderabad), 13th Nat Veteran Athletic Meet (Calcutta) Polo, Royal Challenge Trophy (Delhi), All India R B Gujarmal Modi Hockey Tournament (Meerut) Santosh Trophy Football (Palghat)	**16.** Australia's cricket tour of West Indies starts Aust vs Presidents XI (St Kitts), Asian Jr Chess (Cochin), Nizam Gold Cup Football (Hyderabad), Polo Royal Challenge Trophy (Delhi), Modi Hockey (Meerut), Ranji Qtr-finals Haryana vs UP (Gurgaon), Hyderabad vs Bihar (Ranchi), Delhi vs Winners of MP vs Bombay and Bengal vs winners of Mah vs Karn Santosh Trophy Football (Palghat)
21. Aust vs Jamaica (Sabina Park), Modi Hockey semi final (Meerut), Sr National T T (Jaipur), Asian Jr Chess (Cochin) Santosh Trophy Football (Palghat)	**22.** Aust vs Jamaica (Sabina Park), Final of Modi Hockey (Meerut) Sr National T T (Jaipur), Asian Jr Chess (Cochin) Santosh Trophy Football (Palghat)	**23.** Aust vs Jamaica (Sabina Park), Sr Nat T T (Jaipur), Asian Jr Chess (Cochin) Santosh Trophy Football (Palghat)
28. Daimia resorts Sir Partab Singh Cup, Polo (Delhi) Santosh Trophy Football (Palghat)		

TELEVISION

Live telecast of finals of Satellite Masters Tennis Championship at Cochin, Feb 12, and at Bombay, Feb 20
Live telecast of finals of Senior National Table Tennis
Live telecast of ITF Juniors Tennis finals at Jaipur on Feb., 10

RADIO

Running commentary in Hindi and English on semi finals and final of Women's Hockey Nationals
Running commentary in Hindi and English on semi final and final of Gujar Mal Modi Hockey tournament
Running commentary on final of Nizam Gold Cup Football

OTHER EVENTS

Satellite Masters Tennis Tournament, Bombay, Feb 14 to 20 Finals on Feb 20
SMS Gold Vase Polo Tournament, Delhi Feb 18 to 23

COMPILED BY NOVY KAPADIA

The Return Prodigal

Greg Matthews, the enfant terrible of Australian cricket, has emerged from three years of introspection, and has already impressed cricket afficionados in the cricketing circles once again....



Matthews peels off his shirt during his long innings of 128 and takes a break. Merv Hughes and Ian Healy look on

THE man who brought disco dancing to the outfield is back where he knows he belongs—in the Test match spotlight, acknowledging the ecstatic applause of the crowd, and liking every bit of it.

Thrown out of the Australian side in 1987 for disciplinary reasons Matthews has re-emerged from the cocoon of three years of introspection. He now comes across a genuine all-round Test cricketer.

His century against England at the Sydney Cricket Ground in the drawn Test ensured the Ashes would remain in Australia. It followed a haul of three for 40 in 25 overs, in England's second innings of the second Test in Melbourne. Australia won by eight wickets and his superb performance put to doubt any questions regarding his form.

The enfant terrible of Australian cricket, now a husband and father at 31 looks like he has shed the garish trappings of his early years that so enraged cricket fans, especially in England and New Zealand.

But watch for a while and clear traces of the old Matthews are still very much visible. The man who became a cult figure in the mid-1980s for his hip language, his ear-ring and his off-the-wall approach to cricket,a game he once, described as orgasmic, still remains the same.

The mannerisms are still there. The leap in the air and hugging of teammates that accompany every wicket. The constant jigging around while fielding. The super-short haircut. The carving of his wife s initials in the hot

Of The



The crew cut, the stubble and his mannerisms may suggest that he is a punk from Boston. But the authority with which he wields the willow makes the opposing team bowlers look like a bunch of blokes on the beach

Sydney air when he reached three figures in the Test—it's still Greg Matthews all right

His return has confounded those who said he did not have the character to fight back Captain Allan Border, who has found a spinner to replace the retired Trevor Hohns while at the same time strengthening Australia's lower order, must have heaved a sigh of relief when Matthews struck form

Matthews is working hard at his new responsible image "I'm not getting carried away It's great to get runs, but my job in this side is to take wickets I'd swap this hundred any day for four wickets in an innings,' he said, after he toiled through 58 overs for just one wicket when England batted for the first time in Sydney

Even in the fourth Test, played at Adelaide, Matthews was among the runs with scores of 65 and 35 not out But the wicket, still eluded him—his match haul being one for 100

His Test career was an eventful one Within two years of making his Test debut in 1983 against Pakistan, Matthews had made himself infamous among spectators in England, picking arguments when fielding on the fence and

dancing, always dancing

He returned to Australia to a golden summer, scoring centuries against India and New Zealand But the adulation turned to hatred when Australia toured New Zealand in 1986

Targeted as the Australian the crowds loved to hate, he was spat on and had eggs thrown at him One radio station even ran a competition for listerners to display banners with the most outrageous comments about the maverick Australian

Later that year Australia went to India and Matthews took 10 wickets in the first Test at Madras, including the one which tied the match

But after that his star began to wane His popularity touched a new low when England went to Australia in 1986-87 He was dropped for the final Test to make way for the then unknown Peter Taylor Matthews then was not picked for the 1987 World Cup in India and Pakistan because of an incident during the short tour of Sharjah Fined for his behaviour—read misbehaviour at a team barbecue, many however saw his demotion and that of wicket-keeper Tim Zoehrer, the team's other enfant terrible, as coach Bobby Simpson's way of clearing the decks before rebuilding the team

The all-rounder was shattered at being dropped—learning of it just 15 minutes after returning home from his honeymoon But he was still man enough to send Border a telegram of congratulation when Australia won the one-day tournament

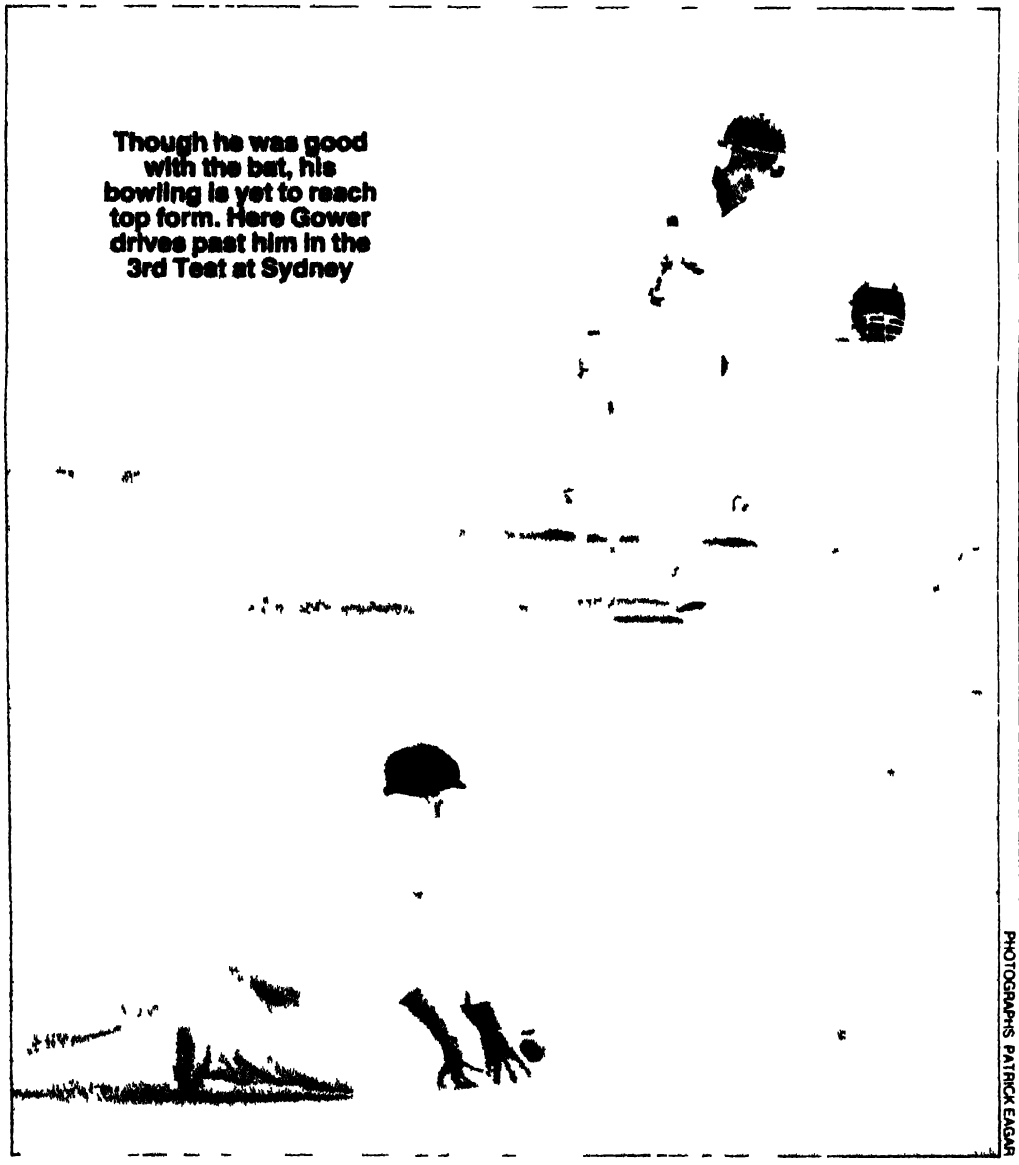
He realised that the only way back, was to work on his bowling and force the selectors to pick him on the basis of his performances At the same time,he remained in the public eye through work on commercial television

The recall finally came for a one day international against West Indies in early 1989 and then as a replacement for injured spinner Tim May for the Nehru Cup one-day tournament in late 1989

But it was the match winning bowling performance for New South Wales in last year s Sheffield Shield final thrashing of Queensland that convinced Border and the selectors that Matthews was ready to restart his 21 match Test career

Matthews is clearly the best spinner in Australian cricket now that May is still recuperating from injuries Wearing the baggy green Australian cap pulled down over his ears and with his top shirt button done up, Matthews has consistently troubled the English with his turn and flight, as also with his superlative batting performances

As New South Wales captain, Geoff Lawson put it, 'From my point of view he is the best in the country ' David Gower and Co would surely endorse that opinion ●



Though he was good with the bat, his bowling is yet to reach top form. Here Gower drives past him in the 3rd Test at Sydney

PHOTOGRAPHS PATRICK EAGAR

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. In the opening match of the 1990 World Cup, two Cameroon players were sent off. When was the last time two players were sent off in an inaugural match?

2. Which cricketer broke the Test record for the highest number of innings without scoring a duck.

3. In which year did France win the first Davis Cup?

4. Only one penalty has been missed in a World Cup so far. Who was the culprit and for which country did he play?

5. Two players have had the distinction of scoring goals in four World Cup finals between 1958 and '70. One of them is Pele. Who was the other?

6. Who is the richest woman in sports?

7. Which Japanese won five successive golds in the hammer throw between 1970 and 1986?

8. Which 17-year-old South Korean stunned the world by winning the men's singles table tennis title in the 1986 Seoul Asiad?

9. Which famous cricketer authored the book 'Zed'?

10. Who got the first wicket for India in one-day cricket?

11. Mark Spitz is planning an Olympic comeback in a particular event. Which one?

12. I captained the combined Oxford and Cambridge cricket teams to victory against the touring Indian cricket team in 1974. Who am I?

13. Who was nicknamed the 'White Ant'?

14. Who was Parveen Babis's first hero in films?

15. Who was called the 'Kamikaze Kid'?

ANSWERS

1. In the inaugural match in 1978 in Argentina. Two Hungarians—Torocsi and Nyiasi were given marching orders.
2. Allan Border
3. 1927
4. Antonio Cabrini for Italy.
5. Uwe Seeler (West Germany)
6. Martina Navratilova
7. Shigenobu Murofoshi
8. Yoo Nam-Kyu
9. Zaheer Abbas
10. Eknath Solkar
11. 100 metres butterfly
12. Imran Khan
13. Mario Zagalo
14. Salim Durrani
15. Graeme Wood

THIS QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY AWARIJIT KR. DAS 18/82 DOVER LANE, CALCUTTA-700 029

RATING TEST

Above 15: Wish you were part of our team
Between 10 and 13: Not too bad
Below 10: Sportsworld reading recommended

All answers sent in by the contributor

GUEST COLUMN



LEAVE THE LAWS ALO

No more talk about bigger goals, using fewer players or any other daft concessions- FIFA has thankfully backed down over plans to change the laws of the game

The proposals were provoked by the thousands of letters of complaint and dismay received by FIFA after the World Cup, its lack of goals and its plethora of horribly boring matches which culminated in surely the worst final there has ever been

The American World Cup, presuming it ever takes place there in 1994 loomed on the distant horizon Americans, so surely ran the twisted thinking, must be entertained Entertainment meant goals, goals had been very few, so radical steps should be taken to promote more of them

No one in Zurich seemed to stop to think that the lack of entertainment, the lack of goals, had anything to do with the structure of the tournament, the time it was played, or the excessive number of teams which played in it

In 1974, Brazil's Joao Havelange unseated England's Sir Stanley Rous as president of FIFA Some see this as a black day for football Rous was in fact not only an outstanding president of FIFA and Football Association secretary, but a once international referee, who had actually re-drafted the rules Moreover, he was an idealist I remember some years ago lying on a beach in Rio with the then head of the FIFA referees' committee, Ken Aston, who showed me something Rous had written about the laws

A player who punched off the line a ball that was going into goal, and conceded a penalty kick which was then missed, might feel that he had lost nothing Not at all, said Rous "He had lost his reputation as a sportsman '

Such an attitude might be sneered at nowadays, a relic of the remote past, when a great amateur team such as the old Corinthians—who once used to provide England with all 11 players -would not even defend a penalty kick, but stood aside to let the opposing team kick into the empty goal But in fact Rous was right Excessive cynicism on the field can literally make soccer impossible to play

So FIFA have backed down and saved their face, to a degree, by setting up a working party to discuss possible changes, such as a rule about not passing back to the goalkeeper, and another to stop goalkeepers wasting time Real old chestnuts, these



DAMN NE!

BY BRIAN GLANVILLE

World Cups are not the be all and end all of football, whatever FIFA thinks. And a goalless draw can often be a rich and exciting spectacle. Tinkering with the laws solves nothing and could be disastrous



Moreover, the committee will include none other than Michel Platini, manager and former star of the French national team, who has already spoken out against enlarging the goals When Havelange, who had a lot of debts to pay off to African and Asian countries, increased the number of World Cup entrants from a neat 16 to a bloated and unmanageable 24, he virtually ensured exhaustion, boredom and sterility

Such is the absurd complexity of the competition now that the end of the first phase brings a mathematical nightmare, with third placed teams in their group creeping in by the narrowest margin of goals scored and conceded

Next comes the knockout phase, for teams who have already had to play three games, sometimes in intense, sapping afternoon heat

Nobody would suggest the laws of the game are perfect, how can they be? But what history and wisdom suggest is that the more you try to alter them to promote goal-scoring and attacking play, the more defensive is the inevitable response

Never did this become more clear than when the offside law was changed in 1925 after very perfunctory experiment, necessitating only two opponents, rather than three to put a man in an onside position

The almost immediate consequence was the birth of the third back, stopper centre-half game invented by Arsenal, who were to thrive in ensuing years on massed defence and counter attack The sweeper system was to come

Offside is full of ambiguities, such as when a player is or is not interfering with the play or 'seeking to gain advantage," a fearfully subjective decision for a referee to make But an offside law of some kind is essential

Passing back to the goalkeeper should never be abolished, if only because it produces such an abundance of goals Time after time a defender is punished for not looking to see whether an opponent is lurking in wait before he passes Then, as he carelessly passes back, and gives away a goal You can see such goals all over the world, every week

World Cups are not the be all and end all of football, whatever FIFA thinks And a goalless draw can often be a rich and exciting spectacle Tinkering with the laws solves nothing, and could be disastrous FIFA has repented just in time ●

SYNDICATED BY PA NEWS FEATURES

Roaring

IF Gheorghe Hagi and Popescu were the source of Romania's inspiration during the last World Cup in Italy, at Trivandrum during the ninth Jawaharlal Nehru Gold Cup, the Romanians were inspired by Lon Vladoiu and Sava Christian. The latter not only menacing and rumbustious against four time champions Soviet Union, but even scoring a superlative hattrick, the one and only in the invitational tournament history.

The underdogs' sensational win over the Soviets illustrated their unknown capability...at full strength and at their most vibrant, the Romanians were capable of stretching defending champions Hungary beyond breaking point. And they did exactly that in great style.

Romania deserved the victory. But disappointed the public by not bringing along a couple of their Italia 90 players. Simply because most of them had been lured by the *lire*. However, there was the consolation that the present team had players from the famous multi-sport club Steaua and Dinamo Bucharest. Steaua, which had lost their privilege of the state subsidy and was in a dilemma, had to sell its best players for its maintenance.

The Romanians converged on Kerala's only green turf of the Chandrashekaran Nair stadium without a day's practice. But their adaptibility and acclimatisation in a very short spell showed their maturity and professionalism. The bookies nevertheless were not in a hurry to give Romania the top billing because of their earlier "misadventures".

In their previous three appearances in ths Nehru Cup since 1983, Romania's best was when they qualified for the semifinal only to be ousted by Hungary.

If the earlier Romanian teams disappointed, this time they were not in the mood to do quite that...they came to entertain. It was perhaps to epitomise the spirit of changing times in their country, a spirit of freedom which they had long cherished. In fact, Steaua (who formed the nucleus of the national side) had understandably supported the overthrow of the despotic Ceausescu.

Romania were here to win and that was conspicuously evident when they beat the young Zambian national team comprehensibly. Although the European teams had to go through the irritation of having to play in the afternoon, Romania showed tremendous character in



Romanians

doing things the right way and finished on top of the league.

Romania put up a sterling performance and no one can grudge that. They displayed their skills, subtle manoeuvres and furious pace to dismantle the Hungarian defence. Even in the absence of big stars, the current Romanian team did everything to emulate their seniors. Their diagonal passes, intelligent use of set pieces and the exceptional brilliance of Lon Vladoiu from both the flanks gave the public their money's worth and more.

The underdogs' sensational win over the Soviets illustrated their unknown capability...at full strength and vibrant, the Romanians were capable of stretching defending champions Hungary beyond breaking point



It was sheer entertainment. Like Gabi Marian Raduta's world class goal, when his free kick from the fringe of the box beat the human wall and curved in sharply...you could watch this goal a thousand times. And if Hungary conceded the second goal it was due to the poor reflexes and anticipation of goalkeeper Istvan Brochauser: Ilie Stan's grounder touched a defender and entered the net without the keeper making any effort.

Now Hungary gained momentum. They were dangerous on their counter attacks. They came more into the picture (after the interval) with more and more subtle and incisive soccer. But full back Paniat Silivu stood like a rock with perfect interceptions and firm tackles, and the irony was that Silivu's infringement forced the referee to award a penalty. However Lon Vladoiu gave the finishing touch with a fine body fient and unleased an angled left-footer into the goal. Vladoiu was the darling of the crowd and the undisputable man of the tournament.

And the memory of Romania's 1-3 defeat at Kochi (Cochin) in 1983 had finally been erased.

Subhash Sarcar,
Thiruvananthapuram

NEHRU GOLD CUP

The Law Of Diminishing Returns

When the Nehru Gold Cup with almost a decade of football behind it, was expected to go up in importance and glamour, it now, in fact, faces a serious crisis of survival mainly because of the poor quality of its so-called world-class participants. This is a trend that has got to be reversed now, says Subhash Sarcar from Thiruvananthapuram

THE sole purpose for launching the Jawaharlal Nehru Invitational Gold Cup tournament was to entertain the Indian crowd with top level football and at the same time to provide international exposure to Indian footballers For this the All India Football Federation was ready to spend enormous amounts of foreign exchange to bring foreign competent sides for the tournament

But unfortunately, in her strained pursuit for excellence India faltered again and again For the statistically-minded—believe it or not—our dear India only managed two victories in this decade old tournament the first one was in the inaugural year at Calcutta and the second at Thiruvananthapuram last month And frankly speaking, the question that now rankles and disturbs one and all is Can we afford the luxury of spending crores of rupees each year for a tournament from which India has not benefited at all

The lure of the dollar attracted a number of good foreign teams over the years Indian football watchers and the AIFF officials went gaga about the likes of Smolaieks, Dassayevs



Lon Vladoiu, the player of the tournament, being hotly chased by Hungarian defender Denes Vaczi in the final

and Belanovs whose names always drew the attention of good crowds. At one stage, the Nehru Cup became a great rival to the King's Cup of Malaysia and the President's Cup, Bangladesh. Even though India couldn't fare well, her image got a boost thanks to the glamour of the Nehru Cup.

But all that was only for a brief while. Soon the journey downhill started. As the government began to take a serious note of the futility of the entire exercise, from the Indian point of view, the foreign exchange for holding the tournament became hard to come by And as a result the tournament ceased to be viable any more.

Although the Socialist countries did continue to send teams, reasonably good ones, with a few notable names (perhaps the last big name was Michailichenko who led the Soviet team to victory at Siliguri in 1988. And when the eighth edition was staged at Margao, Goa, the picture became clear that the Nehru Cup was facing a serious crisis and the federation decided to turn the Nehru Cup into a biennial meet.



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Since the time the Lakshmannan-Das Munshi coterie came to power a lot of planning was done for the uplift of the game (from its stagnant point) and the Nehru Cup. Seminars were organised for football luminaries and journalists to debate on Indian football; a foreign coach was appointed and more importantly, the Santosh Trophy was turned into an under-23 tournament...

This time the AIFF had ample time to invite



A prostrated keeper Chacko looks on after being beaten by a Soviet forward in the round robin league

full-fledged national teams for the ninth chapter of the Nehru Cup The federation secretary P P Lakshmannan contacted a number of leading soccer nations and soon received lists of the foreign players likely to participate at Trivandrum The AIFF secretary sat back and relaxed assuming that he had his job done

Meanwhile with Glasnost and Perestroika having taken place in the Soviet Union, the top stars and even its second stringers were more enthusiastic to play for cash in rich European clubs than waste their time here in Kerala So the Russians had sent their kind of national team comprising total non entities A close scrutiny of the list sent earlier revealed that seven original names in the Soviet line up didn't figure in the team

In defence, the Russians gave vague excuses The side was quite weak Even India, despite her shortcomings, had tormented them frequently

China had always been sending good teams to the Nehru Cup barring a couple of times when they disappointed So the crowds here in Kerala still had great expectations about the Chinese but only to be let down tragically when the so-called national' side performed indifferently to finish a mediocre fourth

In the past India had once rejected the Chinese entry because they were unable to send their first team, this time the federation were told that China would send the best possible side though unfortunately it turned out to be just a provincial team, with only two players who have played at the Seoul Asian Games And this is what Lakshmannan had to say on the day of the soccer final at the Chandrashekaran Nair stadium I don't know what to say It's frustrating But I propose to take this up seriously with the Asian Football Confederation

Zambia was yet another side expected to entertain Of course we didn't expect Zambia's best player Kalusha Bwalya because he is with PSV Eindhoven who toured India courtesy Tatas, recently but then no one really foresaw that Zambia would send their junior teenaged national team to the Nehru Cup No matter how good they were it was another breach of trust for the Zambian federation had promised to send the national side

"I'll see to it that action is taken I will write to the national federation asking for some explanation said a sore Lakshmannan, adding, I'm going to send a detailed report to the AFC secretary Vellapan '

But the fact remains that the quality of the Nehru Cup has gone down and the AIFF will have to pull up their socks 'Romania and Hungary weren't bad teams But I assure you that in future we will plug all loopholes This will never be repeated I promise," said the AIFF secretary
Well, we'll keep track of it ●

PHOTOGRAPHS BY NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA



"I always said I would like to change my mind every second week. I like to be in front of people so much, so maybe I'll be on stage. The business that my brother is studying is pretty neat. He is the same way as I am—always changing his mind—maybe it's the psychology."
MONICA SELES, on herself

"All sides involved did a foolish thing. Bush and Hussein should have settled the problem with a duel."
MARADONA in an interview to the Italian newspaper *Gazzetto dello sport* He was incidentally fined 10 million Lire for criticising the Napoli officials

"If my manager tells me to box, I box. If he tells me to fight, I fight He's a remarkable man. I've never met anyone as single-minded as him "
DENNIS ANDRIES WBC light-heavyweight champion dedicates his winning the title to his manager Manny Steward

"Dennis is the most respected fighter in the gym today, and yet when he first came here four years ago, there was a waitlist of my fighters waiting to fight him, to beat him. They did too, but he kept coming back for more, until all of a sudden, he began to figure out the rhythm."
STEWARD, on his prodigy Andries

"I was beginning to feel old, but after the operation on my knees I feel 10 years younger. I am healthier than I have been for years."
MARTINA NAVRATILOVA, after beating Sabatini in her first match after a two-month layoff

"Suddenly it felt like there was no way I could lose this match because I felt that I was much stronger. Then suddenly it just changed and it felt like 'what am I going to do now?', because he didn't miss anything and he put pressure on me."
MATS WILANDER, after his 4th round loss at the Australian Open to Peru s Jaime Yzaga, ranked 86th in the world

"War or no war, we'll have the same timely sports programming for the soldiers in the Gulf. It makes them feel close to home."
Armed forces Radio and Television Services News CHIEF on the role that sport plays in the war-torn Gulf

"I am getting closer and closer to arriving as a singles player, it shows the hard work. What I've done is starting to pay off. John helped a lot, with motivation and had a lot of confidence in me."
PATRICK McENROE after his third round victory over 12th seed Jay Berger

"He hasn't played for eight years, he's not 26 like I am and I have had a tough time getting back after just five months out. He doesn't have much of a chance making the top 10, but the top 100 is more realistic. But now every match is tough...The depth now is much stronger."
Yet another tennis star, MATS WILANDER, feels that Borg does not stand a chance after he comes back



"You could say that I am emerging from the shadows of Yannick (Noah) and Henri (Leconte) but I would like to thank them for helping me get where I am today. They have motivated me and I owe them a lot. People in France do expect more from me now, but they can see I am representing them and that I'm fighting. And even if I lose while fighting they appreciate it. All I can do is try my best."
GUY FORGET, the 26-year-old French player, probably the best singles player in the country now, pays tribute to his mentors.

A New Begin

South Africa decides it is time to allow everyone

FORMER rivals the South African Cricket Union and the SA Cricket Board have agreed to form a single controlling body and one of the new board s first priorities will be to seek membership of the International Cricket Council Following a five hour meeting between the SACU and SACB chaired by Steve Tshwete a national executive member of the ANC a nine point Statement of Intent was released in December

The bodies agreed among other things to form one non racial controlling body under a single constitution to develop and make available opportunities for all those who wish to play cricket at all levels as soon as possible to address the imbalance with regard to separate educational systems sponsorships and facilities to contribute through cricket to the creation of a just society in South Africa to respect the present sports moratorium on cricket tours to respect the individual contracts of overseas professional cricketers and determine the advisability of them playing in South Africa in the future, and to obtain recognition from ICC

No date has yet been set to form the single controlling body, but the two sides will meet again early this year

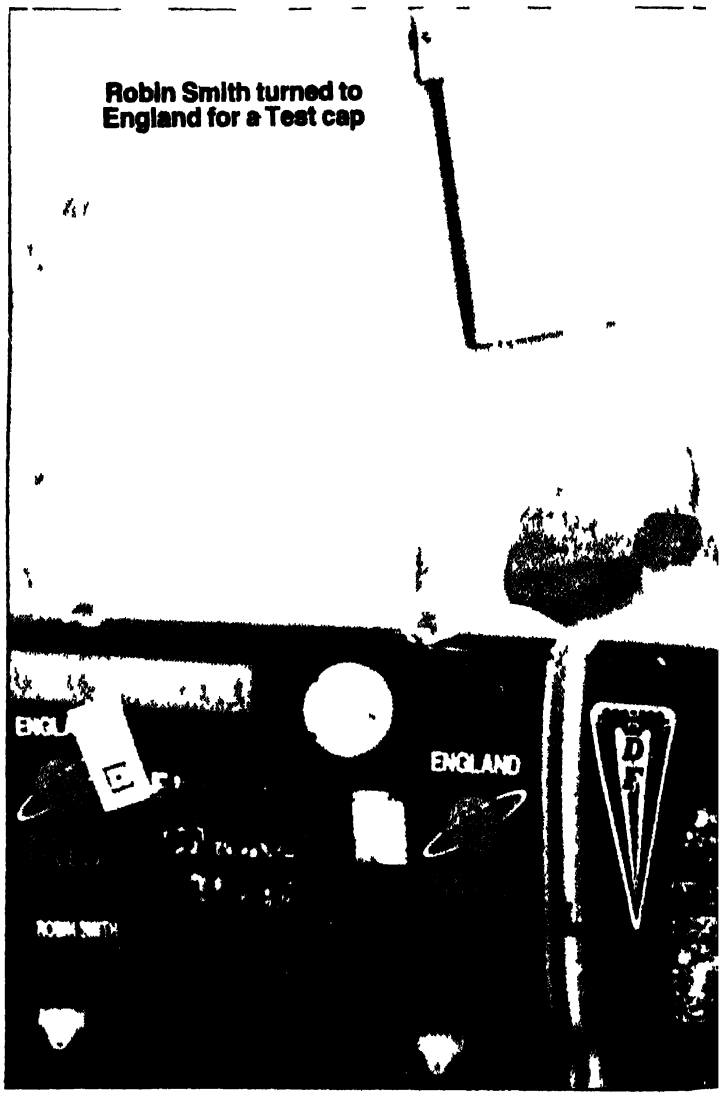
It is also expected that the ICC will be asked to include South Africa on the agenda at their Lord s meeting in July with the possibility of sending a fact-finding mission to the country later in the year

Whatever else you say about South African politicians, their timing, from a cricketing viewpoint anyway, leaves a good deal to be desired Down the years they have played a cynical short-sighted game in denying blacks the chance to develop and their policies finally had the international door slammed in the face of South African cricketers (and most other sportsmen) at the end of the 1960s, today, three decades down the road their changes are belatedly helping inch it open again

For the first time since 1970 there is a genuine belief that the country s cricketers, both black and white, are about to have their Aladdin s Cave opened This optimism, however is tinged with a great sadness, a feeling of dreadful waste among the black sportsmen and frustrated dreams for many white cricketers

For South Africa's isolation if it ends within the next year or two, will have coincided if not exactly with a golden age of Springbok cricket then at least with the careers of many of their world class players

The Springbok cricketers were hustled off the world stage at a time when they were widely considered unofficial world champions By the time they return later this decade not one of the members of the 1970 Springboks—the last officially selected national team—will remain, and a generation of players will have vanished, their high quality cricket played in a vacuum



Robin Smith turned to England for a Test cap

ning?

to play cricket


PATRIC EAGAR

The game internationally has also suffered from South Africa's absence...two decades of the incomparable Graeme Pollock were missed for a start. But the future is now filled with hope for all cricketers. And, if the game is again allowed to blossom, new players will develop and heroes will emerge at Test level to set the example for youngsters, both black and white

The shadow of isolation has obscured, internationally anyway, the brilliant talents of such world-class players as Graeme Pollock, Barry Richards, Mike Procter, Eddie Barlow, Lee Irvine, Vince van der Bijl, Clive Rice, Ray Jennings, Alan Kourie, Garth le Roux, Ken McEwan, Peter Kirsten, Jimmy Cook and Henry Fotheringham.

Rice came closest to bridging the gap He was selected for Ali Bacher's aborted 1971-72 tour of Australia and, when the Springboks finally return, his distinguished playing career will probably just have ended.

Other talented players joined the cricket drain. Kepler Wessels, in Australia, and Allan Lamb, Robin and Chris Smith, in England, chose to seek international recognition abroad, while Zimbabwean Graeme Hick, who is about to qualify for England, would surely have followed the well-worn path to South Africa for his Test cricket,had that route still been open.

South Africa can take heart that this excellent crop of cricketers kept the game in this country vibrant, competitive and rigorous in the dark times. And, because many influential players were travelling the country circuit, the provincial game at least remained in touch with the advances and changes in the game internationally.

But denied the subtleties, the challenging occasions and the heroic deeds which Test cricket provides, and without the players of rare genius—the Pollocks, Richardses and Procters—to sustain it and lift the game above the ordinary, standards are dropping, corrupted and lowered by circumstances. Provincialism, petty and chauvinistic, is becoming more apparent. And, without the obvious heroes for the youngsters to emulate, cricket at grassroot level is suffering.

The game internationally has also suffered from South Africa's absence...two decades of the incomparable Graeme Pollock were missed for a start. But the future is now filled with hope for all cricketers And, if the game is again allowed to blossom, new players will develop and heroes will emerge at Test level to set the example for youngsters, both black and white.


PATRIC EAGAR

Clive Rice: Oh to play Test cricket

John Bishop
Wisden Cricket Monthly

Drop Dra

BY MIKE LUPICA

HERE is the way every one of my eight Wimbledons began: a nurse would put a Western grip on a needle and say, 'OK, fella, drop' em.'

I never really had a great Wimbledon. It was because of hay fever. My last official act on American soil before flying to London was showing up at a New York doctor's office, listening to that dread command from the nurse, and getting the dread cortisone shot in the you-know-what.

Then the doctor would give me enough Sudafed, gift-wrapped, to put the entire British Isles to sleep. If I ever get around to writing my Wimbledon memoirs, the title will be 'I was a Sudafed Junkie.'

And nothing helped Hay fever sufferers, as they say in the commercials, know that nothing helps, especially in England, where the pollen count at Wimbledon time is something that compares favourably with Martina Navratilova's annual earnings. You really only have two options: (1) wheeze and sneeze for the entire fortnight, and do it wide-awake; or (2) keep popping the Sudafed. Be drowsy all the time. Say 'Greaaat' a lot when people ask you how you're feeling. And still wheeze and sneeze.

Remember when John McEnroe played the great tie-breaker in the 1980 final? How it went for 22 minutes and 34 points? I remember it vividly because I sneezed 26 times. It's in my notes, or what I can read of them. Made me such a popular boy in press row.

Hay fever always made me crankier at Wimbledon than the rain did. Wheeze and sneeze. Hack and cough. Blow the nose. Have the eyes constantly look like a Hawaiian sunset. I finally knew hay fever had won three years ago, at my last Wimbledon, when one of those nice officals in Wimbledon tie and a Wimbledon blazer tried to get me to wait for a changeover before taking my seat at Court No. 1. I wheezed, sneezed and said to the nice man, 'If you don't take your hand off my arm,

For some reason the dust at the US Open when it was played on Har-Tru courts bothered Connors more than any place else. By the time Connors got to the 1975 final against Manuel Orantes which he lost, he had been absolutely Rosewalled by the dust, and was left dead in it



Connors gives the cameraman a closer look



Your wers, Fella

Remember when John McEnroe played the great tie-breaker in the 1980 final? How it went for 22 minutes and 34 points? I remember it because I sneezed 26 times. It's in my notes, or what I can read of them. Made me such a popular boy in press row



I'll kill you.'

I was starting to tell the nice man I would wait for him in the parking lot when Bud Collins shoved another Sudafed down my throat.

What I'm saying is that allergies are not tennis's friend. Even if you don't play.

One of the reasons why Ken Rosewall always had a problem at Wimbledon was because he had such bad hay fever. Now maybe Rosewall was just not destined to win at The Big W, but it never helped much that as soon as he showed up at the All England Club, his allergy would close his eyes and ears, and turn his nose into Niagara Falls.

I'm told that before Brian Gottfried would take off for Europe each spring, a nurse would say 'Drop' em' to him too.

Ivan Lendl skipped Wimbledon in 1982, explaining that he was allergic to grass. A lot of people thought Lendl might just be allergic to *tennis* on grass—or allergic to McEnroe or Jimmy Connors—when he showed up playing golf in a pro-am at Westchester (New York) Country Club not long after that. But well-known tennis trainer Bill Norris says that Lendl's hay fever is real.

'I remember one time when Lendl was playing Andres Gomez at the Italian Open,' Norris said. 'The pollen at Foro Italico is always terrible, and when you mix it with the dust from the clay courts, you've got a disaster if you have allergies. So Lendl is running for this forehand and





The author sneezed 26 times as McEnroe played

just as he strikes the ball, he lets out the loudest sneeze I've ever heard. I mean, *loud* Gomez reacted like he'd been shot and immediately hit the ball into the net.'

Jimmy Connors, according to Norris, always had a rough time at West Side Tennis Club in Forest Hills, when the US Open was still played on Har-Tru courts there For some reason, the dust bothered him there more than any place else. By the time Connors got to the 1975 final against Manuel Orantes, which he lost, he had been absolutely Rosewalled by that dust, and was left dead in it

In 1964, when the Open was still known as the National Championship at Forest Hills, and was played on grass, Carole Graebner had such a bad reaction to the medication she was taking for hay fever that she had to play the final against Maria Bueno with her arms swathed in cotton bandages, because her skin had become so sensitive to the sun. Graebner lost.

There is also a flip side to these stories. Steve Denton is a player who can credit his allergies for his tennis career. Denton grew up in a little town in south-west Texas called Driscoll (pop. 638). In Driscoll, there were only two sports, as the Texas saying goes:football and spring football. Denton, a big guy, couldn't play football basically because he [illegible] rolling around in the [illegible]t. A doctor [illegible]. Denton's [illegible]iving him to [illegible]o play, since Driscoll had only one asphalt court, one that time had forgotten. Denton never missed football much after that.

And there are other allergies besides hay fever. Eliot Teltscher once broke out in a rash because of the polyester in the tennis clothes he was wearing at the time. Now some might say that the world might be a better place if *everyone* was allergic to polyester, but the itching made Teltscher a little testy.

See, the thing is tennis is a sport that requires such extraordinary concentration and constant movement—plus the ability to *see* the damn ball—that an allergy can just drop you in your tracks if it's serious enough. Of course, there are allergies for other athletes in other sports. When Jim Ryun went to the 1972 Olympic trials in Eugene, Oregon- known to track people as the Hay Fever Capital of the United States—he was so beset by allergies that he was afraid to leave his hotel. And Ryun didn't have to carry a racket when he ran the 1,500 metres Or face McEnroe's serve. Or look up at the ball on his own second serve with blue eyes cryin' in the rain, as Willie Nelson says.

My favourite allergy story is the one about the old Aussie, Jack Crawford. In 1933 Crawford had won the Australian Open, the French and Wimbledon He was on his way to what would have been the first Grand Slam, even if people might not have called it that at the time. Crawford also had asthma. The asthma was bothering him so much by the time he got to Forest Hills that he was sipping brandy on changeovers to fight it off. He made it to the final at Forest Hills and then either Fred Perry got him, or the brandy. No Crawford Slam.

Still, I feel very strongly that brandy had to be much more civilised than Sudafed, or having a nurse say, 'Drop those drawers.'

Wimbledon might not have been easier for me, or for Rosewall, if we'd known about Crawford's, ah, medication. But we probably would have had a hell of a lot more fun. ●

'The pollen at Foro Italico is always terrible, and when you mix it with the dust from clay courts, you've got a disaster, if you've got allergies. So Lendl is running for this forehand and just as the strikes the ball, he lets out the loudest sneeze I've ever heard. I mean, loud. Gomez, reactd like he'd been shot and immediately hit the ball into the net'—ATP tra' Bill Norris

FITNESS



Shouldering Arms



HOW'RE we doing with that waist? Still sucking it in everytime you pass that pretty girl in the office? And what about you, ladies? Still nervous about wearing that fancy outfit you bust up all your salary over? Well, we've gone over the gutbusters before in this column—and will do so again since the battle of the bulge is never really over—but it's a slightly different approach we're taking this time

We're cheating actually. In our bid to sport slim waists, it's the shoulders we're working on. After all, the contrast between shoulder and waist is very effective in your overall look

If the push-ups we've been detailing so far have been too easy for you, you're obviously of an above-average level of fitness. But here comes the harder stuff. It's time for you tough dudes to show us what you're really made of. Do the three push-ups we're going into this week with ease and you're really cruising!

The first one is the Weighted Push-up.



ONE-ARM PUSH-UP

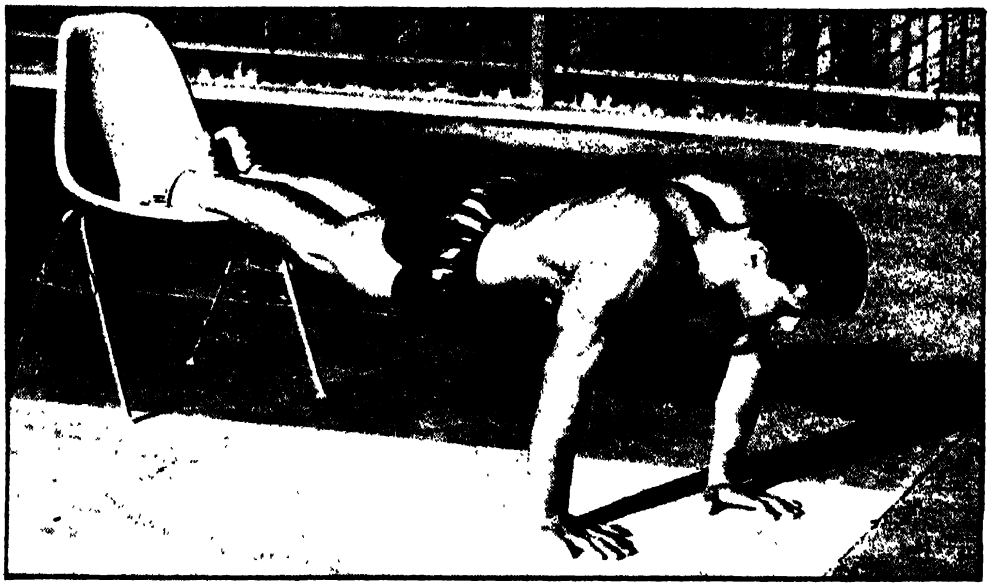


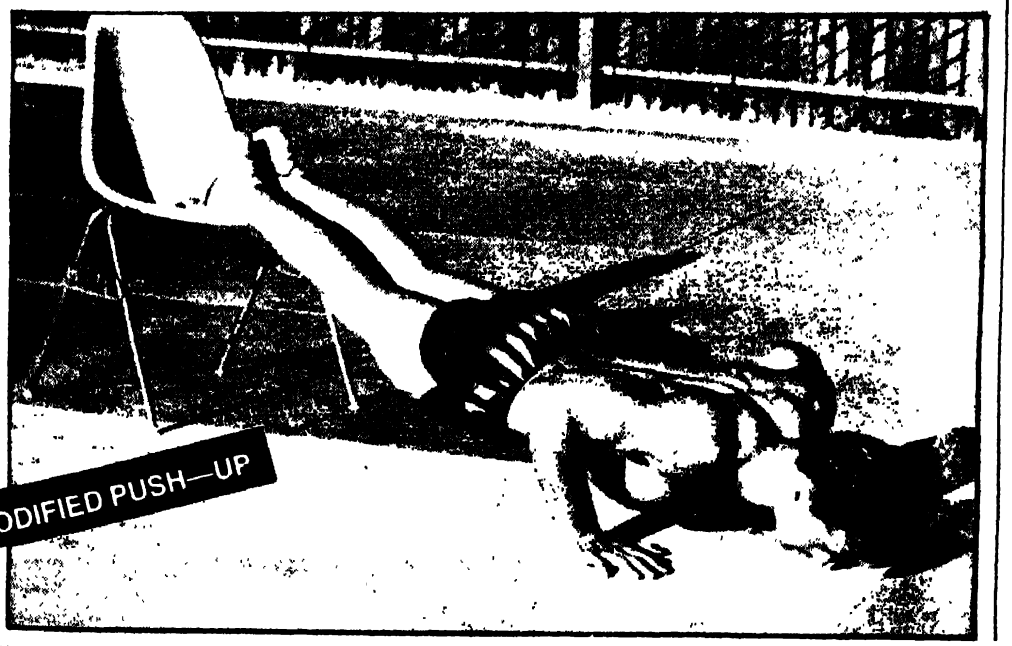
WEIGHTED PUSH-UP

Since Marine Push-ups will have got to be child's play by now—has it?—how about trying the same thing, but with a heavy bag loaded onto your upper back. Just dump a few heavy books into a bag and slip your arms through the loops as shown. Then, get into the same position as the earlier push-ups and get your nose to the ground.

How's that? Still easy? Okay, then try this. Get into position for a push-up, one hand toward the centre of your chest...and remove the other hand. Getting your balance properly, grip the wrist of the grounded hand firmly with the other hand to steady it and go for gold. Take it easy to start off with. Just bend the arm gradually, lowering your upper body to the floor. Then, when you're a few inches off the floor, get back to the starting position.

Just one thing, though. Don't jump into this one immediately. It's tougher than most people think, and if you aren't careful, could leave you with a sore—if not bloody—nose. Get onto one hand for starters, then bend the elbow a little just to get the feel of the amount of strength it will require. Once you're confident, go all the way. And if you're feeling up to it, try it with the other hand too.





MODIFIED PUSH—UP

How're the arms feeling after that scorcher? A little sore, huh . And you still want more? Okay, since you're the glutton for punishment, here's the last one for this week. Modified Push-ups are again very similar to the Marine variety, except that the feet are propped up on a chair. This automatically places much more strain on the arms and shoulders when you lower the upper body. Shoot for 20 reps.

Anyone feeling man enough to try these on one hand? We don't recommend it though! ●

CAPITAL NOTES

AFTER a gap of many years Haryana have qualified for the Ranji knock out And no one is happier than Sarkar Talwar former off-spinner, now coach of the team "We have worked very hard In the last few years the team has been in transition after Goel and Ashok Malhotra left Now we have rebuilt the team "

Haryana made it, mainly, by stunning Delhi in their league encounter Said Vinay Lamba, Delhi manager, "They really played well This was the first time in about 4 years that we conceded the first innings lead to anyone in the league "

Though the teams were quite mismatched on paper this game turned out to be quite absorbing Delhi, sitting pretty at one stage, collapsed to Kapil and Chetan Haryana, in reply, floundered but scraped past Delhi through Chetan and Vijay Yadav In the second innings Delhi were



tottering at 60 odd for 4 but Kirti Azad rescued them, preventing an outright defeat

The key factor in the game was the irrepressible Kapil Dev Gushed Bhaskar Pillai, Delhi captain You should see the difference *Paaji* makes to Haryana He bowled his heart out and also motivated others to do their best Haryana looked like a changed team "

That brings us to the related point of the presence of established Test stars raising the level of domestic cricket Obviously, when the best are playing, competition is stiffer and performances put in proper perspective That s why the BCCI legislated that all players, to be eligible for India, must play at least two Ranji games every season The rule of course is accompanied by several clauses including escape

Should Sandip Patil get most of the credit for his team's changed fortunes? Yes, say most people, for he has made a substantial difference. He brought along with him the West Zone attitude of playing hard.....

MOTIVATED PE

By AMRIT MATHUR

outlets, but the intention clearly is that the best should not shun domestic cricket.

Judged now, through hindsight, Madhya Pradesh's move 3 years ago to appoint Sandip Patil captain appears masterly. MP, then, was a mediocre side. Had some good players who produced inspired performances but on the whole, as the phrase goes, it performed indifferently: Played loose cricket, didn't qualify for the knock-out.

Sandip Patil, though, celebrated for his effortless batting, was no tiger. Had limited captaincy experience at the first class level. Had already retired from the game. Had even done a stint as Bombay's manager.

However, he quickly got down to the business of welding together potentially talented cricketers into a coordinated team. Soon performances picked up and team result improved remarkably. In the last 2 seasons MP qualified. This time they topped the table, leaving Uttar Pradesh 10 points behind!

Should Patil get most of the credit for his team's changed fortunes? Yes, say most people, for he has made a substantial difference He brought along with him the West Zone attitude of playing hard, of never giving up, of "fighting". He motivated and inspired others. Plus, at crucial times, made valuable runs for the team

Observed Hyder Ali, former Railway captain who has seen Central Zone cricket for 25 seasons. "Sandip has changed the approach of the team. That is his greatest contribution. Earlier MP was weak, they would not fight. Now they play as a team."

This change was clearly reflected in MP's performance this season They beat Railways and Vidharbha outright and came close to winning their other 2 games as well. UP, usual zone leaders, were displaced but did well for themselves. despite conceding the first innings lead in 3 of their 4 games, they still qualified!

EARLIER, whenever there was a controvery mess/debate in the Delhi dressing room, chances were Kirti Azad would be squarely in the middle of all the action It was really uncanny the way controversy trailed him—on field, off field Whether it was for doing wrong, or not doing right, Kirti always aroused very strong opinions. And in the end, when you totalled the plus and minus, the likely outcome was usually negative.

All that is now in the past. Like the Hindi film hero who reforms at the first opportunity Kirti is now on good behaviour, a much-mellowed senior player, at peace with everyone. People say a man cools down with marriage and advancing age, Kirti is married and has aged so maybe these things are responsible. Or maybe, he just got up one morning a changed man. Or maybe he hasn't changed at all, only others see him differently.

In the beginning of this season, the selectors stripped him of the Delhi captaincy. Kirti was deeply stung for he d been vice-captain for about 8 years and captain for only about 3 matches. People expected him to blow a fuse, scream from top of the RP Mehra block, hassle the life out of successor Bhaskar Pillai. But Kirti did nothing. Kept statesman-like silence. Coolly got on with the job of playing cricket. And making runs.



Earlier, whenever there was a controversy, chances were that Kirti Azad would be squarely in the middle of all the action. All that now is in the past. Like the Hindi film hero who reforms at the first opportunity, Kirti is now on good behaviour, a much-mellowed senior player.....

RFORMANCES

BAPTISM BY FIRE!

This year's inaugural National Triathlon Championships proved to be more than just tough for most of the competitors. It proved that it was anything but a fun sport

JUHU BEACH and the Triathlon have become almost synonymous It is here that participants have to meet and will continue to do so year after year or each time a Triathlon is held It is from here that the first leg of the Triathlon must start so early in the morning Swimming into the Arabian Sea At around 6 am Bombay is pitch dark coming into the car park of the Hotel Palm Grove one is greeted by the faint dying sounds of the crickets who are packing up for the night and the dark silhouettes of the competitors who are already there One can see them in the dark tinkering with their cycles checking to see if they ve brought the right supplies or getting into their swim suits

The uneasy calm that one is greeted with,coupled with the quiet sense of confidence and determination displayed by each of the participants is something that cannot be fathomed possibly in any other medium of sport

Last year the Triathlon in Bombay was an exhibition sport Held to gauge the response such sport would generate, the response was phenomenal This years competition was going to decide the national champion of India There was a significant decrease in the number of competitors a sign, which revealed not the lack of interest, but that the competition had discarded its flippant fun image for something far more serious

This meant the distances for each of the three legs were increased, which easily explains why the masses stayed away Which is fair enough When you realise that you have to pull weight with the others for distances like a 1 5 kilometre swim in the Arabian Sea 40 kilometres of rigorous cycling and another 10 km of plodding down the streets of Bombay with



The victorious team from BEG, Pune. Second from right is winner Subhash Nirmale. Beside him is his coach Sahebrao Darekar flanked by his other wards

the hot sun dancing on your head—that too on a lazy Sunday—its easy to believe this whole exercise is insane.

Well, loony for some, gutsy for others!

The competitors had already started trooping towards the beach. Race director and general secretary of the Triathlon Federation, Anita Sood was barking orders into a mike asking them to line up according to their respective age groups. Here it would be prudent to add that, had it not been for the untiring efforts of Ms Sood, the Triathlon may not have come to India. Tirelessly, patiently and almost lovingly, Anita, along with a couple of other sports enthusiasts like Tom Alter, Stevan Fernandes, Anand Sarang, Sandeep Divgikar and Ayaz Memon, goaded along with the





Ben Oudekamphuis (left) ran not for winning but for peace

Last year, the Triathlon in Bombay was an exhibition sport. Held to gauge the response such a sport would generate, the response was phenomenal. This year's competition was going to decide the national champion of India. There was a significant decrease in the number of competitors, a sign which revealed not the lack of interest but that the competition had discarded its flippant fun image for something more serious.

support of a host of other wellwishers, had shaped a dream and helped share it with others.

The starters gun had gone off and the competitors had started scrambling into the sea. It was a mad rush with people, pushing, shoving, tripping, gagging on sea water, yet never, short on enthusiasm.

The swim was long and slow. From a distance it looked as if each one was going through his strokes in slow motion. The participants appeared to be taking this leg of the event rather slowly. The real test of the Triathlon lay later...in the gruelling 40 km cycling leg and the 10 km run.

After about 20 odd minutes the first combatants were already coming in. The crowd was by now in a frenzy, cheering lustily. Subash Nirmale of the Bombay Engineering Group (BEG),Pune staggered out of the sea and started loping towards his cycle his each stride bringing a fresh shout from the crowd. "Go, go. Go for it," shouted Tom Alter. "C'mon, damn it. Don't give up," shrilled Anita Sood in that, by now, famous voice of her's.

Subash didn't. He did falter at one stage though and looked back. One of the volunteers sensing his discomfiture, ran towards him with a fresh packet of water. He eyed it like a greedy hyena who hasn't had a meal for weeks, grabbed it and poured the water on his head. On the way to his cycle, he snatched two more packets of water from volunteers and judging by the way he poured it down his face it seemed as



One of the few stragglers who came out of the swimming leg scrambles towards his cycle

though he was going to eat the packet, too.

One leg completed, two legs to go. Just as one saw Subash disappearing around the corner, Rajendra Gadekar, also from BEG, emerged from the waves. Things were getting hotter and the weather was adding to the already breathless atmosphere. Nirmale was five minutes ahead of Gadekar when he started changing out of his trunks and into his shorts. He tried to speed things up a bit and was ready for action in no time, "Go, go go," his coach yelled A brief backward glance when he rounded the corner of Hotel Palm Grove and he was gone.

Subash Nirmale was by now lost in the by-lanes of Bombay, pedalling furiously on his cycle. Gadekar, who incidentally finished top of the honours list in last year's Triathlon and represented India in the Asian Triathlon in Beijing last year was close behind.

Metre by metre, Gadekar had cut the lead built up by Nirmale. The five minute lead was reduced to three, but to no avail. Gadekar never had the satisfaction of equalling his rival, yet was sustained by that faint glimmer of hope. Nirmale was pedalling strongly but Gadekar's forte was the 10 km run. The boy had stored up the last reserves of his already flagging strength for that. It was the only ace he could play on an otherwise empty deck.

Nirmale reached the last leg still three munutes ahead of Gadekar. He docked his cycle and quickly took off on his run. Gadekar soon came in after him. Hopes of a stiff contest were raised.

...And dashed. Nirmale's thin figure was soon spotted, coming down the slopes of Pali Hill. The boy was hunched over and labouring for breath. His eyes filmed with sweat straining to



An exhausted junior after finishing his stipulated distance

The 40 km cycling leg can be really gruelling after a 1.5 km swim in the sea



focus The crowd realised the effort that went into Nirmale's race For them a new national champion was soon to cross the finish line And he did, in a timing of 2 hours and 15 minutes It was a fantastic demonstration of all round skills and dogged endurance Gadekar followed 9 minutes later, his game resistance covered by the shadow of defeat

As he crossed the finish line, Nirmale was waiting for him and Gadekar fell into his arms An emotional show of camaraderie that gave this inhuman race a streak of wonderful humanity Later on this year, Nirmale will represent India at the World Triathlon Championships in Australia

One by one the participants came in and their finish was



cheered by the audience Suddenly the chants of a by now vociferous crowd grew louder The first competitor in the women s se ion was ending her race at the finish line Ace swimmer Punita Gupta coming from Bangalore was labouring her way down the slopes coming into the Otter's Club The crowd always gallant and overly sporting, honoured her by clapping as one as she inched her way towards the finish line She had done better than most of her male counterparts, clocking an impresive 3 hours 34 minutes

The crowd did not cheer Ben Oudekamphuis because he was the lone foreigner in the Triathlon. The crowd cheered him because of what he ran for. Ben ran for peace and on the back of his T-shirt was inscribed the stark message: 'War doesn't say anything about who is right...Only who is left.'

Soon after Punita finished her race another sight crowned a day full of emotional events Frail tired and gasping for breath, 75-year-old Vaskar 'Mama from Raigarh finished what was perhaps the greatest race of his life He did not race for a prize His contribution? He added to the undying spirit of sporting competition And then came Ben Oudekamphuis from America He lumbered along, all 6 '6' of him, his hands raised and fingers displaying the peace sign as he finished his race The crowd did not cheer him because he was the lone foreigner in the Triathlon The crowd cheered him because of what he ran for

Ben ran for peace and on the back of his T shirt was inscribed a stark message "War doesn t say anything about who is right Only who is left '

And truly so In war torn times like this, what one needs is a healthy sense of competition All differences made up and sorted out in the sporting arena And for this one cannot think of any other suitable medium of sport than the triathlon ●

PICTURES GAUTAM PATOLE

KARATE

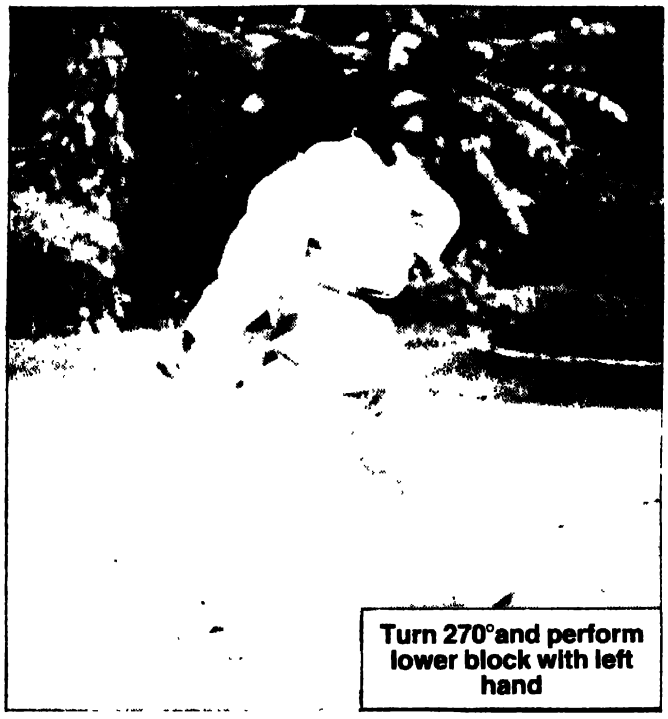
THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND

CONTINUING with the kata, complete the turn with the left foot going into *zenkutsu-dachi* and the left hand performing a lower block. Then take one step forward with the right leg and throw a right middle punch. Sweeping the right leg out behind you, turn 180°, going into a right *zenkutsu-dachi* and performing a right lower block. Step forward with the left leg, throwing a left middle punch.

By Shivaji Ganguly
Kyokushinkaikan karate

PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA

The Kyokushinkaikan Karate Headquarters, Calcutta will be holding a one-week Instructors' Camp during the third-fourth week of February. Interested persons can write to Shivaji Ganguly at 136 Harish Mukherjee Road, Calcutta 700 025



Turn 270°and perform lower block with left hand



Step forward with right and throw right middle punch

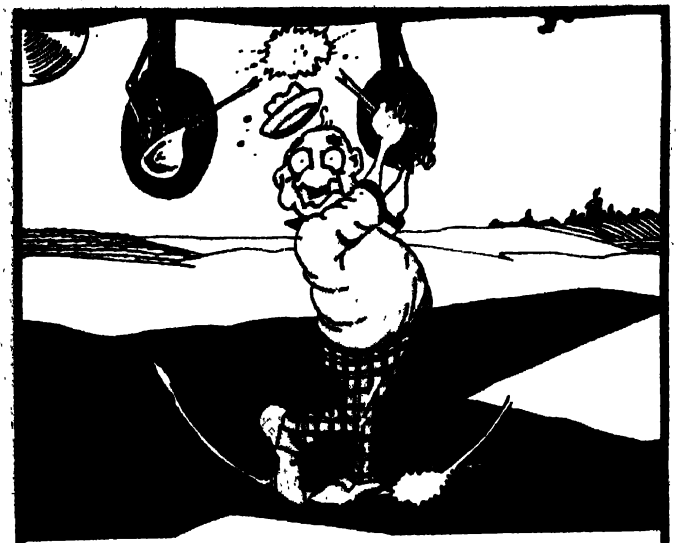


Turn 180°with right leg and perform right lower block

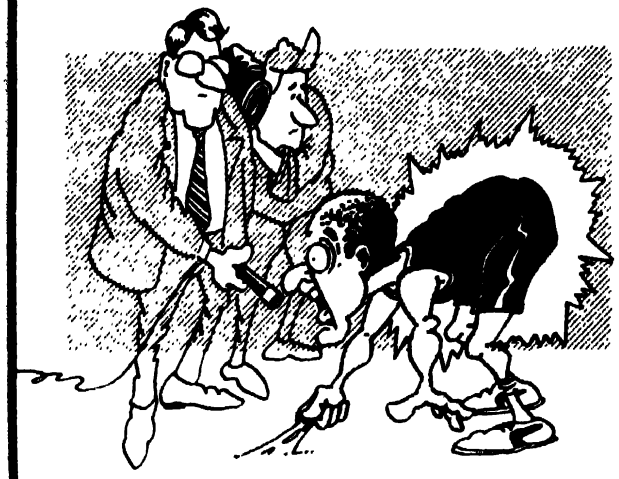


Step forward with left and throw left middle punch

SPORTS HALL OF SHAME — BY NASH & ZULO



NO LINKS IN THE WORLD HAVE MORE CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHTS THAN THE **LAURENS GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB** — WHICH ALSO DOUBLES AS AN AIRPORT FOR THE SMALL IOWA TOWN. THE LOCAL AIRPORT'S SINGLE GRASS RUNWAY CUTS RIGHT THROUGH SEVEN OF THE NINE HOLES ON THE SMALL COURSE. HARDCORE DUFFERS ARE ADVISED TO LOOK RIGHT, LEFT AND *UP* BEFORE TEEING OFF BECAUSE THE PLANES HAVE THE RIGHT-OF-WAY.



IN AN NBA EXHIBITION GAME IN 1988 MILWAUKEE BUCKS PLAYER **SIDNEY MONCRIEF** PULLED A GROIN MUSCLE — DURING A TELEVISION INTERVIEW! MONCRIEF HAD BENT OVER TO PICK UP A PIECE OF GUM FROM THE GYM FLOOR WHEN HE SUFFERED THE FREAK INJURY THAT KEPT HIM ON THE BENCH FOR THE NEXT TWO GAMES.

THE FUNNY SIDE OF GOLF

RULE 4-1: FORM AND MAKE OF CLUBS:
ALL PARTS OF THE CLUB SHALL BE FIXED SO THAT THE CLUB IS ONE UNIT

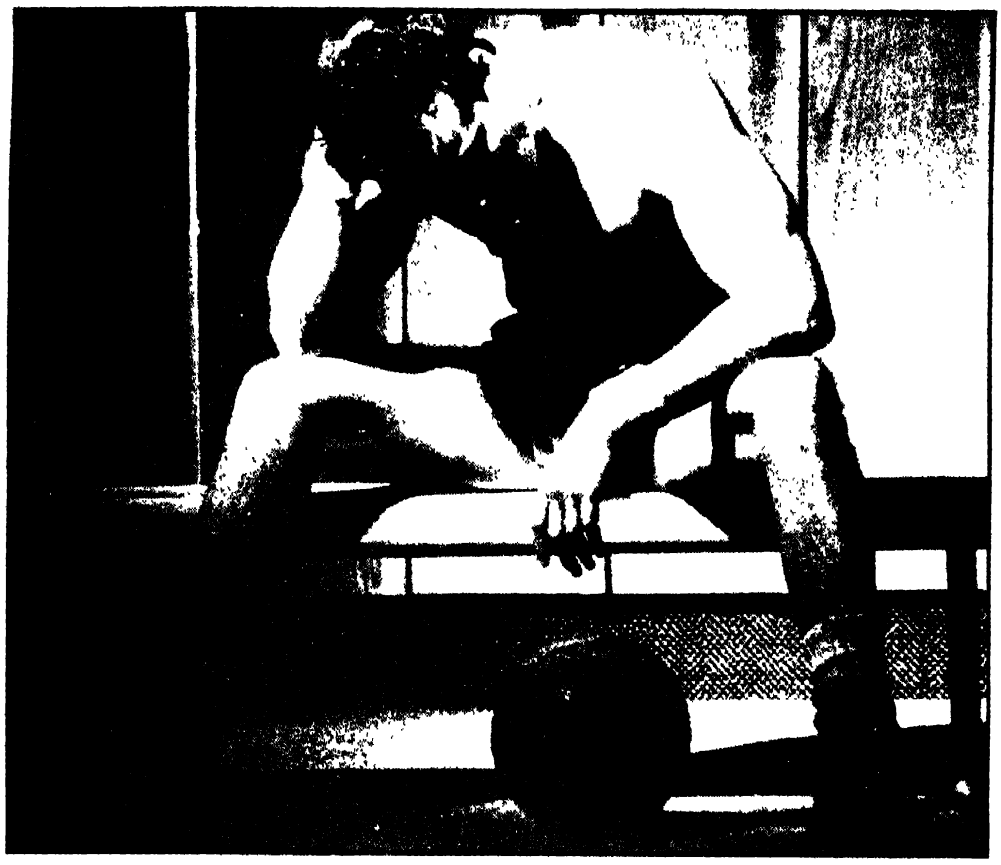


DEFINITIONS: COURSE:
THE "COURSE" IS THE WHOLE AREA WITHIN WHICH PLAY IS PERMITTED



You exercise to keep fit and stay healthy, right? Now what if you are asked the question, "Are you exercising yourself sick?" 'Hey, you've got to be kidding,' will probably be your answer Well we aren't actually, because too much of exercise does take its toll on the body's immune system and makes one more susceptible to illness, specially the contagious colds and flu.

The situation sounds familiar, doesn't it? You've trained non-stop for three hours and the next day you get out of bed with a



THE HEALTH COLUMN

running nose and a headache! That is because the body's immunity system becomes a bit rusty after a really hard workout. Studies in New Mexico have shown that bicyclists who rode hard for two hours, decreased their immunity by 24%. This decrease significantly weakened their defences and left them temporarily vulnerable to infections.

We are talking here of 'too much' exercise and that again is a relative term Five sets of bench presses with 110 kgs is normal for some, but there are people who are new to the game. For them, that is the ultimate level they dream of achieving one day.

Even experts are not sure as to how much of exercise is too much. But there is no difference of opinion over the fact that if the fat level in the body falls below a certain limit (when exercising you are actually burning fat) the body becomes susceptible specially to upper respiratory infections

Body fat is one of the main agents that keeps the immune system in good condition. People with a lower amount of fat fall sick more frequently than people with more fat content in them. In men if the body fat dips below 8 to 9% they become prone to infection

Here's how it happens. When you exercise you are creating stress because you are urging your body to go all out. Once you are under stress the body's immune system begins to falter. The body has it's own army, known as the 'natural killer cells' They are a squad of cells that track down and destroy infected cells. However, two hours of really strenuous exercise, that is really demanding sees the hormone cortisol go up and this increase subsequently reduces the activity of the natural killer cells. Severe exercise when you push yourself to the limit is a form of stress and like other forms of stress, it has some detrimental effects on the body.

Now the question that

DON'T

comes to your mind must be whether you need to cut back on your exercise progamme, when you've taken months to reach the level you are at. No. But now that you know some of the detrimental effects of over-exercising you will want to take some precautions. Here they are:

Hide from germs: After strenous exercise there seems to be a window of vulnerability during which there is a greater risk of getting infected. Researchers are not sure how long it lasts (the guesses are 1-12 hours) Certain viruses thrive best on body temperatures slightly below the 98.6 degree norm. Warm clothes should be worn so that the temperature does not drop below that.

Dress in layers: Layer one, next to your skin should be one that absorbs the perspiration. Layer two, should act as an insulator to trap warm air. And if you are jogging, a wind cheater to protect you from the wind is a must. You can always peel off a layer if it gets too warm. In the gym, avoid sharing water bottles, they are proven germ breeders. Also keep your hands off your eyes and nose, the easiest routes for germs to enter the system.



When you are exercising outdoors see to it that you are wearing clothes that are warm and comfortable

Munch: People with low levels of body fat are more susceptible to infectons It's recommended that you stay several percentage points above the minimum. Hey wait, this does not give you the licence to raid the the refridgerator. We need not elaborate on the effects of cholesterol, do we? Whole grains, fruits and vegetables are energy storehouses for the exercisers

After you go hard, take it easy: Don't let today's accomplishments become tomorrow's obligation. Never train hard on successive days Instead recover with a day of rest and/or easy exercise.

Relax: If you are worrying about your exercise it's inviting double stress, because exercise itself involves stress. So, if you feel run down after an exercise session don't fret, relax. All you can do is protect yourself the best you can. Your immune system will do the rest.

OVERDO IT!

MADRAS

Inter-Railway athletics

WITH the cream of Indian athletes coming from the Railways, the Inter Railway Athletics Championship always attracts more than just passing interest National marks have been lowered during this meet and competition is generally of a very high order

The 56th edition of the Inter Railway Championship conducted by the Southern Railway at Madras from Jan 21 to 23 lived up to expectations About 500 athletes, including around 150 women from 21 units, took part in the three-day meet

Athletes from Southern Railway, as usual, dominated the show claiming the overall team title easily The men's team garnered 168 points to win the Saudi Arabia Gold Cup for the fifth year in succession while the women s team had a tally of 130 50 points to win the Kripa Narain Cup for the 19th year in a row

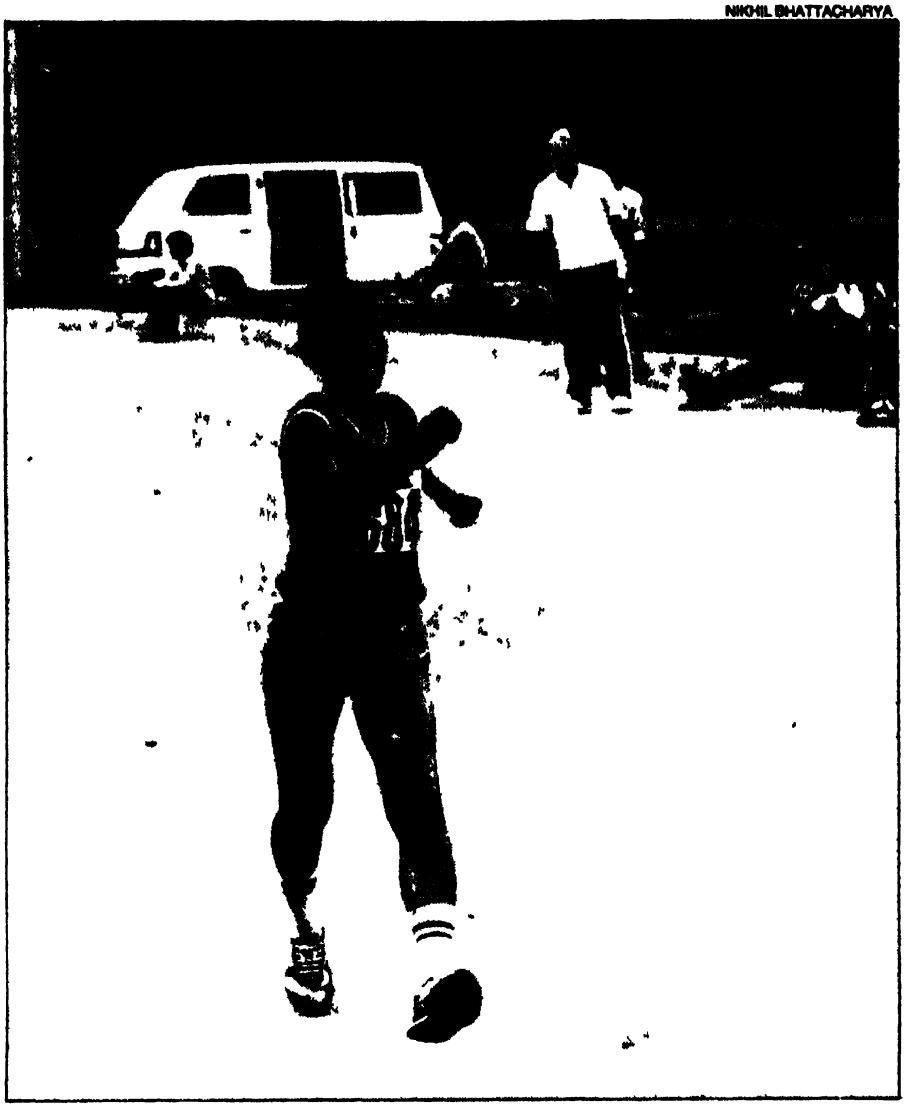
Southern Railway's overall tally was thus 298 50 points enough to give them the Kaul Gold Cup for the overall title– for the fifth year in succession

The first athlete to put up a noteworthy performance was Eastern Railway's Kavita Garari On the opening day, she set a new meet record of 55 minutes, 08 3 seconds in winning the 10 km walk This set aside her own mark of 55 minutes 25 seconds clocked last year

The other notable happening on the first day was the performance of Satkaran Singh of Northern Railway in the men s shot put With a throw of 17 27 metres, the promising young putter pushed hot favourite S D Eashan to second place Eashan could throw the shot only 16 42 metres

Ram Nivas who won the 5000 metres on the opening day beating the more fancied K M Suresh to second place completed

NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA



Kavita Garari: a new meet record in the 10km walk in the Inter-Railway athletics championships

a double on the second day when he won the 1500 metres The Western Railway star brushed aside the challenge of international Bahadur Prasad to score a comfortable win

There was a fascinating duel between internatinals Molly Chacko and Rosa Kutty, both from Southern Railway, in the women's 1500 metres Rosa had a marginal lead but was unable to sustain the pace and Molly who showed excellent judgement in accelerating at the right time, sped past to finish first Rosa ultimately finished third, the second place going to Aparna Boyer

Sprint queen P T Usha taking part in her first event since the Beijing Asian Games last year participated only in the 4 × 100 metre relay in which she anchored Southern Railway to an easy victory Southern also took the 4 × 100 metre relay for men

On the final day, Nalluswami Annavi of Southern dominated the show The international high jumper first cleared the bar at 2 09 metres He then set the bar at 2 14 metres and cleared that too, breaking his own meet mark of 2 13 metres set in 1989 Encouraged, Annavi then went for the national mark of 2 16 metres, but failed His effort however earned him the Marshall Tito medal for outstanding performance of the meet

The meet ended with Southern Railway completing a sweep of the relay events by winning the

4 ×400 for both men and women. Their overwhelming superiority can be gauged by the fact that, in the men's team event, Northern (99 points) finished second—69 points behind Southern. And in the women's team event, Eastern (67.50) finished second—63 points behind Southern.

It was only the second time that the prestigious meet was being held outside New Delhi and Southern Railway spared no efforts in making the conduct of it a success, including a colourful opening ceremony.

Partab Ramchand



RANCHI

Shield Football

THE Patna Athletic Association football team clinched the prestigious Governor Shield football championship held here recently.

In the tough-contested final played at the Shatabdi Stadium, Patna defeated Morhabadi Football club (Ranchi) by 1-0 The solitary goal for Patna was scored by Atif in the 19th minute of the second half of play.

Earlier, the first semi-final was decided through the tie-breaker when Patna Athletic Association beat Electricity Board (Ranchi) by 4-2. In the second semi-final Morhabadi Football club defeated MECON by a solitary goal by Amit in the 15th minute of the second half of the match.

The Patna Athletic Association team which won the General Shield championship.

The winners of the 'team of four' event receiving the 'Nideshak Cup' from Mr. G. C. Jain, (Executive Director, SAIL)

District Bridge

DR. B. D. CHATTARAJ and D. N. Vashishta lifted the "Firoj Qutar Shield", when they won the master's pair event of the 5th Ranchi District open bridge tournament, organised by SAIL units sports club, Ranchi.



Dr B D Chattaraj and D N Vashishta both from SAIL scored 275 points while M S Mukhopadhyay and Dr SS K Paul from the same team got second place with 274 points Sunil Sinha and T P Dutta of Milani club came third with 271 points

In the team of four event, the team of P K Chaudhury, Ajay Kumar (Union club), Sharada Singh and Asim Das (SAIL) clinched the "Nideshak cup" leaving behind the team of Dr T K Prabhar (SAIL), S C Shrivastav (H E C), K C Tripathi and D S Sharma (MECON) at second place

Altogether 80 players from different sports clubs took part in this tournament. The Chief Guest Mr G C Jain, executive director, SAIL gave away the prizes

Anil Kumar Singh

CALCUTTA

Spastics Sports

THE Annual Sports of the Centre for Special Education, Spastics Society of Eastern India was held on Sunday 27th January 1991 Miss V Lakhumalani, Project Officer, British Council was the Chief Guest

A hundred and forty-five students of the Centre participated in the sports which started with a march past by the mobile students A number of events followed in quick succession with all the students eagerly participating

One of the important events of the day was an excellent Bratachari display The efforts of the children highlighted the training and education that they receive in their special school

Miss Lakhumallani gave away the prizes for the sports events and various acadmic awards

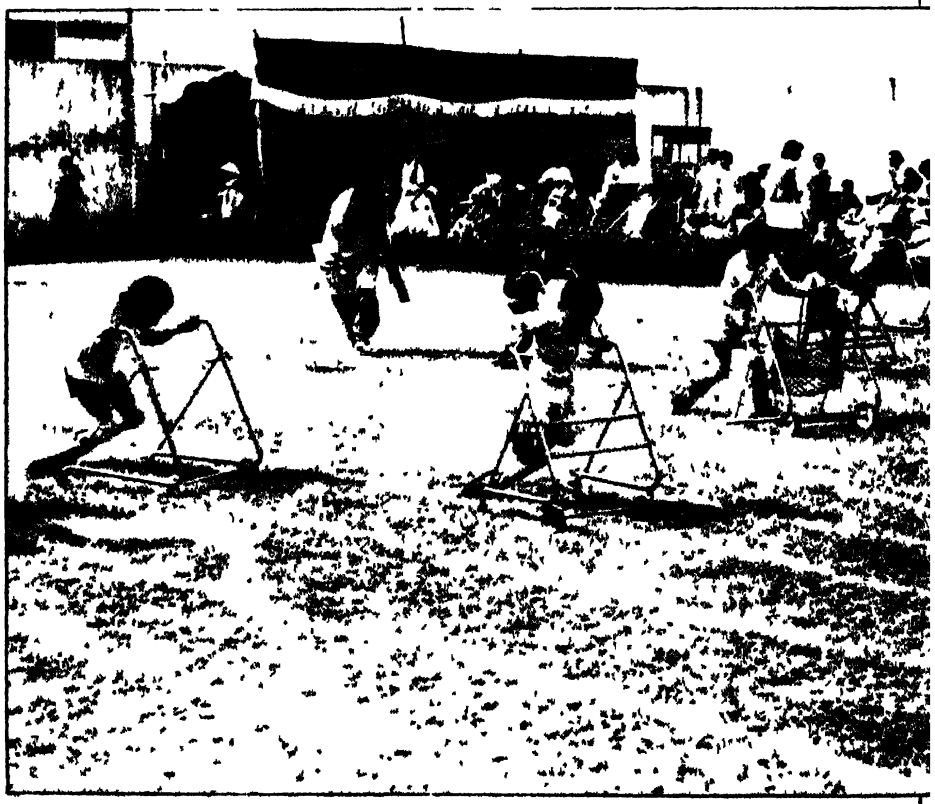
Children taking part in the Annual Sports of the Spastics Society of Eastern India



CALCUTTA

Football coaching camp

A sub-junior coaching camp was inaugurated by Mr. Subhas Chakravorty, West Bengal Sports Minister. The camp was organised by the Southern Sports Association, under the sponsorship of Bharat Petroleum Corporation. The main coaches in the camp are Compton Dutta, Shyamal Banerjee and Nemai Goswami



RANJI TROPHY-ROUNDUP

NORTH ZONE

Haryana Basks In Starshine

AFTER a gap of four seasons Haryana qalified for the knock-out stage of the Ranji Trophy championship from North Zone along with former champions, and current runner up Delhi

The cancellation of the Pakistan tour of India early this year perhaps, helped Haryana the most as the state enjoyed the services of the best-known player Kapil Dev in the league phase of the championhip which spread over two months, thanks to the sudden change of itinerary by the Board of Contol for Cricket in India

Haryana ended the league phase with two innings victories, two draws and one abandoned match for a total of 87 points from five matches

Speedster Chetan Sharma led the team in the fixtures against Himachal and J & K Haryana defeated Himachal by an innings and 112 runs as Amarjeet Kaypee and Rajesh Puri slammed centuries Kaypee hit 168, while Puri scored 110 Nitin Goel was unfortunate to miss his 'ton by a single run while Deepak Sharma contributed 85 in Haryana's 551 for six declared

Haryana were certain to win the next match against J & K at Jammu where miscreants dug up the pitch forcing the umpires to award the match to Haryana with sixteen points

Strangely the match between Punjab and Haryana was played early in the season and the drawn result only eased the pressure on Delhi which normally had to play either of the two teams for completing their engagements This time Delhi played J & K, while Haryana took on Services Only Punjab were left to battle it out with Delhi for their last league match

Kapil Dev, fresh from a hattrick in the Asia Cup, took over the reins of captaincy from Chetan Sharma in the key match against Delhi...The former Indian skipper took three for 48, while Chetan collected five for 104...



Chetan Sharma. 1000 runs and 100 wickets

Kapil Dev, fresh from a hat-trick in the Asia Cup, took over the reins of captaincy from Chetan Sharma in the key match against Delhi The former India captain took three for 48 while Chetan Sharma collected five for 104 as Delhi were all out for 316

The best match was against Services in which Kapil and Chetan Sharma captured nine and seven wickets, respectively, to finish their league with a resounding victory

Delhi had scored innings victories over Services and Himachal, drew with Haryana, defeated Punjab and struggled against J & K with a second string

Ajay Sharma, discarded by the national selectors was bent upon improving his chances for the forthcoming season He made 216 against Services, 163 not out against Himachal, missed the match against Haryana due to a 'stiff neck and slammed 130 against Punjab He was away for the last match against J & K representing North Zone in the Duleep Trophy

Jammu and Kashmir were drubbed by Punjab by an innings and 47 runs The match at Dharamshala saw Gursharan Singh scoring 115 in Punjab's 468 J & K were skittled out for 166 and 255 in each innings

K.P. VENKAT, New Delhi

The Ultimate Player!

IT is true that Ivan Lendl has not won Wimbledon yet. It is also irrefutable that he is no longer the No. 1 player in the world. Despite all this he should, by and large, be a fulfilled man. He is a person who has nurtured his talent all along. Complacency is alien to him and he has always given the tennis world the best of his capabilities.

True champions can never really fade from memory. It is because they take both victory and defeat in their stride. Men like Lendl will always continue to remain in high esteem of both critics and connoisseurs.

V. SAMPATH,
Madras.

Will We Make It?

IT was heartening to see the Indians trying their best against the formidable team from Holland. It was a good opportunity to see Eric Gerets, Koeman and of course the legendary Bobby Robson. Though the scoreline was not in our favour we certainly learnt a lot from these experienced footballers. In the third match the Indians definitely played better, but then again the visitors were too good for us. The PSV Eindhoven team played some good professional soccer and impressed the crowds. We Indians can certainly take a lesson or two from the visitors on the improved techniques of the game. Credit should also go to Tata Steel and its chairman,Russi Mody for the yeoman work they have done in promoting the game in India.

RAJIB MISRA,
Sambalpur.

Congrats!

CONGRATS to David Gower on the completion of his 8000 runs in cricket. It was a marvelous performance by the lefthanded batsman who has always impressed with his stylish knocks. He will be remembered in cricket history for his stylish batting, his cool approach and of course his superb cover drives.

RABINDRA PANIGRAHI,
DIBAKAR SAHOO,
HARISCHANDRA JANI,
Orissa.



PATRICEAGAR

A Slip

THIS has reference to the article written by Suprakash Ghoshal on the Asia Cup (Issue 9-15, Jan '90). He had written that Azhar's partnership with Tendulkar and Manjrekar was the saving grace for the Indians. But the fact is that Tendulkar did not bat with the Indian captain. Azhar came in only after Tendulkar was out Even the score card made it quite clear that they did not bat together.

In the Reader's Quiz the answer for question 4 was given as 1806. I am not sure as to whether there was a Test match played in the year 1806. Though the answers were sent by the contributor the magazine cannot escape responsibility for printing the same. Will someone please do something?

B. NATARAJAN,
Madras.

Good Gesture

THE article on cricket written by the British Prime Minister, John Major, after witnessing the one-dayers and the Tests made good reading. No doubt the morale of youngsters like Tendulkar, Fraser, and Atherton will receive a boost as a result of Mr. Major's interest.

But in our country the politicians do not give a damn about sports. Leave alone writing, they are never at any matches unless they have some ulterior motive. Our politicians can certainly learn a lesson or two from the British premier. If our statesmen show some interest in the sporting affairs of our country, then we can surely benefit from them.

ARTA MISHRA,
Cuttack.

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1 With what sport is the 'Firestone Tournament of Champions' associated?
2. What does 'pick' mean in basketball?
3 Peter Shilton's 100th international match was, in a way, an ignominy, for himself and England as in that match there was a hat-trick against England Who got the hat-trick and for whom?
4 Where is the world governing body of gymnastics based?
5 In the historic Oval Test in 1979 in which Gavaskar scored a brilliant 221, India started their second innings needing — runs in 500 minutes to win How many?
6 Who captained England in 27 Tests without ever being asked to lead a tour of Australia?

ANSWERS

1 Bowling (This is the richest tournament of professional bowling)
2 Stationing oneself so that the defensive man guarding the ball handler will be unable to stay with him, having run into the picker
3 Marco Van Basten for Holland in an European Cup group match at Dusseldorf on June 15, 1988
4 Switzerland
5 438 runs
6 Colin Cowdrey

BRIDGE

One of the many upsets (due largely to the very short matches necessitated by the huge entry unlike the limited field in the other years of the 4-year cycle of world championships) in the Rosenblum Teams in the last world championships at Geneva was the knockout blow given to the star-studded American team of Martel (Chip Martel, Lew Stansby, Bob Hamman, Bobby Wolff, Chuck Burger, Jimmy Cayne) by their fellow countrymen in the pre-quarterfinal round The Martel team was leading by 19 imps with three boards to go With one to go, they were still 8 up This was that fateful board -

NORTH(dummy)
♠ –
♡ Q 10 9 6 5
♢ Q 7 4
♣ Q 9 8 4 2

WEST
♠ K J 7 6
♡ J
♢ A J 10
♣ A K J 7 6

EAST
♠ 8 5 4 2
♡ K 8 2
♢ 9 8 2
♣ 10 5 3

SOUTH
♠ A Q 10 9 3
♡ A 7 4 3
♢ K 6 5 3
♣ –

In the Open Room, multiple world champion Wolff, South opened one heart, West doubled, North raised to four hearts, passed round to West, who doubled again At the other table, Kerri Shuman, playing the same contract from the North seat had an easier time and made her contract. Against Wolff, West led the club king. Wolff ruffed, played a diamond to the queen, ruffed a club, cashed spade ace discarding a diamond from dummy, led spade queen, covered and ruffed, took a club ruff, and led the spade ten to ruff out the jack Another club ruff with the ace as East sluffed his last spade, left -

NORTH(dummy)
♠ –
♡ Q 10 9
♢ 7
♣ Q

WEST
♠ 7
♡ J
♢ A J
♣ A

EAST
♠ –
♡ K 8 2
♢ 9 8
♣

SOUTH
♠ 9 3
♡ —
♢ K 6 5
♣ —

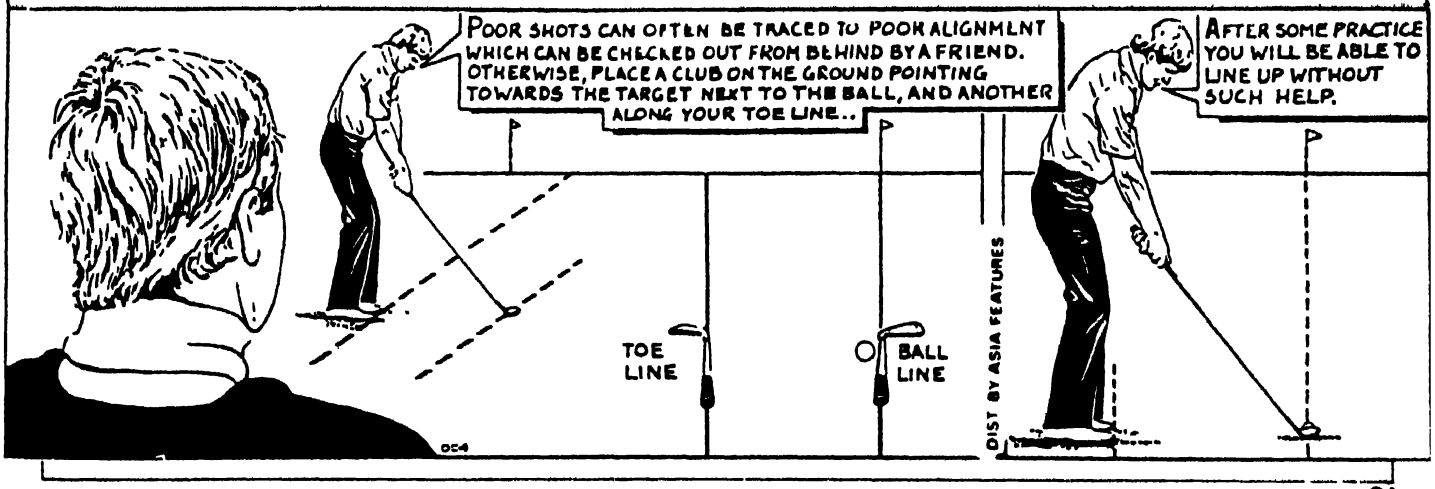
Now when the spade nine was played, throwing dummy's last diamond, East ruffed and returned a diamond for dummy to ruff At trick ten, dummy exited with the club queen to West's ace Now in the 2-card ending, with the trump queen-ten in dummy, West led the diamond ace and the moment of truth had arrived Did East have the king or the jack? Wolff misguessed, ruffing with the queen to lose 12 imps, the match and the championship

Santanu Ghose

THE FALDO FORMULA

FROM TEE TO GREEN

Poor Alignment



INDIAN SATELLITE TENNIS

The facts: First leg of Satellite championships in Bombay: Vladimir Gabrichidze beats Leander Paes, 6-4,6-3. in final

Second leg in Cochin: Paes loses to Alois Buest in the first round.

Third leg in Bombay: Paes loses to Gabrichidze, 6-0, 6-4 in final.

The Master's championship in Indore: Paes defeats Gabrichidze in semi-final, 6-7 (8-10), 6-1, 6-3.

Wins the final against Massimo Valeri 0-6, 7-5, 6-2.

Hence, in his first Satellite series on the pro circuit , Paes emerges successful. A winner.

'My mind is strong now'. The voice is confident, the black eyes are widened in emphasis, the hands are expressive. Leander Paes sits in his blue *Lotto* track suit in an air conditioned office and conveys a look of sheer energy. The restlessness in his movements, the constant shifting about while sitting, the eyes wandering all over the room and the distinctive voice, part kid, part adult and full of nervous excitement.

He leads an exciting life now. He is easily recognised when he travels in his home city of Calcutta. He has quite a few female admirers. And his talk is peppered with: 'That was when I was in Melbourne' and 'I had just returned from Beijing then'.'I bought this in Hongkong' and 'I promise to take you guys out for lunch when I return from Bangkok.' Surely such talk will kindle the envy of any other seventeen-year-old. Paes now gives an impression of inexorable confidence. Youth and intense energy mixed with success can create a strong momentum. He expects to go places.

That was what he said at the beginning of this article when asked about his future prospects: 'My mind is strong now. I feel good, It was a very good learning experience, playing in this Satellite tournament. It was the first time that I was playing in a pro tournament. I knew most of the players but I had not seen them play. But I had trained hard and after this championship, I have noticed that my ground strokes have improved , my angles are sharper and I have a good temperament.'

But it was his duels with Vladimir Gabrichidze (now ranked 216 on the ATP computer) that fascinated him. 'This guy was amazing. I have never seen a player, except of course in the top league, emit so much of confidence and assurance. When he was leading, he was so full of assurance that it was amazing. And he hit the ball so hard I had some difficulty in tackling it.'

Paes is a serve and volley player and he has some difficulty in playing on clay. His natural game was curbed to a large extent. But he still managed to reach the final of the first leg at Bombay where Gabrichidze knocked him out. About Cochin, in the second leg, he said, 'I don't want to make excuses, but I had a torn stomach muscle. It is a recurring problem and it occurs because of my peculiar service action. So I lost to Alois Buest in the first round.' He had one week to recover. He put ice packs on his stomach all the time, did gentle yoga exercises and was quite fit after a week. Again, he met Gabrichidze in the third leg at Bombay and lost 0-6, 4-6.

By now, his mind was ticking. It was time to use a new strategy. There was no thought of despair. Or of feeling a loss of confidence because he had lost to Gabrichidze twice. No, the thought was: 'This guy could be beaten, but there has to be a different strategy. One cannot use the serve and volley game against him.'

In Indore, in the semi-finals of the Masters championships, Paes met Gabrichidze again. But this time he changed his strategy. Rather than serve and attack the net immediately. he stayed back and slugged it out from the baseline.

Endless rallies were played this way and a surprised Gabrichidze did not know what hit him. By the time he had recovered from the shock, Paes had waltzed away with the match. The score: 6-7, (8-10)
(a string broke during this tie-break and Paes had to use a new, unfamiliar racket), 6-1, 6-3.

Later, in the final , he was also two points away from defeat in the second set but recovered to beat Massimo Valeri, 0-6, 7-5, 6-2.

'I had the killer-instinct' he said, 'I discovered that I had an enormous determination to win. And by refusing to give up, by keeping on challenging myself, I was able to win both these vital matches. It was thrilling.'

A digression here: Why on earth didn't he take part in the junior tournament of the recently concluded Australian Open? His reply: 'I am moving off to the senior league. There was no point. I needed to play in these Satellite championships in order to get ATP points.But more than that, the final of the Masters championships coincided with the Australian Open and hence I could not take part.'

Leander Paes emerges confident and raring to go after his successful debut in the pro-circuit

My Mind Is Strong

Leander Paes has shown an un-Indian like behaviour when he fought back and defeated Gabrichidze and later, Massimo Valeri. It was strange because we Indians cave in so easily. But perhaps there is hope that this new generation of tennis players, growing up in independent and prosperous India, have a different attitude to life. Paes seems to exemplify that. He seems headed for greater success. But then suddenly there is a sobering thought: Once upon a time Ramesh Krishnan was also junior Wimbledon champion but where is he now?

Shevlin Sebastian



DULEEP TROPHY FINAL

Tall Scores And

THE 1990-91 Duleep Trophy final played recently at Keenan Stadium Jamshedpur once again turned out to be the same old story of tall scores on a placid track which enabled the majority of the batsmen to take advantage of the stupefying lack of thrust in the bowling in our domestic circle.

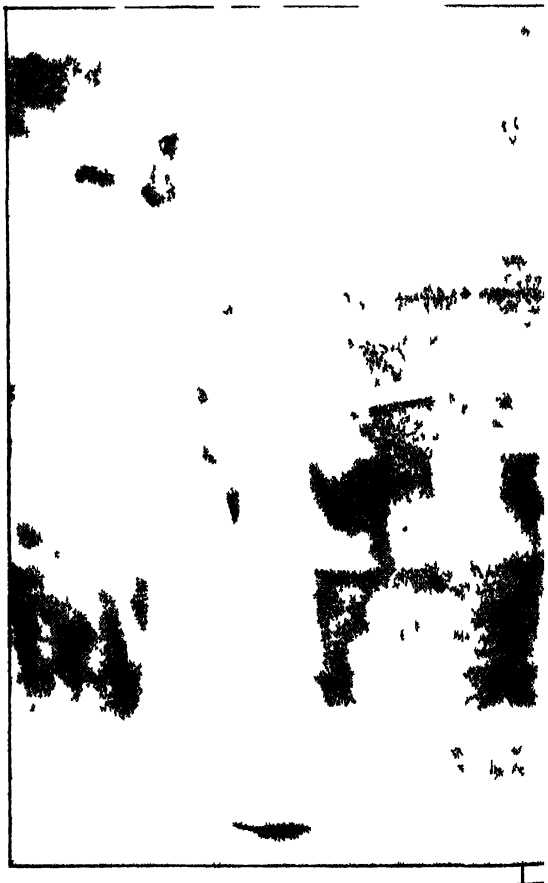
Leading a side with at least four players on the sick list, the North Zone skipper Kapil Dev must have been tempted to put West Zone in to bat on a pitch that had some grass left on it. But as it turned out the pitch was basically slow and the West Zone seamers made an elaborate joke of utilising the conditions. Interestingly, maybe in his youthful enthusiasm, the one bowler who made the batsmen play on the opening day was Sachin Tendulkar, while experienced Raju Kulkarni, Rashid Patel and Chetan Mankad proved absolutely innocuous.

Though Ajay Jadeja (54) provided some sparkle to an opening stand of 95 runs with Raman Lamba, it was the latter who, in company with his Delhi teammate Manoj Prabhakar, grabbed the opportunity to emphasize his prowess in domestic high scoring battles...

Though Ajay Jadeja provided some sparkle to an opening stand of 95 runs with Raman Lamba, it was the latter who, in company with his Delhi teammate Manoj Prabhakar, grabbed the opportunity to emphasize his prowess in the domestic high scoring battles...

Lamba (180) who batted with perseverance and Prabhakar (113) who was more enterprising put up a 252 run second wicket stand which was the cornerstone of North Zone's huge total of 7/9 off 223 overs. A splendid innings of 96 by K P Bhaskar was the other remarkable feature of the North Zone innings while on





SANTOSH GHOSH

Frayed Tempers

the third day Kapil with his brilliant batting lifted the game from mundane dimensions to sublime heights

West Zone who not only have a tradition of strong batting line ups and also have some expertise in chasing mammoth totals took their campaign philosophically Ravi Shastri (152) and Sanjay Manjrekar (105 brilliantly bore the brunt of North Zone's new ball attack and put on 203 runs for the second wicket In terms of aesthetic delight while Shastri's knock was erratic Manjrekar's innings was compact and flawless After Shastri's dismissal it was Dilip Vengsarkar (114) who played a number of attractive strokes

The North West rivalry seemed to be hotting up on the fourth day with West replying well to North's challenge The North Zone bowlers were warned against running on to the wicket and intimidatory bowling (particularly Prabhakar) Close decisions by the umpires led one of the umpires being openly abused by the West Zone skipper and later a verbal duel between Vengsarkar and Kapil

West looked well set to cross North's total when they reached 352 for two wickets but within a span of 57 runs lost Manjrekar Sachin Tendulkar and Vinod Kambli to be 409 for five and their dream of beating North after five consecutive defeats looked almost shattered

Looks like a fencing bout, but actually Rashid Patel and Raman Lamba duelling with a bat and a stump in the middle of the pitch in Keenan Stadium Jamshedpur

Ultimately they did make 561 but it was not enough to meet North's challenge

However an unsavoury incident marred the excitement of the final day when two players openly brawled on the field to the shocking discomfiture of thousands of spectators The atmosphere at once became tense and play had to be abandoned with North 59 for no loss in their second innings

The incident was the outcome of growing tension between the two teams right from the





SANTOSH GHOSH



SANTOSH GHOSH

Kapil Dev in full flow



UTPAL SORKAR

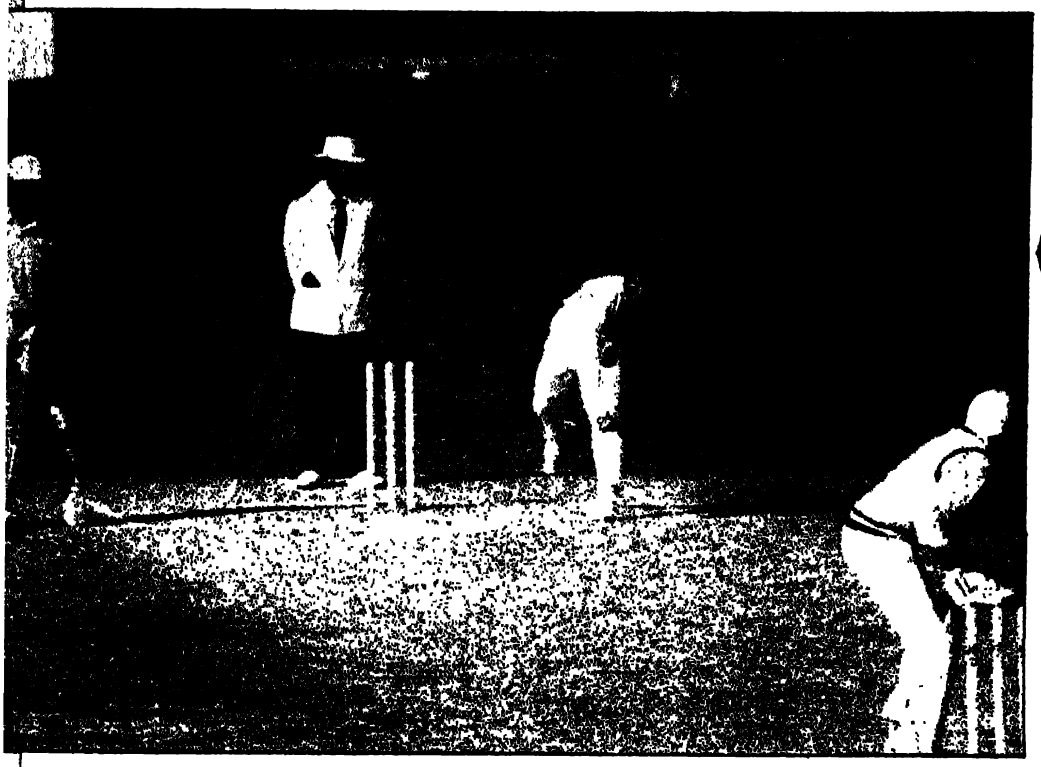
A policeman who got injured when brickbatting began in the stands following the Patel-Lamba fracas

first day. On the final day, all of a sudden, the West Zone medium pacer Rashid Patel, who had been called for a no-ball, picked up a stump and went charging at Lamba who had reportedly made some displeasing remarks and was also seen intimidating Patel with his bat.

In fact, a controversy about the bowlers from both sides overstepping onto the wicket had been causing some bitterness among the players from day one. On the final day, when the ugly incident erupted, reports had it that Patel deliberately ran on to the wicket, prompting Lamba to warn him. Patel lost his temper, pulled up a stump, and beat Lamba repeatedly, while Lamba attempted to retaliate.

Whatever the provocation might have been, the players concerned should have complained to the umpires instead of taking the law into their own hands. Most people, including the Board president Madhav Rao Scindia, were of the opinion that stern action should be taken against the erring players.

A Correspondent, Jamshedpur



This young fellow's turning out to be quite an allrounder! Sachin Tendulkar turns his arm over for West Zone...he eventually had just one wicket to show from his 37 overs in North's first innings

PHOTOGRAPHS SANTOSH GHOSH





Manoj Prabhakar made merry in the first innings with a confident 143

Raman Lamba, who holds the record for the highest score in Duleep Trophy competition (320), helped himself to another 180 runs in the first innings



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

COME

Shiny Wilson (nee
will she survive

WORKOUTS in solitude and at unearthly hours of the morning are always hard They get even tougher when you re grossly over weight and hoping to make a comeback And even more so when you ve left your four month old daughter alone in bed

Yet Shiny Wilson (nee Abraham) is ready to endure all this Having married national swimmer Wilson Cherian at the peak of her athletic career Shiny then sat out a year of competitive athletics to have their child Now with baby Elizabeth safely delivered this talented athlete is embarking on the long, hard road to making a comeback

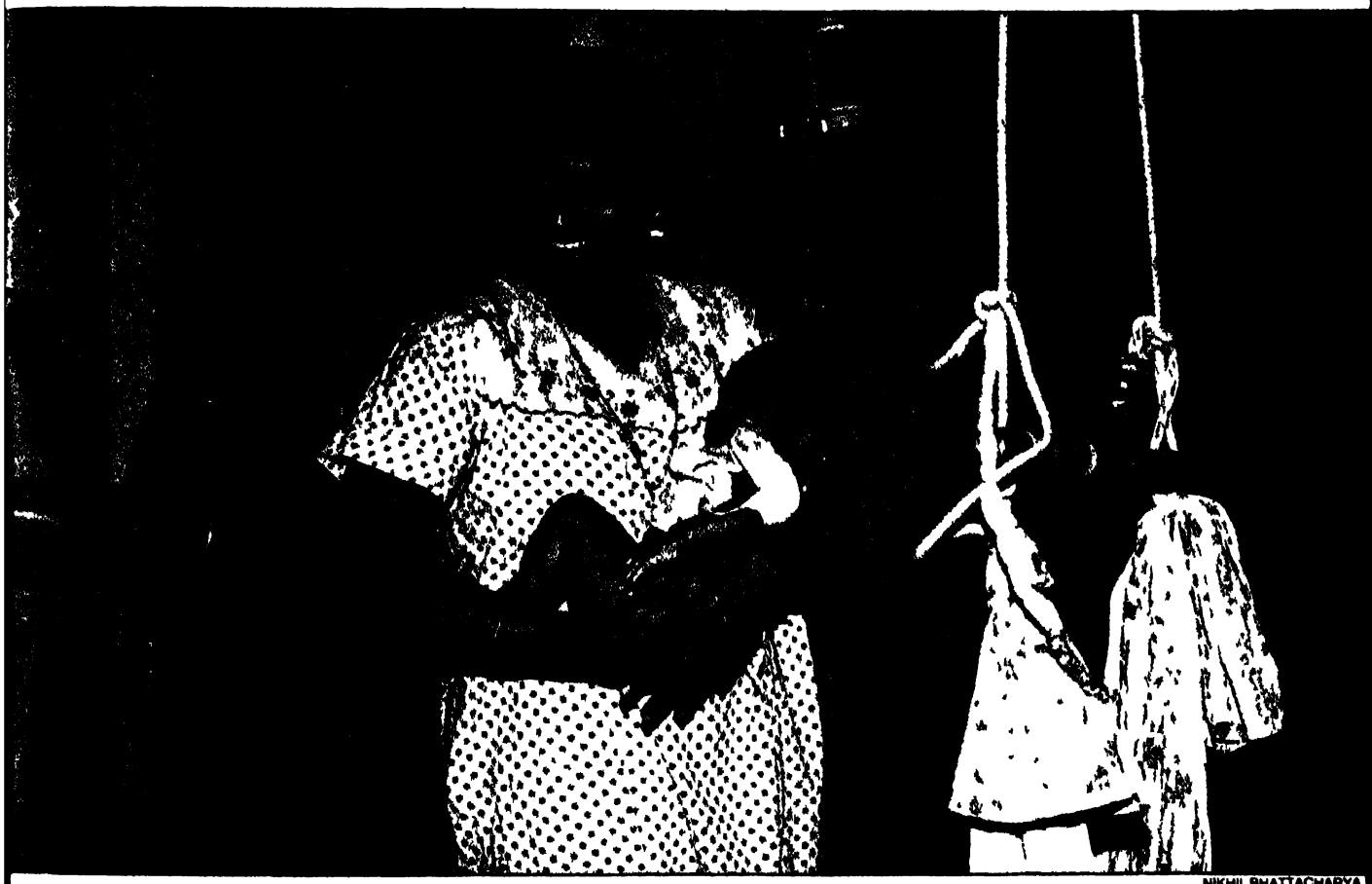
It was to meet this person that I headed for the University Ground one sleepy morning in Trivandrum Here to cover the Nehru Cup football, one heard that Shiny was training every morning

Can India look forward to great sporting feats from this little girl? She certainly has the right genes

BY SUBHASH SARCAR, TRIVANDRUM

BACK, MAMA

Abraham) is all set to make a comeback after having her baby. But he odds and make it back to her former glory in athletics?



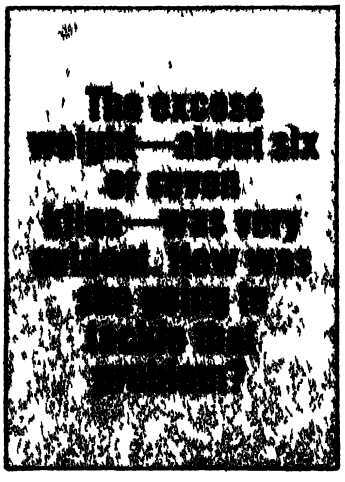
NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

How is Shiny going to find time for her child...as well as her athletics?

Naturally, one was very keen on finding out what she felt about her chances

As luck would have it, Shiny didn't turn up that morning But a young woman athlete was kind enough to tell me where she was staying She also added "if you want to meet Shiny, you better hurry as she will be leaving for Delhi in a few hours I made a hurried exit to Pandit Colony Her residence

A short taxi ride later I was there, bumping into heaps of packed luggage as I tried to catch someone's eye Finally one person noticed this stranger and looked queryingly in my direction "Shiny" I said, since the local dialect was Greek to me But it was enough A smile flashed at once, and a hand help up asking me to wait



And then, there she was herself Harried and ruffled—time was running out and things still had to be packed—but ever gracious "Sorry I can't offer you a chair, sir, since they've all been packed for Madras", she said, smiling Madras? "Yes, that's where Wilson is He's been transferred there", she replied And then went

on to explain how Wilson had asked for this transfer since, having completed the NIS diploma course with the highest marks, he was keen on assisting the Railways swimming coach Mukundan.

Inviting me into the bungalow, Shiny went on "I intend to rent out my house...and the money which I'll receive for my feats in the 1989 Asian Track and Field Meet will help me do some expansion work in my house" Noticing me look around at the relatively accomodative features, she hurriedly added "I really need it".

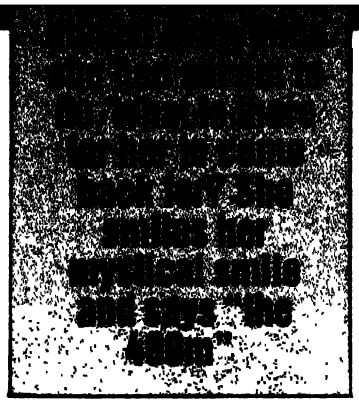
Shrugging off the domestic turn our conversation was taking, I asked her about her plans for a comeback. The excess weight—about six or seven kilos—was very evident. How was she going to tackle that problem?

Six months is what Shiny estimates it will take her to get back in top shape. And judging from reports about how seriously she went about her first few days of training at the South Centre of the NIS, Bangalore, that's all it will take. If further proof of her determination is needed, it comes in the shape of a full-time maidservant employed by the Wilsons to take care of little Elizabeth while her mother hits the tartan track. Fortunately, Wilson, who has always been encouraging her to get back in shape for the ATF meet, is full of support and hasn't adopted a typically chauvinistic attitude about Shiny having to look after the baby herself. Something which has encouraged Shiny enough to ask her boss for special leave and pack her bags for Madras.



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

The proud mama shows off her daughter Elizabeth while a photograph of the Wilsons on their wedding day provides the backdrop



The next step isn't so simple however. Motivating herself to endure the hardship of attempting to shed all that weight and regain her form. The pain. The loneliness. The boredom. All these will combine to drag her down. As will the decision about the man at the helm, if it doesn't agree with her. "I don't know who will be the coach at Bangalore, but I'd like to train under Sriram Singh", confesses Shiny.

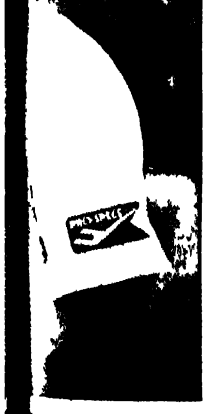
Whoever it eventually turns out to be, there is no denying that the toughest hurdle in Shiny's path is her self-motivation. Having achieved almost everything she had set out to do, what is there for her to come back for? She smiles her mystical smile and says "The 400m". With her nemesis—P.T. Usha—having hung up her spikes, this lady now wants to try her hand at the one event





sporting couple, while hubby Wilson Cherian has moved onto coaching the Railways swimmers. Shiny will have to struggle hard to regain her pre-pregnancy level of fitness

UTPAL SORKAR



Shiny admits she needs Usha's companionship and rivalry

she has never won 'My emphasis will now be on the 400m and the dream of getting either the gold or silver in the forthcoming Asian Track and Field will be a great achievement", is how she explains her ambition

If anyone, Shiny can do it too The grim determination she has displayed over the years, and which shows on her face everytime she runs, leaves no doubt that she can clock competitive times in the long sprint In fact, her timing of 52 6 at the 1989 ATF was inferior only to Usha's while a career-best of 11 9 in the 100m proves her intrinsic speed Yet, there is always the lingering doubt Can she overcome motherhood—like Mercy Kuttan did and Reeth Abraham is doing—and drive herself hard enough? "I have the will power", is the confident reply

Ironically, it is the one person whose absence motivates Shiny to try the event that she will miss the most Usha While Usha's retirement gives her the much-wanted opportunity, it also denies her the companionship and competition that will motivate her "I remember when Usha was training alone she didn't like it one bit', recalls Shiny, going on to add "You need to be pushed to a better performance And I, being her friend and rival, the intense competition was always there"

Shiny however doesn't grudge her friend for calling it quits As she explains "the decision Usha took to retire from the athletics scene was magnanimous What else could she crave for? She has everything"

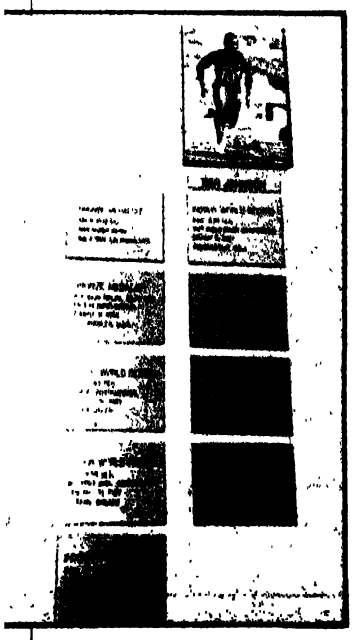
Well, Shiny, you are in the same boat You have a lovely daughter You have a fine husband And you have a beautiful home in Trivandrum's Pandit Colony What more could you ask for? Life, after all, is about making sacrifices Very rarely is it that we get everything we want

Shiny Wilson looked up and said "perhaps in what you said there is something to ponder about Well, time will tell" Having said that, she broke into an embarrassed smile and took my leave The baby was crying ●

BEN JOHNSON IS BACK NOW.....

RUNNING ON EMPTY

Having lost his first two comeback races, is Johnson the force he once was?



Ben Johnson's Role of Honour at the Metropolitan Track and Field Club, Toronto

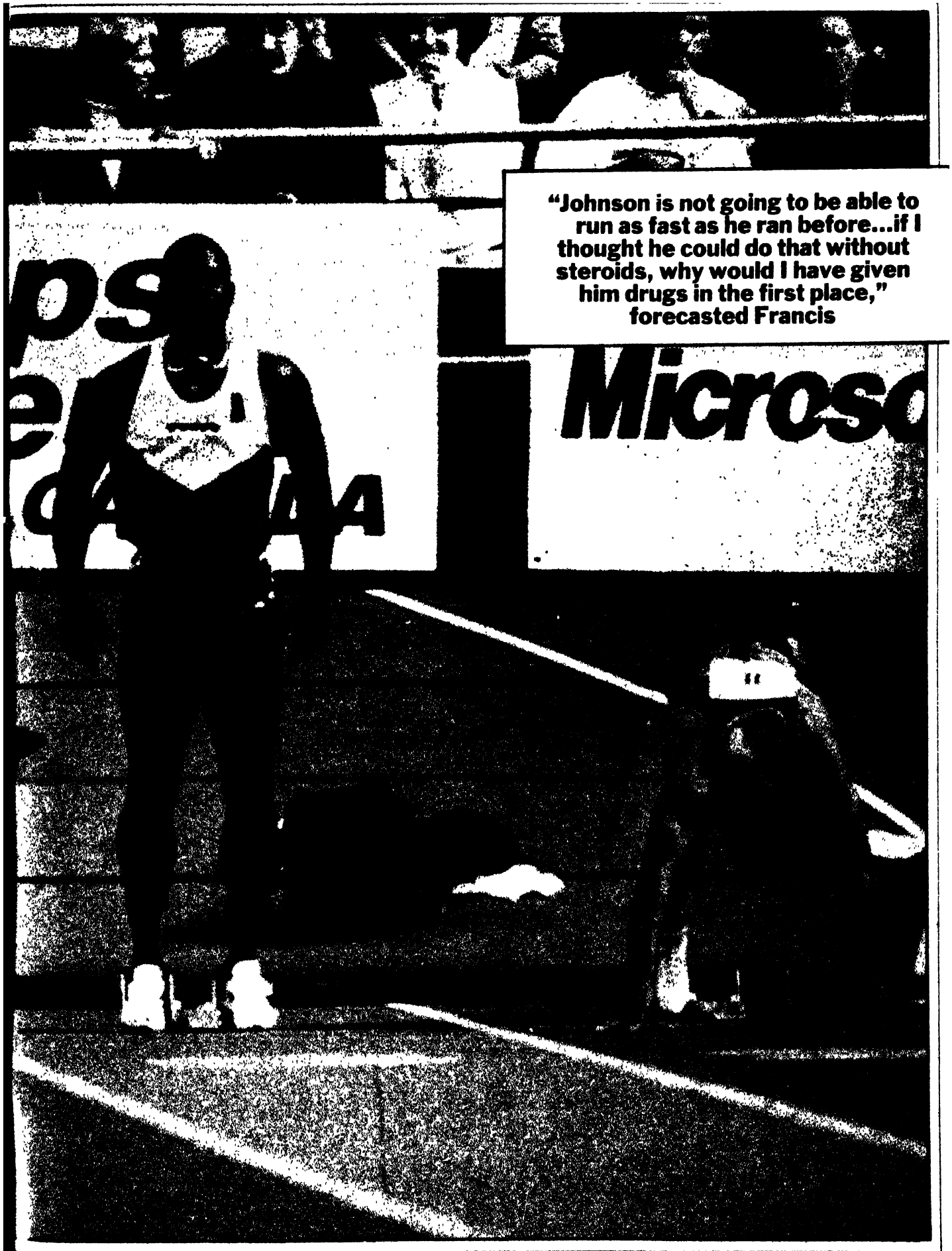
THE issues surrounding a race lasting five-and-a-half-seconds or approximately 22 strides at the Hamilton Spectator Indoor Meet on January. 11,was less about the return of a discredited champion than the future of the sport itself. Because a man named Ben Johnson is apparently a victim of a sport that is also walking the tightrope of credibility.

The myth, that steroids provide gain without pain, dies hard. Despite warnings from physicians, some athletes believe that steroids can be taken safely and most of them



Cop
Colis
HAMILTON





"Johnson is not going to be able to run as fast as he ran before...if I thought he could do that without steroids, why would I have given him drugs in the first place," forecasted Francis

are determined to outwit the tests Some of them are using so-called masking agents, chemicals that muddle test results to control steroid use While others have turned from synthetic substances to human growth hormones which are virtually impossible to detect Despite random year round tests being carried out on athletes and other sportsmen, steroid use is on the rampage and there is little that can be done about it

Ben Johnson's return signals his rehabilitation, but the link between sports and steroids continues to be as pervasive today as before his fall

George Francis, Johnson's former coach forecasted, "Johnson is not going to be able to run as fast as he ran before He will run world class times, but will he break records? If I thought he could do that without steroids, why would I have given him drugs in the first place "

In sharp contrast to Francis' outburst, Johnson's new coach Loren Seagrave finally spoke to the media, but was very conservative in his estimation of Johnson's chances, "Don't expect too much from Ben "

"My aim is to run fast. Win, and break the world records. I'm ready to go."—Johnson

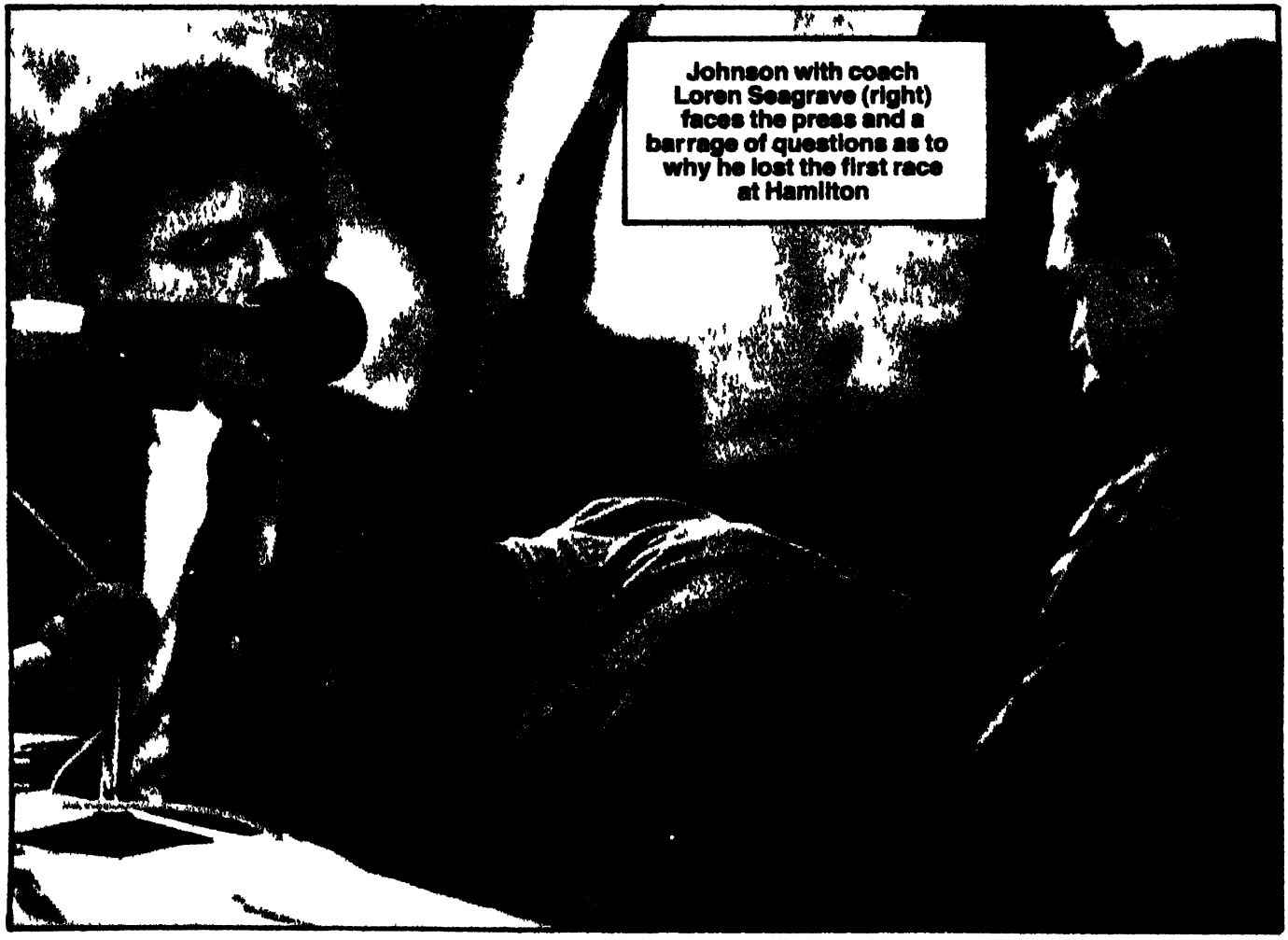
"I'm not here to lose," Johnson told reporters after his final workout a day before the first race "I've been training hard too for this moment I'm psyched I'm ready I think I can handle these guys with no problem at all "

In the meantime Francis had gone on to accuse the organisers of taking advantage of his former charge He said the organisers were, "kicking Ben when he's down.They jumped him, they've lined up three of the best US indoor guys from the last two seasons, who would even run for nothing "

But this didn't seem to worry Johnson too much because he said, "My aim is to run fast Win, and break the world records I'm ready to go "

Although Smith, the meet director, did admit that they were relying on the media hype and had to a certain extent taken advantage of

Smith, the Hamilton meet director, said, "Johnson's treading a tightrope and we're waiting to see if he falls."



Johnson with coach Loren Seagrave (right) faces the press and a barrage of questions as to why he lost the first race at Hamilton



THE JOB IS DONE!

"It was a really great race," Ben Johnson said after winning the 55 metre race at Ottawa International Indoor Games. Johnson broke a jinx which seem to plague his return to running.

He burst out of the blocks, which was a flash of his old form. He clocked a time of 6.20 secs. American Darwin Council who beat him during the first race at Hamilton came in third.

Johnson, he was still pessimistic about the outcome of the race. "Johnson's treading a tightrope and we're waiting to see if he falls." Smith said. "If he can't win a short distance like this, he's dead in the water before he starts. One metre could separate a first and a fifth. Imagine the effect on Johnson's morale if he's last."

CURIOSITY hung in the bitter cold air at Ontario. Anticipation enveloped almost every Canadian sports fan. "What does he look like?" They asked. "How will he do?"

A capacity crowd of 17,050 turned up, braving the worst blizzard of the winter to see the return of the prodigal son.

And Johnson, hardly a showman, unwittingly added to the sense of expectancy by preparing for two hours in full view of the spectators. No preening peacock

ever demanded more attention than the green tracksuited figure of Ben Johnson.

Although Johnson claimed that his weight was unchanged from the ill fated Seoul Olympic final, changes were noticable. The upper body bulk had disappeared and he looked taller.

When the race was announced and the participants were being introduced,the cheer for Ben Johnson was so loud that the announcement couldn't be heard. It seemed as if the spectators were already sure of the outcome—Ben Johnson would win or had already won in their minds.

Two false starts by Darren Council and Andre Cason challenged Johnson's power of concentration and when the gun finally went off for the fourth time, he failed to find his customary early advantage.

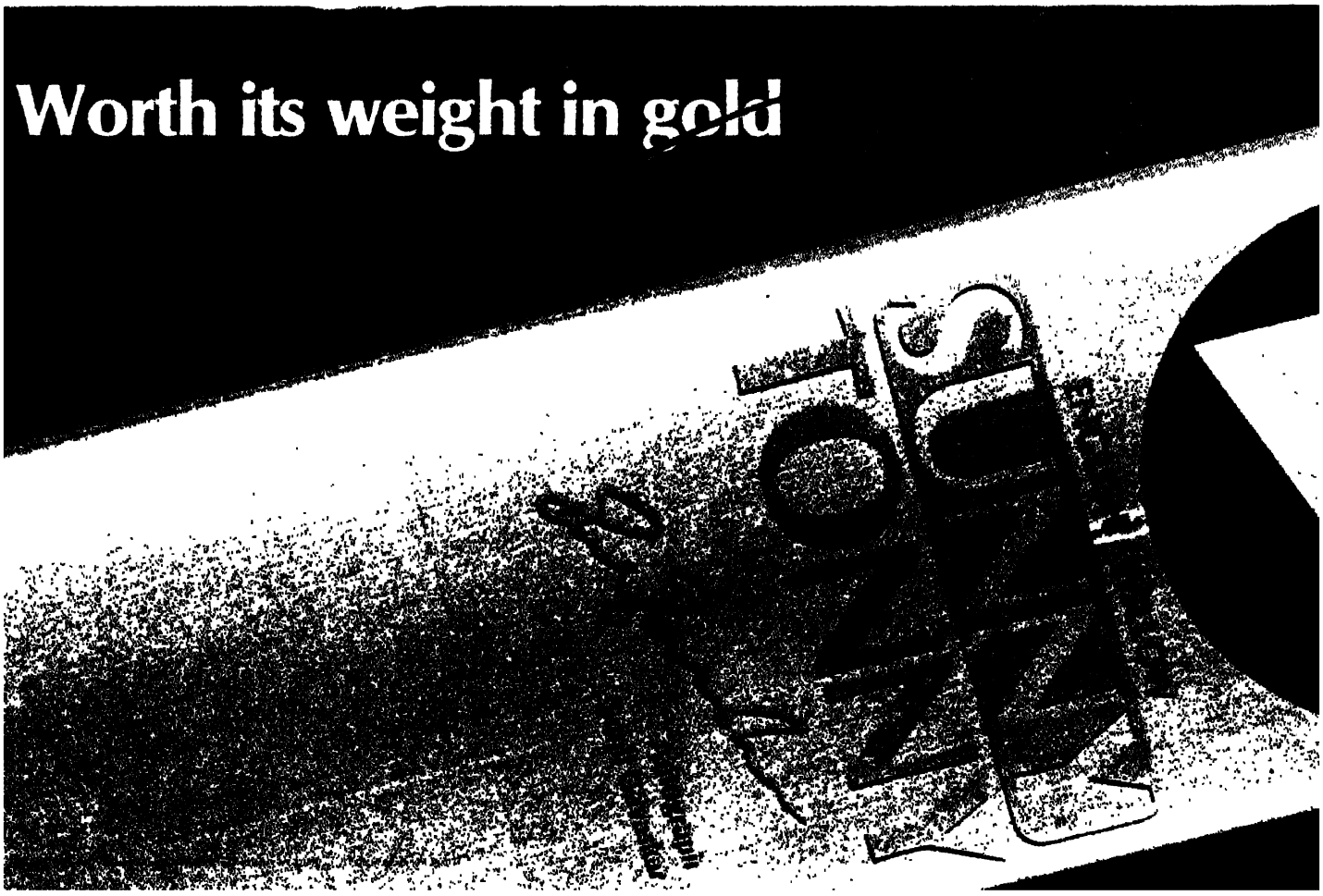


Although Johnson claimed that his weight was unchanged from the ill-fated Seoul Olympic final, changes were noticable. The upper body bulk has disappeared and he looks taller....

Trailing badly after 4 strides he was making up on lost ground at the 35 meter mark but it was too late. He came in second with a timing of 5.77 secs. After the race he said, "I got caught on the blocks and I started to make up ground too late." It looks like Smith's words had come true.

Who was the man who beat Johnson? It was Daren Council, a drug enforcement officer with the Florida Police Department. A very low key man, he said, "Johnson has

Worth its weight in gold



tremendous pressure on him and it's going to take a lot of hard work, but that pays off. I can't say whether he will ever be No.1 again but that will be a factor."

A few days later at another indoor meet in Los Angles, Johnson was beaten once again this time by American Andre Cason. And by god the same problem—slow off the starting blocks. And this was Johnson's strong point before the Seoul disgrace.Johnson clocked 5.74 secs,·03 secs faster than at Ontario. Although his timings are improving he is still clinging to that second place. The only sour note was the criticism of the track by his coach who said. "The lanes were about three inches narrower than the typical indoor lane which should measure 42 inches."

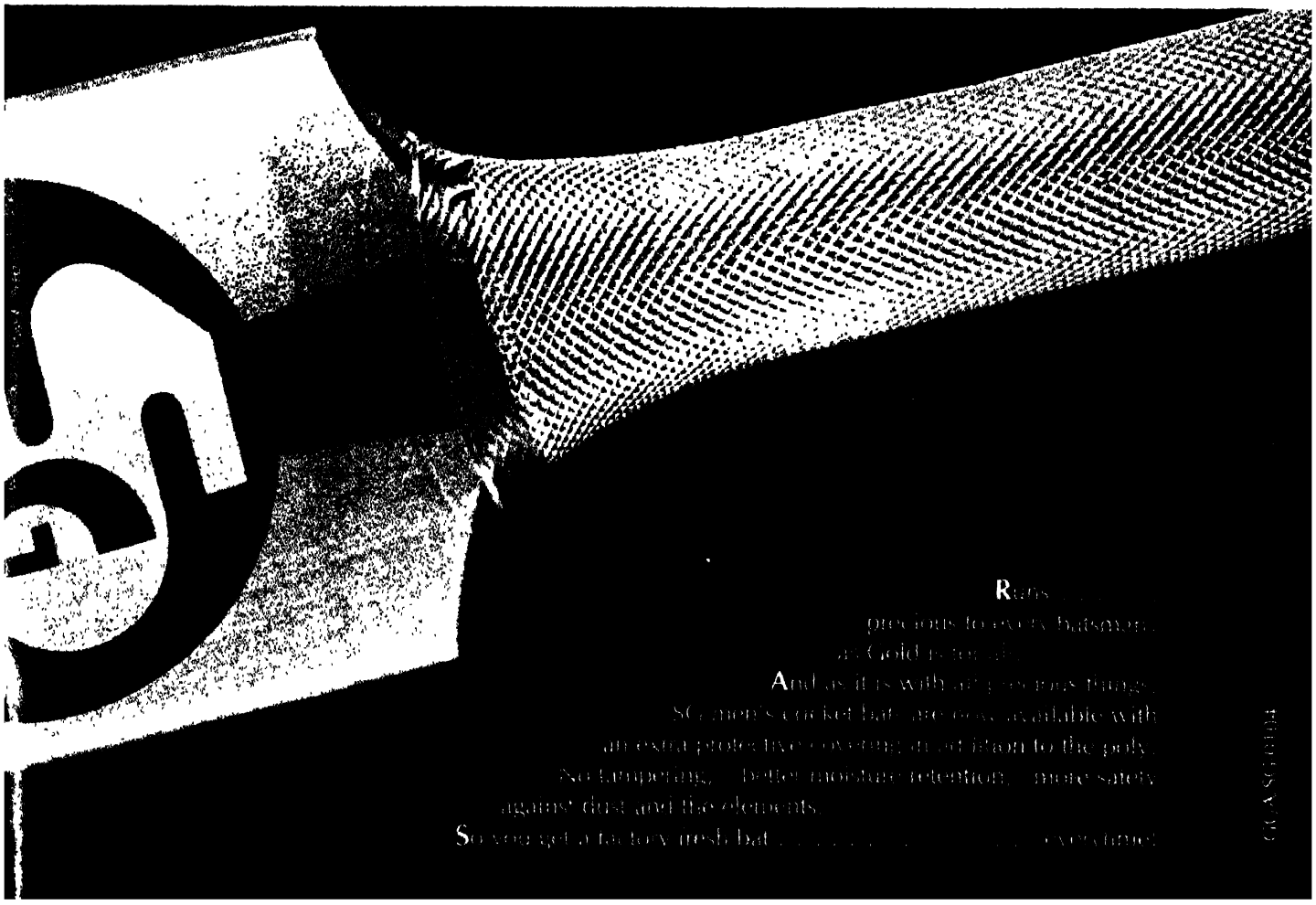
But Johnson's coach Seagrave has put things into perspective, "The one thing I want to stress, with all the media hype, this ain't the world championships, folks. That's what we are pointing at—Tokyo in August. That's the real focus for this season. Hamilton and Los Angles were the first few races in a long time and they were just the first few steps in a path up the mountain."

It remains to be seen if Johnson can manage those pre-1988 feats, now that he running on empty.



No preening peacock ever demanded more attention than the green tracksuited figure of Ben Johnson

A Correspondent
PHOTOGRAPHS COLORSPORT



PRIVATE EYE

WE LOOK WHERE WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO!

SAY CHEESE

The Gazza Way

DOES this look like the picture of a man who has just told the photographer to f—off? No. Paul Gascoigne is all smiles here. The England soccer ace's leather jacket with the fur collar was totally out of place among the blazer brigade at the International Boat Show recently.

"I'm just looking around, not buying," joked Gazza as he slipped behind the wheel of a sleek Mohawk Speed boat at Earl's Court London. But Gazza, whose recent tantrums have landed him in hot water was furious when cameramen gathered around to click. He told them to—off. But he still managed a smile when the flash bulbs went off.



Witt: Great sho



COLD AS ICE

Madly In Love

KATARINA WITT, the German ice skater must be one of the most exotic women in sport. Exciting passions has always been a central part of the lady's repertoire. At Wimbledon last year she sat as Boris Becker's guest in the players' box. When asked to clarify his relationship with Witt, Becker cracked his only joke for the last eight months. "Witt," he asked, "Isn't that the one who does all those things on ice?"

Witt has obviously had her share of admirers but she surely didn't bargain for Harry Veltman III, a 46-year-old from California. Witt is presently touring America with an ice show co-starring Brian Boitano. During her "Springtime Ballet" solo, Veltman threw a bundle of letters on to the ice; bundles containing reams and reams of demented sexual ramblings. And what did he get in return? He was kept at Denver's General hospital on a "mental health hold" and then taken to jail.

All we have to say is Viltman obviously overdid it, but he sure was right when it came to spotting beauty. Mad, he sure aint!

BIG BENN

Prime Time

MENACING and nasty former world middle weight champion who has been known to play the bagpipes Cool dude with presence who exudes self-confidence and was born with a plastic spoon in his mouth This is the 26-year-old with the ever-ready snarl and a weekness for beautiful birds who has released his first single, record *Stand and Fight*

Enter Nigel Rambo/Mean Machine/Big Benn the former Private Nigel Benn turned dark Destroyer, second youngest of seven children A name—"Mmmn, a catchy name" that he likes "I'm proud of being dark and I love destroying people "

A shopaholic and smooth dresser, he once went out on a spree and spent £10,000 in two nours "Wherever I go, I like people to know I've arrived Sometimes I go crazy and spend £1700 on a jacket " "Though usually I wear JPG, Armani or Hugo Boss " But having lost to Chris Eubank recently, he's suffering mostly from wounded pride

His favourite garment is a leather trench coat "My clothes say that I've got class, a lotta class " He takes a sip of champagne And talks in a tone that he dubs friendly ' I change the way I talk depending on the company "

The combined value of his wrists and hands —excluding their professional worth—is £50,000 "Cartier, all Cartier—Cartier ring, watch and bracelet " Dare-mug-me clonkers with diamonds, diamonds and more diamonds He walks into shops with suitcases full of money, drives a Porsche, Bentley and two BMWs and lives in rockbroker-belt Essex



Nigel Benn: Money, clothes and women

Does he think he has charisma? "Yeah (the sultry sexy tone), I sure have " And then, an aside, "I'm really enjoying this " And that money buys 99 per cent of happiness? "Yeah (low-voiced, he exhales), that's true Money and fame come together It means I've arrived—and made me Mum and Dad bloody happy " And does he need to hate? "Only in my profession I can switch it on and off I don't walk down the road intimidating and snarling 'Whatya lookin' at'?" He no longer comes up with the blood-thirsty guff outside the ring

But he has been done for GBH, threatening behaviour, shoplifting and receiving stolen goods "Where (surprised tone) did I get that from? I shoplifted from the ages of 13-15 My hero's got to be me Dad for stopping me from having a long life of criminality- like in lot of West Indian families," he said,"If you can't hear, you must feel'

He admits he was once a rebel "But I'm a good person now That says it all, really "

MULTIPLICATION

Foreman's Forte

GEORGE The Fifth, was born on 16th January, 1991. Surprised, eh? Well you ought to be. But we're not refering here to the son of King Edward the second. We're talking about the ninth kid of George Foreman. The former boxing champion's wife Joan gave birth to number nine and the

42-year-old contender for the championship of the world used his imagination naming the new born kid George Foreman V. Three of the preacher-boxer's other sons are also Georges.

Foreman is now training to fight against world champion Evander Hollyfield in a place ironically called Humbled, Texas.

The joke doing the rounds after baby number nine is that the preacher seriouly practises what the Bible says: "Go forth and multiply". Well, if you added 7 millions dollars to your bank balance for a single days work, you too would 'go forth and...



Foreman practises what he preaches

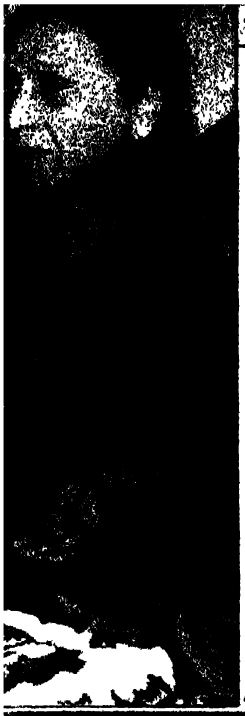


IN cricket he was not particularly known for long marathon innings though his grit skill and technical excellence have given him immortality But in life Professor D V Deodhar s long steady and unbeaten spell entered its landmark year as he celebrated his 99th birthday on January 14 to become the *Pitamaha* of Indian cricket A man who is undoubtedly our last link to those vintage years when cricket in this country took root grew and soon flourished to yield many a legend of which Prof Deodhar himself is such an integral part Belated happy returns for January 14 Prof Deodhar

NEWSSCAN



THE fittest man in world sport has so long been the most eligible bachelor around too But now life changeth, as Jahangir Khan married young and beautiful Ceemi Jawaid to settle down to an altogether new experience—far quieter and more romantic than the fierce hostilities of the squash courts



TOGETHER these three gentlemen represent a deadly German warmachine: Lothar Matthaeus, Andreas Brehme and Jurgen Klinsmann. And for those who have the money power to hire their services, they are like a package deal guaranteed for success—as we can now see how Inter Milan is cashing richly on the trio's allied firepower. The team ended January leading the prestigious Italian League; ahead of Juventus, AC Milan and Napoli.

ARUNAVA MUKHERJEE





NOT a fashion parade, but a congregation of talent, ambition and diehard perseverence—Steffi Graf (middle), Monica Seles and Martina Navratilova. They began January as the first, second and third top players of women's tennis. However, if that dry, ageing, grin on the left looks a little out of place in this gathering of youth, well, that is that. For, the lady still seems to have such an inexhaustible reserve of strength and willpower left in her that success still remains far away from saturation point...



freewheeling

Last week, flipping through the newspapers amidst the chaos of the Gulf war, I chanced upon a small news item tucked away in the sports page. The headline of the item read, 'Maradona to retire'. What was appalling was not the fact that he was retiring (he is going 30), but the fact that his retirement did not make news. And to top it all, the soccer wizard had to depart with a bitter taste.

"I've finally made up my mind after a talk with my parents. I cannot continue this way. Everyone is against me. The club officials (Napoli), the disciplinary committee and even the Press. Everyone is against me." Certainly not the signature tune to which the greatest player of this decade should be making his last bow.

He has always been a marked man for coaches, spectators and the Press. A misunderstood genius. In 1973, Cesar Menoti was of the opinion that he was 'too young to play' for the Argentine team. If you're good, you've never too young. Four years later, Menotti could not hold the reins any longer and put him on the field. He was under surveillance right from the start, and the opposing teams had their best defenders covering him. He was brutally hacked down, he reiterated and was sent off. He was again criticised.

Come 1986, in Mexico, the transformation was marked. With the added responsibility of a captain's band round his right hand and Bilardo's immense trust, he went on to prove that, here was fulfilled potential.

On the way he had to meet up with defenders who had just one standing instruction, 'Use any tactic, but don't let him get away with the ball.' The picture of Maradona, the tormented genius writhing and moaning in pain was a spectacle that was common in every match. No one complained. Not even Maradona. He kept his cool, at times pleadingly looked towards the referee with tears in his eyes, asking him if this was football. No one objected when he was kicked, manhandled, and at times attacked with unmasked brutality. That was not news.

Against England he got his hand to the ball, the now infamous 'hand of God' and once again he was criticised and blacklisted.

Here was a man, a small figure, who with his skill and ingenuity tore apart the best defences in the world. And who, because of his skill and ingenuity, became



[redacted] Maradona. And so he had to bear the brunt of criticism, once again.

At Italy once again he had the same responsibilities as the previous World Cup. Add to this a very mediocre Argentine team and the aging lion, just recuperating from injury suffered. He was in bad form, but still the tactics of the opponents remained the same. 'Bring him down'. And so the prostate figure of Maradona writhing in pain became more frequent. Once again it did not merit some lines in the reports. He, against all odds, brought Argentina into the final. And what did he get in return? Criticism.

Newspapers and tabloids fail to see that person, that lone crusader, who with that 'right fist clenched, pumping the air' action motivated ten others. The world failed to notice that here was a man who was playing against odds unsurmountable by mortals. Age, rough—and sometimes lethal—tackles and of course the pressure that fame brings along. The pressure of being in the limelight, the cynosure of millions of football watchers.

Living up to all this does take its toll and even Maradona did snap at times. Not long ago the Neopolitans held him next to God. Today he figures as the most hated man in Italy.

Oh, what a long way to come. But then, even fame has a price.

M.S. Jacob



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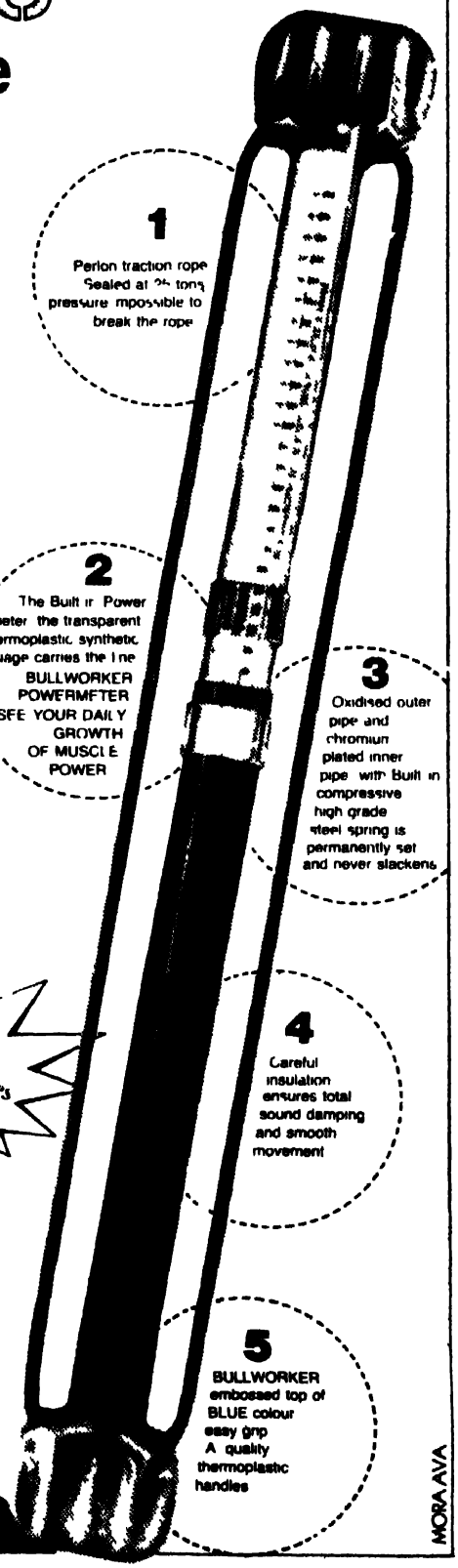
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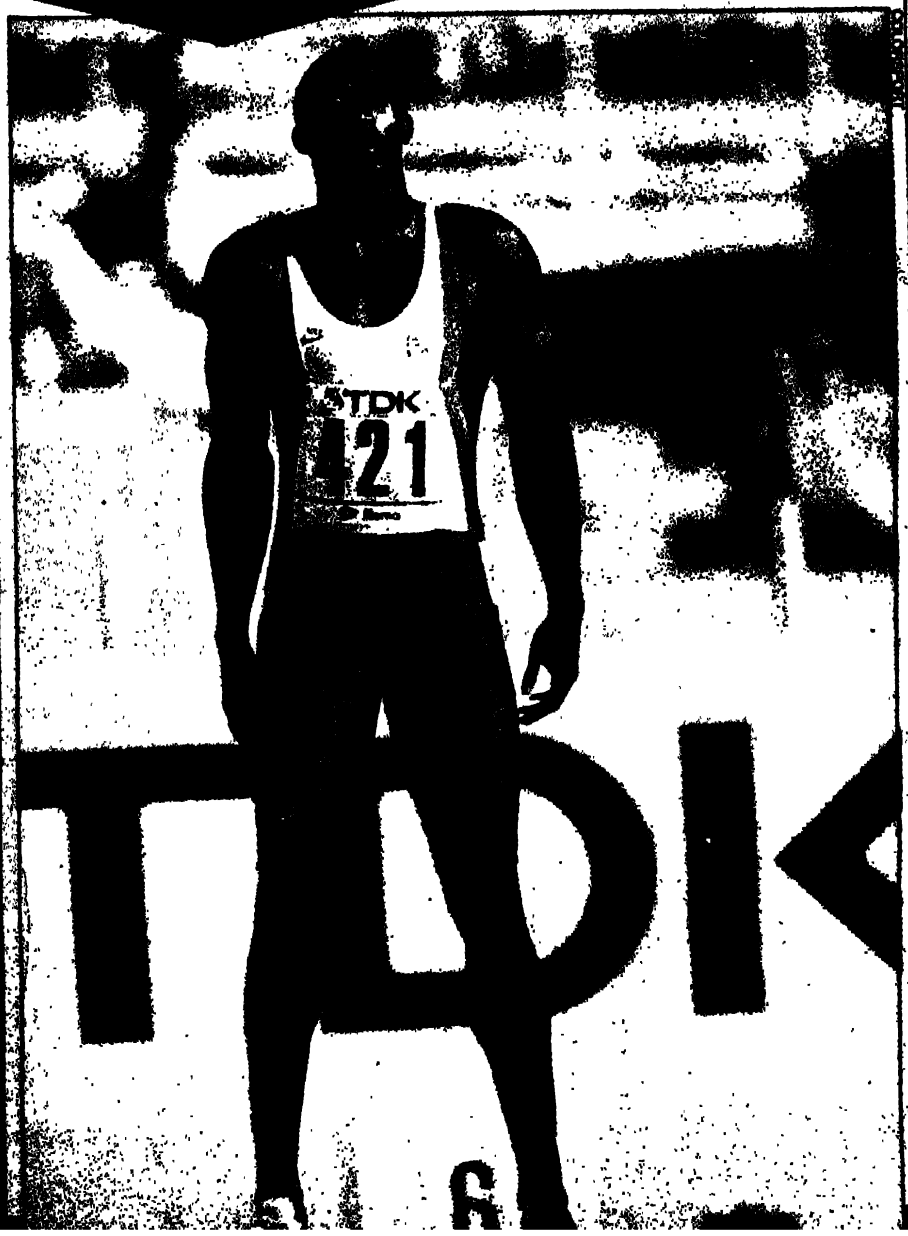
VOICES

"I know I have to get better and add things to my game if I want to continue beating all the other players. They are not going to sleep."
MONICA SELES, after her Australian Open victory.

"All I've heard for weeks is Ben Johnson and his comeback. What I haven't heard from him is an apology for the damage he has done to our sport. I don't want to be part of the Johnson circus. The only thing we can do as athletes is to go out and beat him when we eventually race him."
LINFORD CHRISTIE, on Ben Johnson

"I want to reach absolute perfection. And I think I can reach it. But I know that I can't be number one for ever."
STEFFI GRAF looks into the crystal ball a week before the Australian Open.

"I wasn't even contemplating getting a chance in Adelaide. Hadn't even given it a thought. Steve was not going that bad, that they'd drop him. I just had my sights on the tour of West Indies and was making enough runs to get on the trip."
MARK WAUGH, twin brother of Steve Waugh, after he replaced Steve for his maiden Test appearance, against England.





"It is a professional game. I treat Mark as just any other player."
A morose STEVE WAUGH, after losing his place to his brother. He was dropped for the first time after 42 Tests.

"There is nothing in her game that reaches across the net and shakes you. With Steffi the forehand was always something that could make you scared."
PAM SHRIVER, on the up and coming 16-year-old German tennis prodigy, Anke Huber.

"Doping is not just the enemy of athletics, but of the whole world of sports."
International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF) President, PRIMO NEBIOLO after dismissing Manfred Hoeppner, the deputy head of the East German medical service, for a 'systematic programme of drug abuses.'

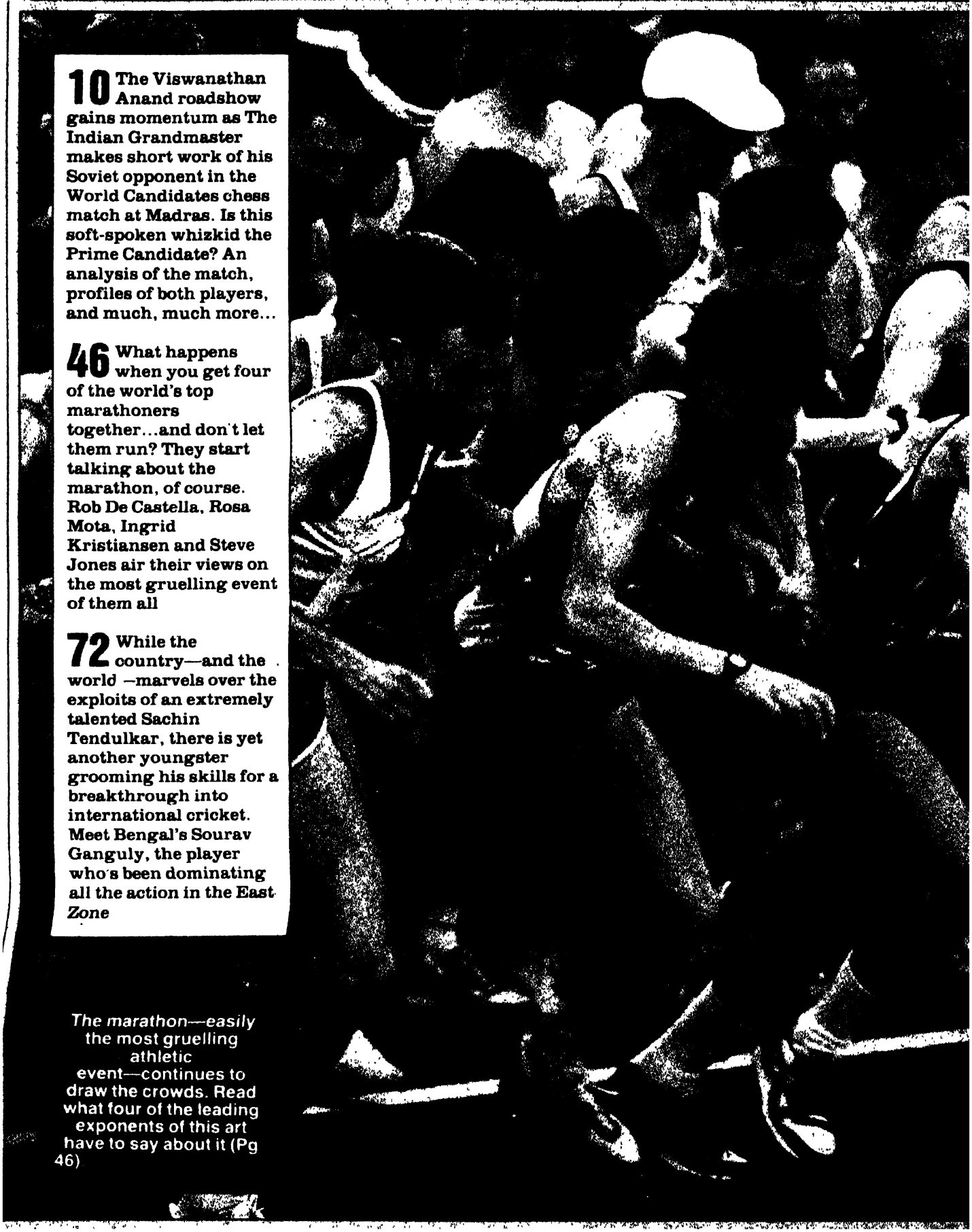
"Either include us now or you'll be forced to include us later. It is not a threat. It is a promise based on love, based on justice, and based on the right of every human being in Atlanta to feel a part of the progress in this city."
Rev. TIMOTHY McDONALD, representing the Concerned Black Clergy, urges the organisers of the 1996 Olympics to use the event to provide long term jobs and affordable housing.

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46 What happens when you get four of the world's top marathoners together...and don't let them run? They start talking about the marathon, of course. Rob De Castella, Rosa Mota, Ingrid Kristiansen and Steve Jones air their views on the most gruelling event of them all

72 While the country—and the world —marvels over the exploits of an extremely talented Sachin Tendulkar, there is yet another youngster grooming his skills for a breakthrough into international cricket. Meet Bengal's Sourav Ganguly, the player who's been dominating all the action in the East Zone



The marathon—easily the most gruelling athletic event—continues to draw the crowds. Read what four of the leading exponents of this art have to say about it (Pg 46)



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EXTRAS

There are things going on in the cricket world that we don't get to hear about...



Waqar Younis topping the Deloitte Rating for bowlers

WAQAR YOUNIS'S heroics in the recent Tests in Pakistan have propelled the 19-year-old fast bowler to the top of the Coopers Deloitte Ratings. Younis, with a rating of 852, has relegated Malcolm Marshall (831) to second place. After the first Ashes Test at Brisbane, Angus Fraser (fourth with 770) was England's highest-rated bowler, while Australia's Mark Taylor (872) led the batting list, with Graham Gooch (792) third behind Richie Richardson.

ENGLAND vice-captain Allan Lamb had some small skin cancers burned off from beneath his eyes the day before he scored 72 in the World Series Cup match against New Zealand at Sydney. England manager Micky Stewart described the operation as 'no more hazardous than having a mole removed'. Stewart himself ran into health problems later in the tour, spending some time in a Melbourne hospital after complaining of a numb sensation in his leg. Doctors could find 'nothing discernibly wrong', and blamed the problem on a viral infection

WEST INDIES captain Desmond Haynes has weighed into the argument over 'ball-doctoring', claiming in his official tour report to the West Indies Board that Pakistani players tampered with the ball during the recent series. Pakistan captain Imran Khan vehemently denied the claims, adding that Haynes 'should ask his pace bowlers if they have ever lifted the seam'. England committee chairman Ted Dexter suggested in the *Daily Telegraph* that damaging the ball to make it swing more might not be a bad thing, as it would encourage bowlers to pitch the ball up rather than relying on bouncers. On the other hand, Dexter added: 'If the ball swings so much so much that there's no point in ever spinning it again, then the balance has gone the wrong way.'

ALLAN BORDER has become the first cricketer to be inducted into Australia's sporting Hall of Fame while still an active player

ENGLAND captain Graham Gooch was awarded the OBE in the New Year's Honours list. Former TCCB chairman Raman Subba Row received the CBE, as did veteran broadcaster Brian Johnston. *Daily Mail* sports writer Ian Wooldridge was created MBE.

WORLD CUP IN

ENGLAND'S first match in next year's World Cup in Australasia will be against Sri Lanka at Perth on Feb 23. The tournament starts the day before, with a match between co-hosts Australia and New Zealand at Auckland.

The tournament is to be sponsored by Benson & Hedges (Australia), who are providing prizemoney of $A250,000 as well as financial and expenses for the eight competing teams.

Each team will play the other seven nations, a departure from previous World Cups, where the sides played in preliminary groups of four before progressing to the semi-finals. As in 1987, the matches will be of 50 overs a side, but for the first time, coloured clothing will be worn, some matches (including the final) will be played under floodlights, and white balls will be used. The playing regulations will be based on those used for Australia's existing World Series Cup competition. Of the 31 matches scheduled, 20 will be played in Australia and 11 in New



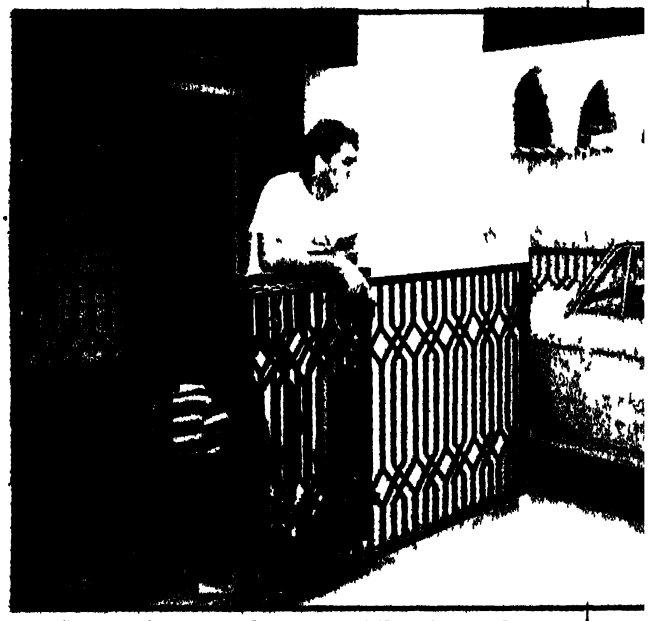
Rod Marsh dropped as radio commentator after criticising one-day cricket

FORMER Test wicketkeeper Rod Marsh was dropped as a commentator with a Sydney radio station owned by Kerry Packer after criticising one-day cricket on the air. It was the second disappointment of the season for 43-year-old Marsh, who earlier had been axed as a TV commentator with Packer's Channel 9 to accommodate his old rival Geoffrey Boycott. Marsh returned home to Perth to find an invitation to join the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's radio-commentary team for the final Test

AUSTRALIA'S Dean Jones may have started a new trend after he fielded in designer sunglasses in the World Series Cup match at Perth on Dec 9. Jones borrowed the sunglasses from Allan Border in an effort to reduce the glare from the white stands surrounding the WACA ground.

THE South African Cricket Union (SACU) and the rival anti-apartheid SA Cricket Board (SACB) have agreed to settle their differences and establish a single, united governing body for cricket in the Republic. The ramifications of the new developments in South Africa were discussed at the special ICC meeting in Melbourne in January.

HINDU extremists attacked the Hyderabad home of India's captain Mohammad Azharuddin, who is a Muslim. A mob stoned the house, damaged his car and set fire to a scooter. Armed police shepherded 28-year-old Azharuddin and his family out of the area: no-one was hurt. Citing concern about the communal violence in various Indian cities, Pakistan withdrew from the Asia Cup



Extremists attack Azharuddin's home in Hyderabad

tournament, which was held in India from Dec. 25-Jan 4. Pakistan Board secretary A. A. K. Abbasi, whose own nephew was killed in Hyderabad, said 'The safety of our players is our main priority.'

VICTORIAN allrounder Simon O'Donnell, who recently became the second Australian after Dennis Lillee to take 100 wickets in one-day internationals, has rejected an offer of a one-year contract with Northants. O'Donnell, 28, said he has declined for 'personal considerations', but did not rule out the possibility of playing county cricket in the future. Northants, seeking a short-term replacement for West Indian Curtly Ambrose, then reportedly approached former Australian left arm fast bowler Mike Whitney.

AUSTRALASIA 1991-92

Melbourne or Sydney.

THE full programme is (some venues still to be arranged): Feb 22 New Zealand v Australia (Auckland): 23 Pakistan v India (Melbourne), England v Sri Lanka (Perth): 25 NZ v Zimbabwe (Hamilton): 26 Aust v West Indies (Sydney, day/night); 28 SL v Zimbabwe (New Plymouth); 29 WI v Pak (Brisbane). March 1 Aust v India (Adelaide), NZ v Eng (Wellington): 3 Pak v SL (in Aust), 4 Eng v WI (Sydney, d/n), India v Zim (Napier); 7 Aust v Zim (Hobart), WL v SL (Adelaide), NZ v India (Christchurch); 8 Eng v Pak (Melbourne): 10 WI v India (Wellington): 11 Aust v Pak (Perth, d/n), Eng v Zim (Canberra); 12 NZ v SL (Dunedin); 14 Eng v India (Sydney), Pak v Zim (in Aust): 15 Aust v SL (Brisbane), NZ v WI (Auckland): 18 Aust v Eng (Melbourne, d/n), WI v Zim (in Aust), India v SL (in Aust), NZ v Pak (Christchurch); 21 1st semi-final (Auckland): 22 2nd semi-final (Sydney or Melbourne): 25 FINAL (Melbourne or Sydney, d/n).

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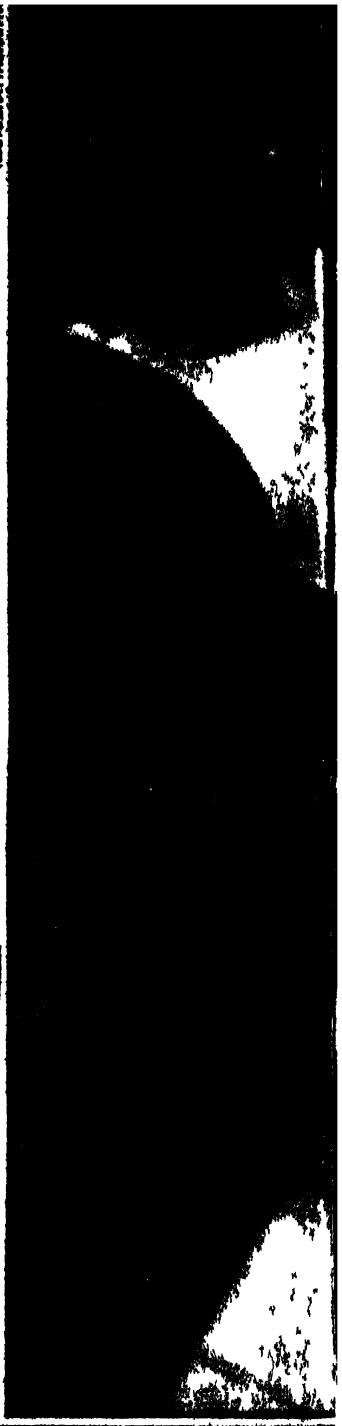
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RAMANAN/RE LIANCE NEWS



WORLD CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP CANDIDATES MATCHES • BUTTERFLY

VISWANATHAN ANAND

PRIME CANDIDATE

Anand is a chess extrovert... Anand is a



Facing Dreev during the Candidates match at Madras

pragmatist... Anand is a restless, quicksilver genius,

"Time waits for nobody, it won't wait for me"

NEITHER Viswanathan Anand nor Alexey Dreev were born when Mick Jagger of the Rolling Stones first plaintively warbled this line. But the two youngest World Chess candidates—both born in 1969—will certainly identify with these sentiments. As will any other chess pro.

Time has two meanings to a chess player. There is "tempo" time, as in the number of moves required to carry out an operation. Does something need to be done immediately, or can it wait?

There is also clock time—the time allotted to make a certain number of moves. In this Butterfly Candidates match at The Trident, Madras, that

says* DEVANGSHU DUTTA *our chess columnist, keeping pace with the blinding, breakneck chess that India's young Grandmaster displayed to down Alexey Dreev



Dreev on the other hand is a perfectionist...an artist who produces slow motion masterpieces. No violence...just steady improvement...

meant the usual 120 minutes for 40 moves. If the match had exceeded eight games, the control would have been accelerated to a crippling 60 moves in 45 minutes.

In the event that wasn't necessary, as Anand comprehensively outplayed Dreev, finishing the match in six games with a scoreline of 4.5 to 1.5. By the end Dreev must have really empathised with Mick Jagger for he had lost out on both the time factors.

Anand is a chess extrovert—a restless quicksilver genius. He thinks and plays at blinding speed He loves dynamic positions where things must be done in a hurry

Anand is also a pragmatist who will trust his fantastic intuition, rather than attempt to calculate everything. Quite often in wild positions he analyses only one move—the best one. Where others spend time calculating, Anand plays what he thinks is the best move instantly. He is very rarely wrong in his judgement.

Dreev on the other hand is a perfectionist—an artist who produces slow motion masterpieces. No violence—just steady improvement is his forte. He likes static situations where he can score on points with good technique while Anand goes for the jugular everytime.

Dreev also spends the precious extra minutes, in the early middle game looking for the very best plan. He risks the agonies of "Zeitnot" ("No time"), as chess players call it regularly. Against Anand the risk became a certainty and Dreev could never come to terms with the clock.

The Russian was also unable to outgun Anand in the openings and get the sort of quiet games he prefers. After losing the first game, Dreev was compelled by match logic to keep playing sharply which resulted in a debacle. "Five times we got complicated positions and I just happened to win four of them, though I had to fight", is how Anand put it.

Generous in victory, the local lad admitted he did not expect such an emphatic victory. "Remember, he was desperate to win so he was prepared to risk a quick loss. Otherwise the match might have gone the distance."

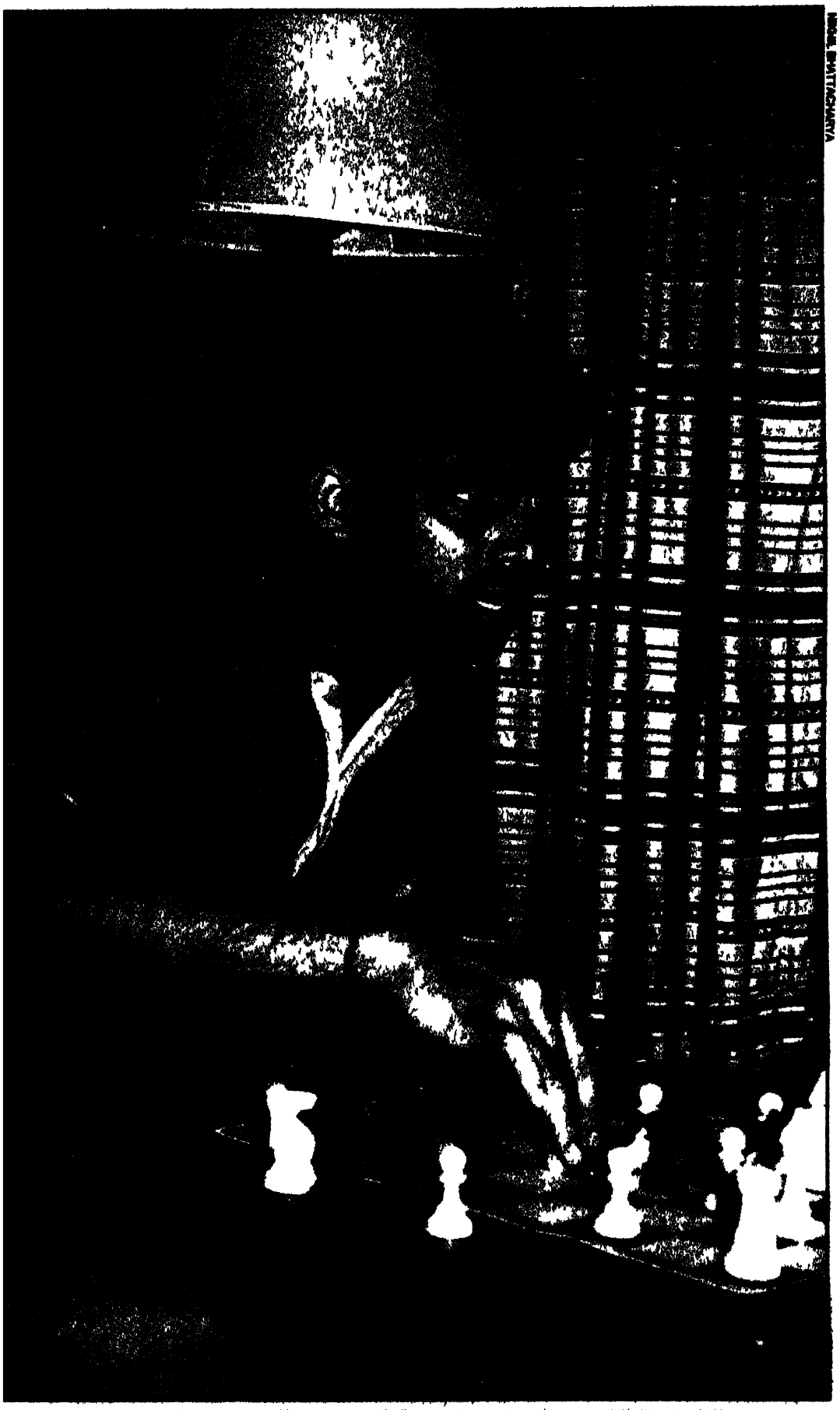
Dreev, of course, had another problem, as indeed Anand's next opponent in the quarterfinals in August will face. To beat Anand at all, his opponents in the Candidates must do so inside the eight game limit. Anand would be a hot favourite against anyone at a 60 moves in 45 minutes control. Not even Kasparov would fancy meeting him on those terms.

Stylistically, Anand and his second, GM Ferdinand Hellers, felt they had Dreev taped. Talking on a rest day, halfway through the match he said "Dreev is good at playing positions where nothing is happening. He just shuffles around in harmless looking setups and suddenly he is winning. No one can change their style at short notice. He's playing the way we expected."

Dreev is a player with a very narrow repertoire, that makes him both easy and difficult to prepare for. Dreev is predictable true, but difficult to surprise for he knows his pet variations very well indeed.

Anand has much more breadth but he occasionally plays superficially, not really knowing the specific system in great depth. Dreev is a Queen pawn opener who defends either the French or the Spanish with black. Anand opens King pawn regularly and he plays half a dozen defences to the Queen pawn.

Anand was cagey about his methods of preparing for his first ever match. "We looked at everything in more or less detail. About the details I must impose



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

Anand is also a pragmatist who will trust everything to his fantastic intuition, rather than attempt to calculate everything... Quite often in wild positions, he analyses only one move, the best one, when others spend time calculating...

THE THINKTANK

PARTAB RAMCHAND profiles Ferdinand Hellers, the Swede, who as Anand's second made a valuable contribution to the Indian Grandmaster's success over GM Alexey Dreev...

BEHIND every successful man there is a woman, goes the saying. Behind every successful chess player there is a second. And that is why immediately after winning the sixth game and the match, Viswanathan Anand rushed first to his parents and then looked out anxiously for his second Ferdinand Hellers, who played no small part in the Indian GM's victory It was only after he had thanked Hellers that he turned to receive the fans.

Hellers, a Swede, is 22. He is also a GM with a ELO rating of 2550, is ranked around 80 in the world. He first met Anand in the World Cadets Championship in Paris in 1984. He lost to Anand, but struck up a good rapport with him. Subsequently, they played in a few more tournaments in Europe and the relationship became even closer.

"I was impressed with his attacking style," Hellers told *Sportsworld* in Madras.

Last year, Anand practised with Hellers and beat Wan Der Wiel, a Dutch GM. When the latter left for other commitments, Hellers became Anand's only second. He is of the opinion that it is not imperative to have two or three seconds. "A second with whom you get along well is enough to produce results", says Hellers. And Anand agrees: "I vibe well with Hellers and that is good enough for me".

Hellers feels that Anand's game is based on sound theory. "He is very quick with his calculations. He does not hesitate to make good moves. He is very confident and has a brilliant middle game".

He also believes that the strongest aspect of Anand's game is his super quick moves "He puts the opponent under tremendous time pressure and this can lead to problems on the board". In fact, he pointed out that Anand had not had an adjourned game since 1987.

Can Anand become a world champion? *Sportsworld* asked Hellers. "That is difficult to say at the moment. But he certainly has the ability to improve further", he said.

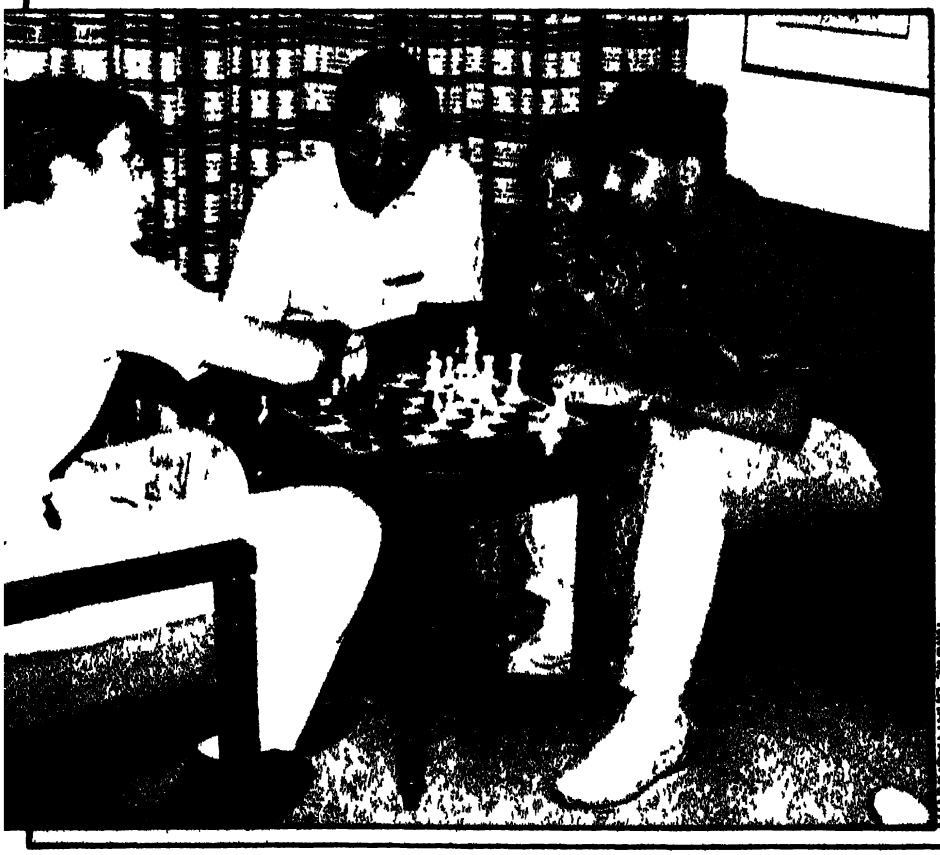
Speaking of the role played by seconds, Hellers said "I sit with Anand and analyse moves. We examine openings and I can suggest to him to try this or that. When a game is adjourned we examine the position and see how best we can win. Psychologically, also we have an important role to boost the player's confidence and morale."

Hellers flew back to Sweden after the Madras match but will join Anand wherever he plays his quarter final. He came to Madras about ten days before the match commenced.

"We discussed a lot of strategy and made a detailed study of Dreev's games. But I did not expect him to win so easily. I thought it would go the full eight games", he said.

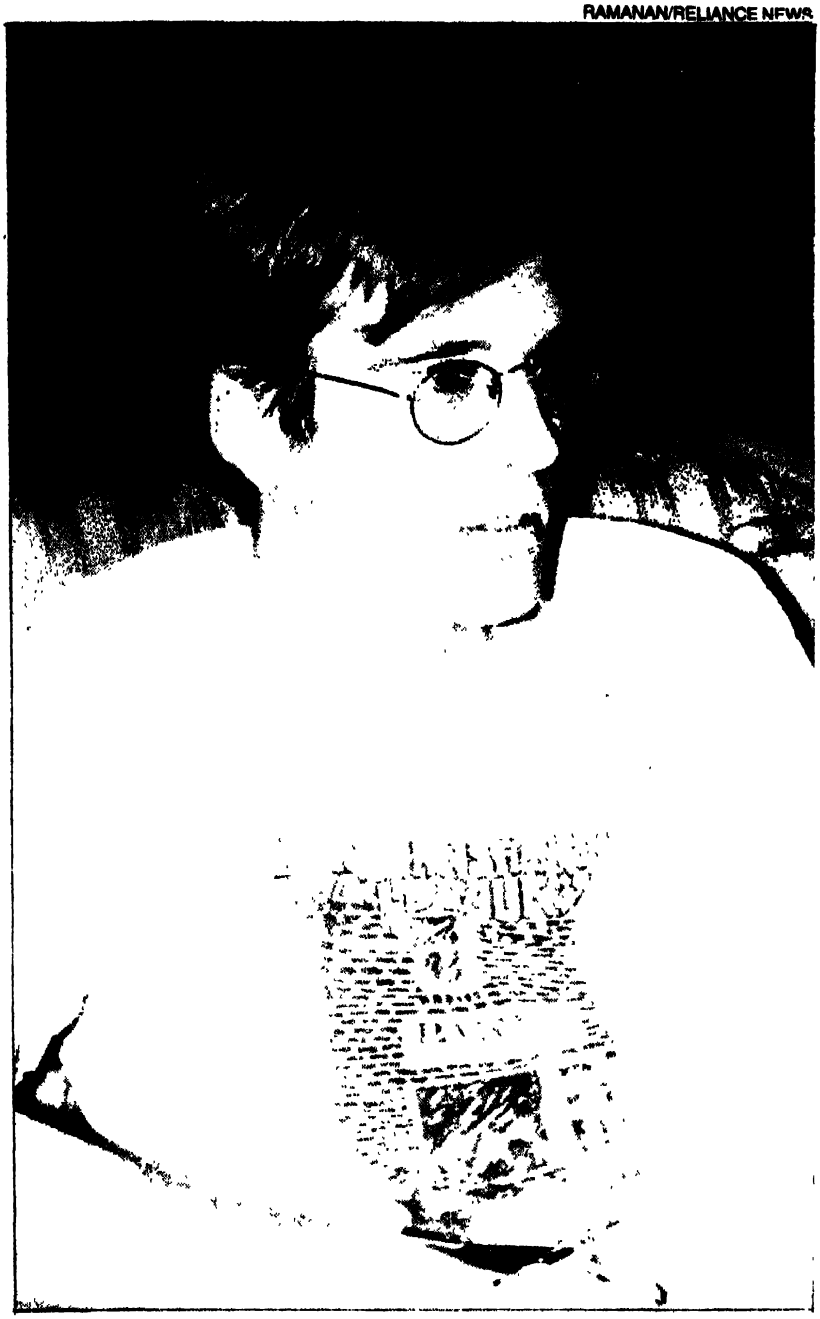
"I vibe well with Hellers and that is good enough for me"...Anand

Anand (right) with his parents and second Ferdinand Hellers (right): perfect understanding



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

RAMANAN/RELIANCE NEWS



Ferdinand Hellers: confident approach

seriously. arrived with a contingent of five, a week early to acclimatise to Madras.

His permanent trainer IM Filipenko was there of course. As was a non-playing Chef de Mission or "Fixer".

ANAND TELLS SPORTSWORLD:

SPORTSWORLD: Don't you think your bout with Dreev was surprisingly one-sided? ANAND: Well, I expected a tougher match. I thought it would go the full eight games

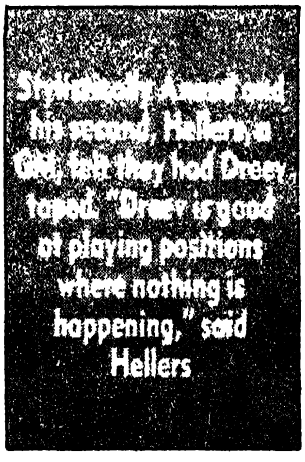
EVEN more interesting was the presence of Dr Alexander Yekhevich, one of the famous Russian chess psychologists. A smiling, babyfaced man, he happily denied any knowledge of Russian, English, Spanish, French and German and thereby successfully avoided any kind of communication.

The Russians are famous for employing psychologists who suggest various means of disrupting their opponents' concentration. Karpov uses Dr Vladimir Zoukhar, an expert on hypnotism, who almost inevitably sits in the front row of the hall where Karpov plays and stares at his adversary. Anand's parents were worried that Yekhevich might try something similar on their son.

Actually, Yekhevich caused no such problems. He was rarely in the hall and his job seemed to be to provide an emotional lifeline to young Dreev who celebrated his 22nd birthday even as he lost the sixth and final game on January 30.

censorship." His Toshiba Laptop was probably brimful with Dreev's games and possible improvements. He does not bother to carry a chess set or books He also has total recall. Throughout the match Dreev was suspended between the devil and the deep blue sea. He could play fast and risk losing through bad play. Or he could play at his normal rate and risk horrendous errors in time pressure. In the event he overstepped the time limit twice in lost positions and threw away a possible win in time trouble during the second game.

The Soviets took this match very





THE Russians employed all the tactics patented by the infamous Bobby Fischer camp to put psychological pressure on Anand The venue should be changed, the hall must be redecorated the table wasn't right the tablecloth was the wrong colour and so on and so forth It was thanks to Dr A B Khan, the chief arbiter that everything was sorted out to the Russians satisfaction while Anand nonchalantly agreed to almost everything they demanded

Anand led Dreev by at least an hour in each game almost all of which started with a bang Numerologists would have been confounded by the result after the draw of lots Dreev pulled lucky seven to Anand's one and thereby gained the advantage of starting his campaign with the white pieces He did not however, take this to their psychic correct conclusion He lost the game

Having established a clear lead and the psychological advantage in game four Anand was even more impressive in the fifth Dreev was faced with another Queens Indian as Anand decided to take up the challenge of improving on his third game

Dreev played the mainline this time and went for broke in a desperate attempt to equalise He conceded a big positional advantage to Anand on the queenside and allowed his pawn structure to be fixed in an unfavourable manner But white seemed to have a big attack brewing on the king's wing

Anand was dismissive "He should have tried a pawn storm rather than direct piece play My king side was solid and he's getting washed out on the queenside especially after the exchange of light square bishops '

Very easy to say after the event but at the board the young Indian GM had to rely on his intuition once again Dreev's pieces lost coordination and he had to make sacrifices to keep his game going, after Anand coolly stopped the attack with 22-Rg8

A beautiful technical performance by Anand resulted in him going onto the offensive He made what even Hellers considered a difficult ending made simple—after winning a second pawn and forcing a mating attack Dreev once again nearly flagged out at both controls, while Anand took just over an hour for 59 moves

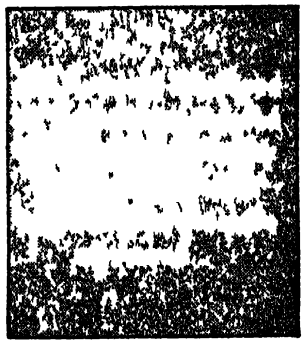
The sixth game followed a birthday ceremony for Dreev who cut the cake Anand wished him a happy birthday, though he did not present Dreev with the one gift he wanted– a win

Once again they disputed the Steinitz Variation of the French Defence after Anand made his favourite 4 e5 thrust This time Dreev played another variation --one where black sacrifices a piece for the initiative and three pawns

Dreev chose a move that has been played only once,"Someone called Fedautamov tried it"—(Anand) 13—g5 ripping the kingside open Anand showed his depth of preparation coming up with a new move on the 16th, evacuating his King from the danger zone

Dreev started thinking He found a good move penetrating with queen and rook after Anand played slightly





ANAND TELLS SPORTSWORLD:

SPORTSWORLD: What if you meet Karpov? ANAND: Well, sooner or later you have to meet the strong players. The quarter finals will be much tougher

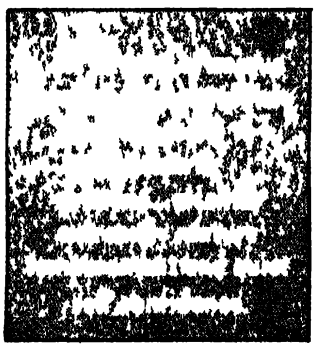
RAMANAN/RELIANCE NEWS



carelessly

It looked like black had everything to play for, but he only had three minutes for his last 13 moves also At this stage Dreev allowed a cheapo—a knight sacrifice that forces mate He overstepped the time limit on the 35th handing Anand his ticket to Brussels

In Brussels, in the quarters, Anand s likely opponents are Nigel Short or Jan Timman—both match-hardened players who would possibly be the favourites



But, there or later, Anand has two things going for him

One is his unique speed of thought that makes him impossible to simulate in practice The other is his extremely mature temperament and quiet self-confidence Anand respects his opponents, but he worships at no altar When he sits down to play, he does not doubt his ability to win—be it Karpov, Kasparov or whoever sitting across the board ●



THE LUCK FACTOR

Indian sport is full of young prodigies who have threatened to conquer the world only to fall by the wayside But Grandmaster Viswanathan Anand is different Lucky to have parents who cared about his unusual interest in chess, lucky to be born in Madras, the nerve centre of Indian chess this is one youngster who has exceeded his childhood promise

Schoolboy prodigies rarely live up to their full potential, but in Viswanathan Anand's case it can be said that he has in fact exceeded the wildest expectations. The history of Indian sport is littered with seamy examples of young prodigies who have failed....

THESE are troubled times for Indian sport The Indian football team is beaten by a Dutch club side by margins that makes us blush The hockey side slips from first to third position in an international tournament held at home The cricket team loses two successive one day internationals to lowly Sri Lanka The table tennis squads slide down badly at the Asian Championship

But wait there is hope in the form of a tall cherubic youth from Madras who has zipped up the chess ladder to become one of the top players in the world Yes he is right up there along with Anatoly Karpov Jan Timman and Vasily Ivanchuk as a challenger to Garry Kasparov s throne And at 21 nothing really seems beyond him

Schoolboy prodigies rarely live up to their full potential but in Viswanathan Anand s case it can be said that he has in fact exceeded the wildest expectations The history of Indian sport is littered with seamy examples of young prodigies who have failed to live up to expectations who threaten to conquer the world only to fall beaten and bruised by the



wayside If there is just one shining exception, it is Anand

Sure, he has been lucky For a start, maybe, he was lucky to be born in Madras which is the nerve centre of Indian chess Then he was lucky to have had such far sighted parents as father, Viswanathan and mother, Sushila who saw their child's unusual interest at a very early age and then nurtured it carefully through the years

Lucky again that at a very vital stage of this development (at the age of 10) he went to Manila where his father was on deputation for the Indian Railways Here besides improving his game, Anand came into close contact with Eugene Torre, then Asia s only GM who was quick to spot Anand s potential and forecasted a great future for him Lucky again that when he came back at a slightly advanced stage of his career he was again very much in the midst of a bustling chess atmosphere in Madras, where existed a whole lot of International Masters including India's first IM, Manuel Aaron, and some of the most dedicated administrators in Indian chess

"Anand would show us how to make better moves, or so he said. Who was this cheeky boy? I wondered. At that time I thought he was a damn nuisance. Now when I see him play I am confident that he will be a damn nuisance to the other Grandmasters", recalled IM Manuel Aaron.

But then, too much should not be made of the luck factor Many Indian sportsmen have been born lucky and have enjoyed a run of good fortune, but they have not built upon it They have lacked the heart, their attitude has been pusillanimous, they have not been ready to make the sacrifices that a youngster has to make if he wants to make it to the top They have opted for the easy life and have lacked the singlemindedness of purpose

Yes that last quality again A singlemindedness of purpose It is so very important to achieve one's ambition, but how many young sportsmen in India have it? Well, Viswanathan Anand certainly does

His father told *Sportsworld* a delightful tale to illustrate this "His mother taught him chess at six after seeing his unusual interest in the game Between six and nine, Anand's interest in theory grew and so we subscribed to a couple of chess magazines and pamphlets When the issues arrived, Anand would grab them, run upstairs to his room close the door and bury himself into them There was no way anyone could disturb him or get him to do something else at that time We used to hope and pray that the post never arrived during lunchtime For that meant Anand would not even have his lunch He had this burning desire to reach the top at a very early age '

Then there is another engaging story told by IM Manuel Aaron "We all used to play seriously at the Tal Chess Club in the late seventies when this slip of a lad used to come in and start making smart comments on our moves Not only that he would show us how to make better moves, or so he said Who was this cheeky boy? I wondered At that time I thought he was a damn nuisance But soon on closer scrutiny I discovered that he was uncommonly gifted



GM Anand with his father, Viswanathan and mother, Sushila

Not only did I encourage him, but I also told everyone about him. Now when I see him play, I am confident that he will be a damn nuisance to the other Grandmasters". He certainly was to Dreev in Madras

The two year stint in Manila did not in any way hinder Anand's interest in chess. In fact it only augmented it Viswanathan recalls how Anand used to stay up and try to solve the chess quiz programmes on TV. "They had this weekly programme where in if one solved the day's quiz, he would get a prize. Anand solved it so easily that he won the prize everytime. After he won it 12 times, the organisers told him to stop sending in his entry since they also wanted others to win the prize The others never really did have a chance as long as Anand sent in his entry"

Anand's game has many strong points. His deep study of theory lets him analyse a position very quickly. His immense knowledge has meant that he can try out various openings, and middle and end game options Even in a ticklish situation Anand's skill has seen him not only wriggle out, but also turn the tables on his opponent. Proof of this was seen in the sixth game against Dreev. The Soviet GM, desperately in need of a win to keep his hopes alive, made a novel opening that surprised Anand who however kept his nerve

During the middle game it seemed anybody's match Then Anand seized the initiative with a brilliant move, sacrificing a Knight to gain a better position. Opening up the board, Anand then hounded Dreev's King with his Queen and Rook and the Soviet GM, already under severe time pressure, had no option but to resign. That single move sealed Dreev's fate and was hailed by IM Ravi Kumar as "a stroke of genius".



GM Anand with his second, Heilers

Perhaps Anand's forte is his super quick moves. The speed with which he executed his moves is enough to bewilder even the strongest opponent. He unsettled Dreev by his quick moves even when he was under no time pressure. And this really baffled Dreev.....

But perhaps Anand's forte is his super quick moves. The speed with which he executes his moves is enough to bewilder even the strongest opponent. Generally if his opponents take two hours to complete 40 moves, Anand takes about half that time. And this was generally the pattern even during the matches with Dreev. He unsettled Dreev by quick moves even when he was under no time pressure. Something that baffled Dreev as much as it delighted the spectators. Explaining this, Sushila says, "Anand believes in making a sensible move quickly, rather than the best move after consuming a lot of time."

At Hotel Trident in south Madras, for about a week, Anand and Dreev presented a perceptible contrast. The bespectacled Dreev was a picture of concentration, generally unmoving in his chair, his eyes on the board, and his hands on the chin. Anand was no less a picture of concentration, but he also fidgeted in his chair as he impatiently waited for Dreev to make his move so that he could possibly reply straightaway. Sometimes he would go out to the adjoining garden for some fresh air. Occasionally he would sip a glass of water or juice. Now and then he would look at his parents seated in the front row. All in all, he presented the picture of a young man eager to get on with it, eager to win in the quickest possible time. Chief Arbiter, A.R. Khan of Bangladesh who has seen some of the world's leading players was so impressed by Anand that he called him, "A tremendous player." Khan was simply amazed by Anand's moves in the sixth game which he said were, "Out of this world".

Off the board Anand is a picture of charm, poise and humility. His handling of the press was superb. Straight questions were answered with a straight face. No monosyllables or lengthy monologues, just enough to satisfy the reporters. Embarassing questions were met with a smile or a, "Lets wait and see". And to top it all he has an impish sense of humour. When asked as to who he would like to

meet in the quarter-final Anand quipped "Probably one of the losers'

Where does Anand go from here? He is now among the eight top players in the world His victory at Madras has given him 10 or 15 ELO points and with a rating of around 2650 he is among the fourth or fifth highest ranked player in the world His opponent will be known later this month and it does not matter to Anand who he will be It will be just another chess game for him like the match with Dreev Sure, he will practise seriously He will discuss strategy with his second, Ferdidand Hellers He will study his opponent's games and generally prepare as well as he should But a case of nerves? No One cannot imagine the phlegmatic Anand nervous A change of lifestyle? No chance There wasn't even a major celebration following his triumph at Madras



When asked as to who he would like to meet in the quarter-final Anand quipped, "Probably one of the losers."

Whoever his quarter-final opponent is, one is inclined to make Anand the favourite His game is at an all time peak now and he is presently on a roll So watch out all you Grandmasters out there And you too, world champion Garry Kasparov The Indian tiger is on the prowl And he is hungry ●

IN TAMIL NADU, CHESS IS IT!

IF Calcutta is the headquarter of Indian football and Bombay the Mecca of Indian cricket, Madras is the nerve centre of Indian chess Just one simple fact will illustrate this Out of 11 International Masters in the country, six are from Tamil Nadu alone And, of course, India's first Grandmaster Viswanathan Anand also hails from Madras And till the day he won the Candidates match against Alexey Dreev he remained India's only GM Now of course he has been joined by Dibyendu Barua of Calcutta

Manuel Aaron the first Indian IM, was from Madras He won the title in 1960 and for 17 years no one emulated him But in the last 14 years India has produced 10 more IM's besides two GM's The 10 other IM's are Raja Ravisekhar V Ravikumar, T N Parameswaran, Lanka Ravi and K Murugan (all from Tamil Nadu), Ravi Hegde, D V Prasad (Karnataka) Tilak Thipsay, Vaidya (Maharashtra)

The reasons for Tamil Nadu's dominance are not difficult to identify There is a strong base for popularising and improving standards in the State According to D V Sundar, secretary, Tamil Nadu Chess Association, there are tournaments conducted all around the year in major centres including Madras, Coimbatore, Salem, Neyveli, Tiruchi, Madurai and Tuticorin "There are more than 600 registered players in the State," says Sunder proudly

Sponsorship is not hard to come by with industrialists vying with each other to pour money into the game and encourage the players through employment The Lakshmi Group, The Sakthi Group, Neyveli Lignite Corporation, SPIC, Indian Bank and BHEL are some of the leading public sector and private sector companies that are playing a prominent part in popularising chess

The RAMCO Group recently took over corporate sponsorship of Anand while the Butterfly Group of companies sponsored the World Championship Candidates match between Anand and Dreev

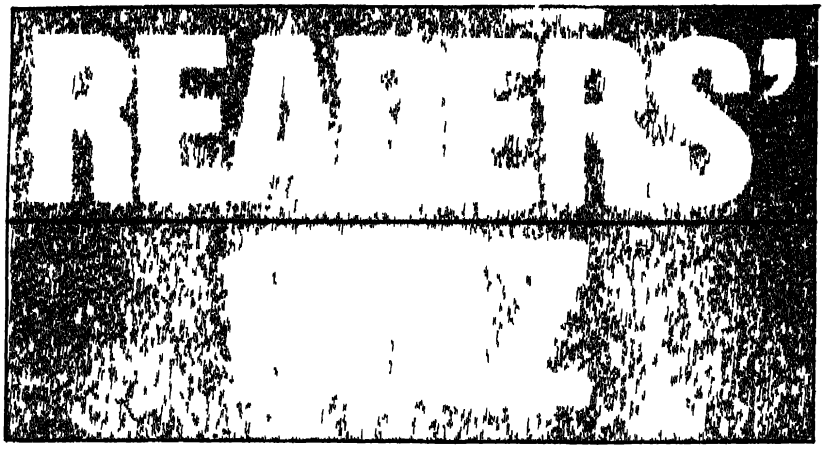
All Indian Open tournaments are conducted regularly with attractive prize money and free board and lodging provided to the competitors

More important, the State association is also aware of the needs of chess players and interest is maintained by holding regular tournaments and exhibitions According to Anand, "it is a very active association" Sundar himself acknowledges the part played by a set of dedicated office bearers the association has had

But by far the most important reason for the "unusual interest" in the State has been the inspiration derived from the top players First, it was Manuel Aaron and then , along came Anand It is the Indian GM's feats that has generated a "chess boom" in the State As a matter of fact, Anand's inspiration has gone beyond the boundaries of the State and as Dhruv Sawhney, AICF (All India Chess Federation) president, at the inauguration of the World Candidates match in Madras, said "He is a source of inspiration for the youth of the country. Indian chess is at an all time high now with over 100 rate players in the country' A vast number of these players are from Tamil Nadu, upholding the number one position of the State in the country.

Partab Ramchand

PHOTOGRAPHS NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA



QUESTIONS

1 Who coined the terms-'CITIUS, ALTIUS, FORTIUS'?

2 Name Mike Gatting's autobiography

3 Name the first player to wear shorts at Wimbledon

4 Who set 18 world records as a distance runner but never won an Olympic title?

5 Name the lady who beat P T Usha to third place in the 400m hurdles at the '84 Olympics

6 The movie 'Two Gentlemen Sharing', released in '68,features a great sports personality Who?

7 What is the court where Jai Alai (Pelota) is played?

RATING TEST

15: Wish you were part of our team

Between 10 and 13: Not too bad

Below 10: Sportsworld reading recommended

All answers sent in by the contributor

ANSWERS

1 Father Henry Didion
2 Leading from the front
3 Bunny Austin
4 Don Clark
5 Christina Cojacaru
6 Gary Sobers
7 Fronton
8 Javier Sotomayor
9 Vasily Alexeyev (U S S R) who, between 1970-'77, broke 80 world records
10 Paris, London and Los Angeles
11 Vijay Madgavkar, in 1947
12 Soli Sorabjee
13 John Landy of Australia
14 Ghulam Mohammad
15 Krishnamachari Srikkanth

THIS QUIZ IS COMPILED BY:

TURAB-UR-RAHMAN

NO. 458. 1ST 'A' CROSS,

8TH BLOCK. KORAMANGALA

BANGALORE-34

8 Who is called the 'Boy from Himonar'?

9 Who is said to be the most prolific record breaking weightlifter?

10 Name the three cities to have hosted the Olympics twice?

11 Name the first Indian to reach the finals of the All England Badminton championships

12 Who was the lawyer for the six banned Indian cricketers?

13 Who was the second man to run the mile under four minutes?

14 What was the real name of Gama, the wrestler?

15 To which batsman did Robin Marlar refer to as Test cricket's village batsman?

ALLAN BORDER

THE STREETFIGHTER

Peter Roebuck pays tribute to the unassuming Australian captain, a man who has never retreated from a fight

ALLAN ROBERT BORDER is a cricketing genius. For years he has been portrayed as a battler, a doughty warrior who defied a lack of talent to conquer his world, an old sweat: 99% perspiration 1% inspiration.

Border has played his part in building this image because it fits his assessment of himself as a plain fellow, a man entirely without poetry, a thrifty pragmatic cricketer lacking panache and charisma and capable only of hacking out a few runs.

Chewing gum, stroking his chin in hard times, cursing volubly and otherwise staring unemotionally as the game goes by, he is a deliberately downbeat cricketer.

And it has all been utter nonsense. For Border is as much a genius as ever were Viv Richards, David Gower or Ian Botham. His genius takes a different form, that is all. His genius lies in judgment, in attention to detail, in consistent reproduction of shots and his ability to handle all sorts of bowling on all sorts of pitches. He has no flash, cannot delight with a sudden air plucked from the heavens but since when have frivolity and genius been bedfellows?

Border has been underestimated because we identify genius with volatility, see it in a Paul Gascoigne surge or a daring pot by Alex Higgins, miss it in the relentlessness of Steve Davis or Rod Laver, for these are ordinary fellows who never make us gasp, not fragile enough to be geniuses.

Evidently Border also holds his powers in no high regard. Take his bowling. It is in truth if not a load of tripe at least a barrowful of turnips would not trouble a village blacksmith. And what does this blessed fellow do? He bowls out the

BORDER's genius lies in judgement, in attention to detail, in consistent reproduction of shots and his ability to handle all sorts of bowling on all sorts of pitches...



BATSMEN have appeared in two sorts, nomads and settlers. Nomads raise merry hell wherever they go... Border is a settler, one who tends his cattle, encloses his property, pays his dues if grumpily, and ekes out a living, enduring the seasons as they change....



PATRICK EAGAR

West Indies to win a Test match (Sydney 1989), a feat beyond any contemporary save a couple. He even rolls over an apologetic arm in limited-over games and, lo, wickets fall to him. Is this not the same magic which has for years been detected in Botham's golden arm?

Take his fielding. Border does not think much of it, moves himself from the slips whenever he can, giving precedence to lesser men. And yet he has taken more catches for Australia than anyone else, most of them at second slip where teams customarily position their key man. Moreover, his last three shies at stumps have hit their target as if guided by radar, one run-out (Wayne Larkins in Sydney) and two close shaves resulting. Border has the knack, shared by Richards and Botham, of seizing upon a moment.

Take his batting. Since time immemorial batsmen, and people, have appeared in two sorts, nomad and settler. Nomads raise merry hell wherever they go, slaughtering their enemies, pinching their crops and then moving restlessly away. Viv Richards, Dean Jones and Gower, in their various ways, are of this persuasion. Border is a settler, one who tends his cattle, encloses his property, pays his dues if grumpily, and ekes out a living, enduring the seasons as they change.

It is this lack of drama which misleads us. Border never engages our emotions, never provokes wonder.

But consider his record. In 118 Tests he has scored nearly 9,000 runs at an average around 54, figures which entitle him to be called Australia's greatest batsman since Don Bradman. Many of his innings have been extraordinary. Defying overwhelming odds and a ferocious assault on his body he scored 98 and 100 not out in Trinidad in 1983-84, singlehandedly turning the ashes of defeat into the glory of rescue, an effort universally recognised as one of cricket's greatest.

A season earlier in Melbourne he was joined by Jeff Thomson, the mother-and-father of tail-enders (and now Queensland's coach),

MOST RUNS IN TEST CRICKET

All Countries	T	I	NO	Runs	HS	Av	100	50
S.M. Gavaskar (I)	125	214	16	10122	236*	51.12	34	45
A.R. Border (A)	118	203	36	8870	205	53.11	23	50
G. Boycott (E)	108	193	23	8114	246*	47.73	22	42
Javed Miandad (P)	109	165	18	8064	280*	54.86	22	39
G.S. Sobers (WI)	93	160	21	8032	365*	57.78	26	30
D.I. Gower (E)	112	195	15	8021	215	44.56	18	38
I.V.A. Richards (WI)	111	166	10	7990	291	51.22	24	38
M.C. Cowdery (E)	114	188	15	7624	182	44.07	22	38



PATRICK EAGAR

with Australia still needing 8.3 to beat England In one of cricket s most electrifying finishes Border nagged and punched away until his team were four runs short of victory only for Thomson to edge Botham to slip Was ever calculation so superbly executed? This from a man who, they say, can save games but not win them

He has scored hundreds in Pakistan and India, too, for Border travels well, does his duty in every clime, will do so as long as his legs carry him Border concentrates on winning and scoring runs, drugs which lured him away from the beaches of his boyhood Paul Prichard, a colleague at Essex, regards Border as a genius, has done since seeing him score a valiant hundred on a nasty pitch against Tony Merrick, a West Indian quickie who had knocked him nearly senseless a day earlier Another time, studying an especially green county wicket, Border said he could not see himself breaking his duck To no one's surprise save his own he scored 150

AS a captain his strengths have been his independence of political factions and his lack of interest in manipulation

It is a part of Border's secret that he is better than he thinks he is

For years he was apt to drop himself down the order in one day cricket, ruing his inability to hit across the line Now, persuaded by friends he realises he has enormous strengths too—strengths tested on the sands of time

Border s genius lies in his will, in his judgment and in his selection of shots He seldom misreads a delivery, and can hook, cut and advance down a track to place a spinner through a gap as if he were threading cotton through the eye of a needle Few men have such powers

Nor do his talents stop at bowling, fielding and batting He played no part in bringing down Kim Hughes, favoured son of the establishment, never sought to be captain, inherited a broken team and yet has managed to lead Australia to a World Cup victory, to regain and now to hold the Ashes and to form a hardened outfit And without anyone thinking him astute

No doubt his selectors are wise, and perhaps his coach is a help, but it has been Border on the podium throughout, dictating the tempo, cursing, shocking his men by threatening to resign every so often and yet summoning the sweetness to continue

As captain his strengths have been his independence of political factions, his lack of interest in manipulation and his timing, for he was too young to join World Series Cricket and is accordingly tarred by neither side

This is a man without pretension a straightforward man who has grown from a beach boy who hated work, played cricket because it was a living and chose larrikin friends, into a man of stature

He has never retreated from a fight and, helped by good blokes like Geoff Marsh and David Boon, has become a captain who, being a streetfighter, knows how limited-over games can be won and is gradually grasping the tactical nuances of Test cricket Border deserves the handshakes which, a week or so ago signified his holding of the Ashes He has been underrated in every respect but his record speaks for itself, and his record is that of a supremely gifted cricketer

COURTESY THE SUNDAY TIMES

RAMAN LAMBA SPEAKS ON HIS CLASH WITH RASHID PATEL

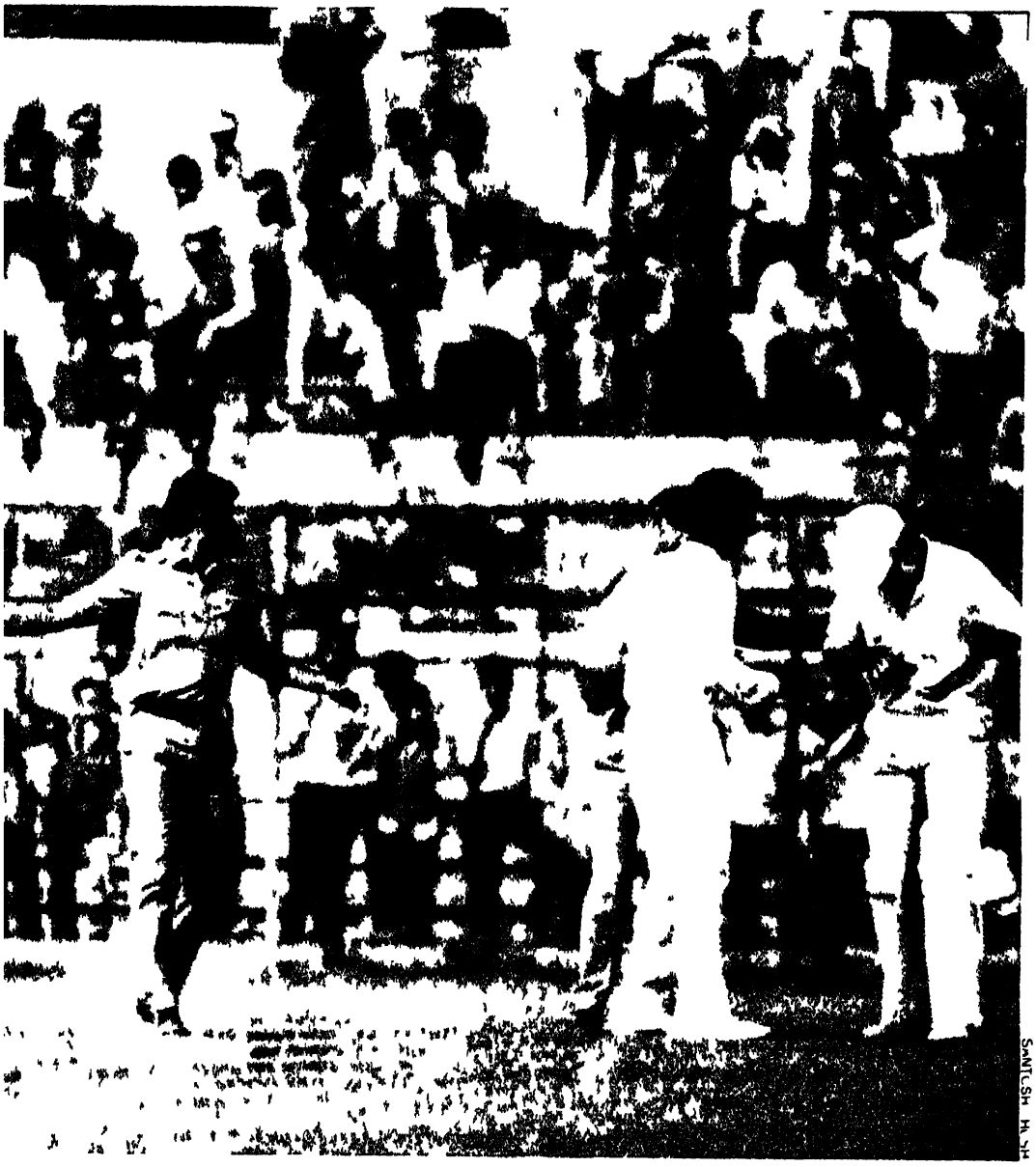
"I felt as if I was being lathicharged for having performed well"





RAMAN LAMBA is a shattered man. For one who was hoping to stage a comeback, the incident at Jamshedpur came as a great shock. Batting at his usual best, Lamba had played an important role in shaping North's victory; his near-double century knock seemingly enough to justify his selection in the team in place of Navjot Sidhu who was expelled on disciplinary grounds.

Is 'Rambo' Lamba totally innocent?



A fuming Rashid Patel is led away by Kiran More (left) while Lamba is pacified

"I have plenty of cricket left in me I have always enjoyed playing cricket more than anything else in life Cricket comes before even my family It gives me bread and butter and why should I do anything which would deprive me of my love for the game?" Lamba asked

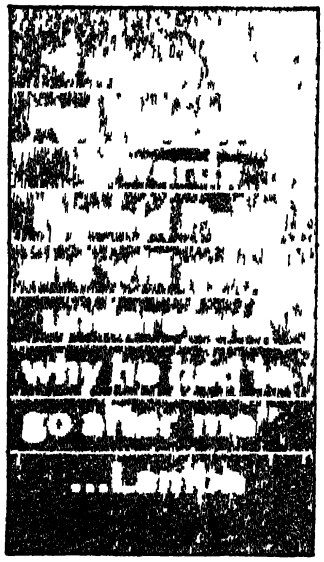
Lamba who would have been a far more happier man had he not gone to bat in the second innings, hoped that justice would prevail

'You can see the evidence for yourself The Press report, photographs and the film shot by Doordarshan will prove my innocence I was always trying to protect myself when Patel was trying to hit me with the stump Even the umpires watched the incident and would give you the right picture I felt as if I was being lathicharged for having performed well with the bat I never had any ill-feeling towards Rashid Patel and will never understand why he had to go after me I was surprised no one came to help me," he said

Having given his version to the committee in Bombay, Lamba's love for the game was demonstrated by the fact that the next morning he was playing a match in a local tournament in Delhi As he put it, "my only love is cricket "

Ghaus Mohammed, New Delhi

Lamba maintains that he did not play any aggressive role to provoke Rashid Patel 'I have always played cricket like a gentleman at home and abroad Never in my playing career have I ever been involved in any uncricketing incident on the field Why should I have done anything which would have harmed my team? The match was over for all practical purposes and there was no frustration in me I had performed well and that was what



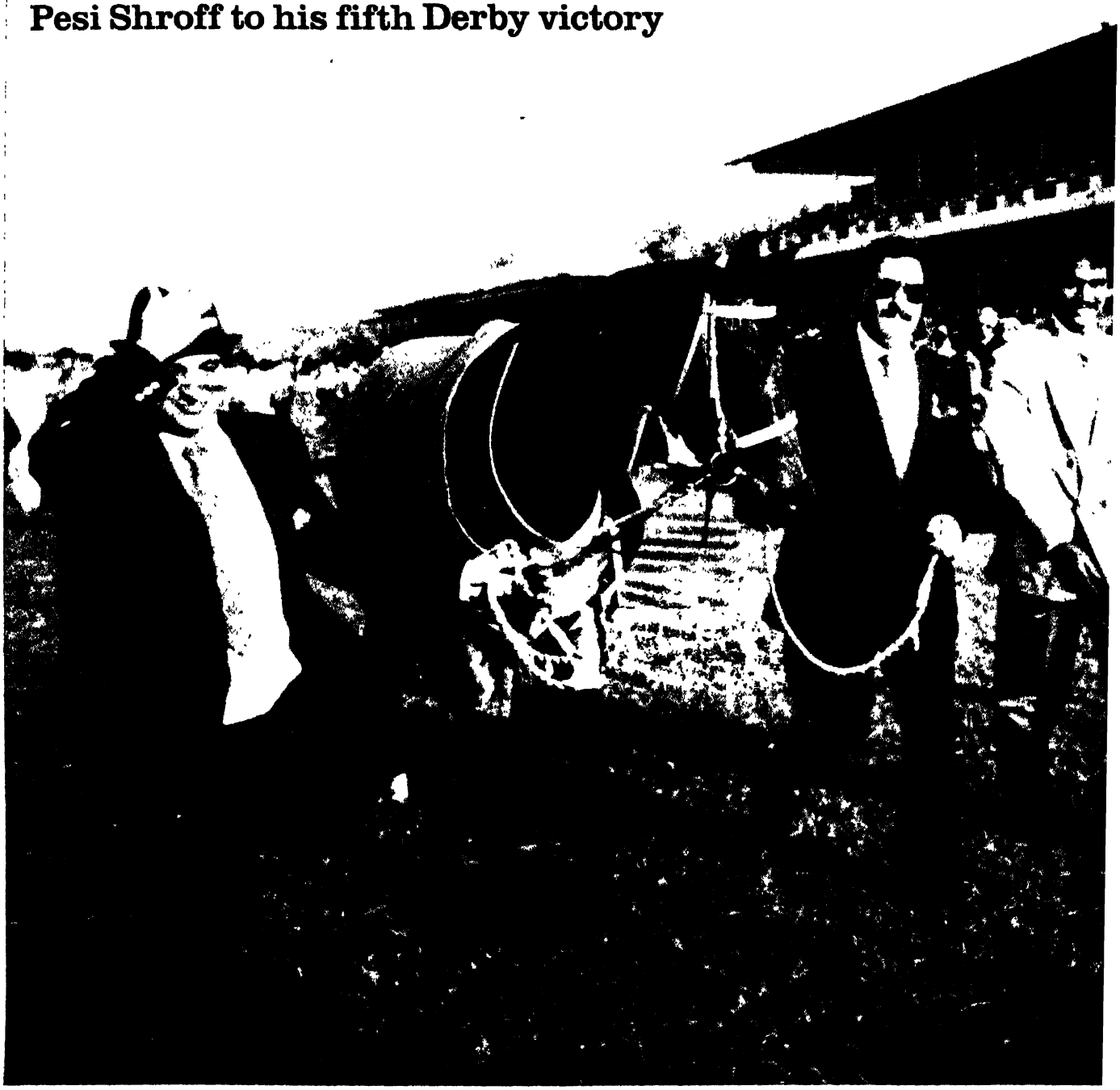
my intentions were Lamba said

Lamba pointed out that it was Rashid Patel who hurled bouncers at him and even overstepped the bowling crease Had I been hit by that ball I don t know whether I would have ever played cricket at any level It was God s grace that the ball did not hit me Tell me is this cricket? Even in *gali* (street) cricket one does not see such boorish behaviour,' Lamba added

McDOWELL INDIAN DERBY

WORKING GIRL

It was just another day at the office for Starfire Girl as she carried Pesi Shroff to his fifth Derby victory



PHOTOGRAPHS GAUTAM PATOLE

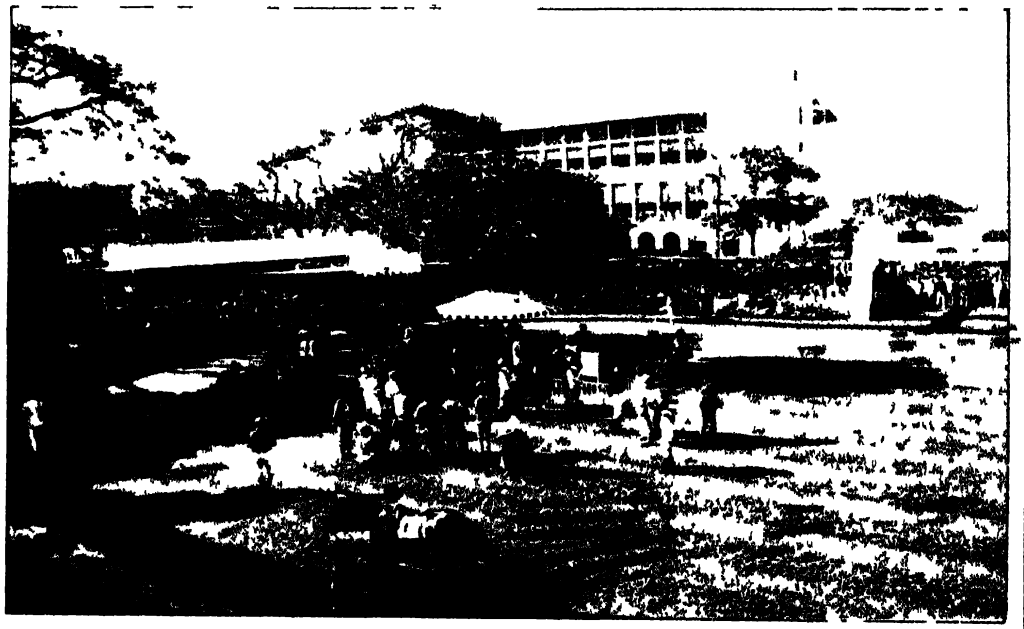
The strut after the gallop...Starfire Girl is paraded around by owners Vijay Mallya (in sunglasses) and Mr Poonawalla while trainer Altaf Hussain tags along Doing the work in the saddle was India's top jockey Pesi Shroff (inset)



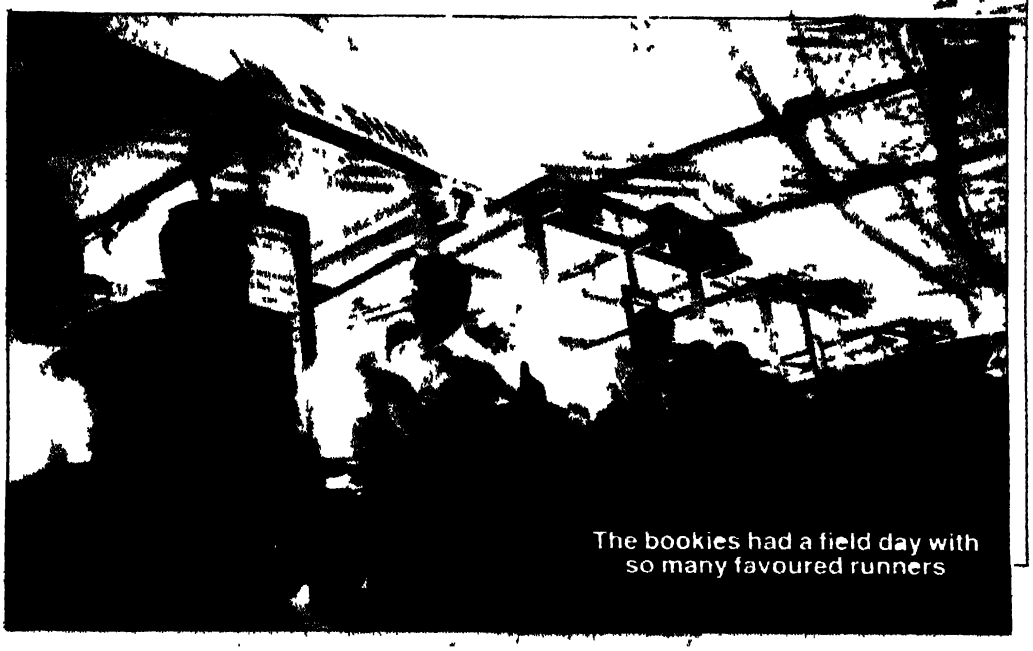




Lester Piggott just couldn't spark Speedbird and disappointed



The last chance to make up your mind...the parade in the paddock



The bookies had a field day with so many favoured runners

THE IRISH SYNDROME

Brian Glanville analyses the battle plans and current strengths of a few teams before the next set of European Championship qualifiers



The Irish have won a few games. But their loss record is enviable

IRELAND are not due at Wembley for their return European Championship qualifier against England until the end of March but already the Football Association is buzzing with expectation and alarm

The fear is that on the night the Irish will outnumber the English segregation will prove impossible, and violence will ensure But what will happen on the field?

This is a match which England simply have to win In three meetings with Ireland in recent


COLORSPORT


ROB WILKINSON

Jack Charlton: The man who is everything to Irish football

Ireland still seem to be a limited long ball team, and the vast spaces of Wembley may not suit them as well as their own bumpy rugby pitch at Lansdowne Road. Still Jackie Charlton has proved himself a very smart tactician and no doubt he will hope that Ireland can still pull off yet a third draw

tournaments they have lost once and drawn twice

The Republic beat them in Stuttgart in a remarkable upset in the finals of the European Championship in 1988 In Cagliari, a dreadful game produced a draw when a fearful mistake by substitute Steve McMahon presented a soft equalising goal to Ireland's Kevin Sheedy

In Dublin this season, the teams drew 1-1 in a match played on an appalling pitch Again England went ahead, with a beautifully worked out goal but a fine header by Irish striker Tony Cascarino made it 1-1

Paul Gascoigne did not play in that game Most unexpectedly, and for no convincing reason he was left out To replace him with the veteran Gordon Cowans, who made no valid contribution, was a bizarre decision by manager Graham Taylor

Now Taylor is swearing that he means to build his whole team around Gascoigne which makes sense since the Spurs player, whatever his temperamental failings is clearly the outstanding English footballer of his generation and by far the most creative

The problem is what will his form be like by March? Taylor himself has understandably expressed concern on the terrific off field pressures exercised on the 23-year-old pressures which may have been behind his very public sending off in the New Year's Day match between Tottenham and Manchester United

The dismissal was for allegedly swearing at the referee over a refused penalty Gazza said he was only swearing

But it is hard for a simple vulnerable young man to stand up to all the attention that he gets Nor is it certain that he is always following the best advice, though it is surely there at hand in the shape of his very shrewd club manager Terry Venables, and his sensible, mature colleague, Gary Lineker Signing a contract with a single newspaper has made Gazza something of a hostage to fortune and perhaps it was no coincidence that a rival tabloid should have made a gratuitous and spiteful front-page attack on him

Then there is the question of England's present tactics, which are hardly the ideal ones to promote Gazza's game The so-called sweeper system takes a



Graham Taylor has belatedly realised the importance of a certain Mr Gascoigne

man out of the midfield and isolates the two central midfield men Gazza and another World Cup hero, Aston Villa s David Platt

Ireland still seem to me a limited long ball team, and I do not think the vast spaces of Wembley will suit them as well as their own bumpy rugby pitch at Lansdowne Road

Still, Jackie Charlton has proved himself a very smart tactician and no doubt he will hope that Ireland can pull off yet a third draw

On February 20, in Paris, France receive Spain in a vital game in Group One Under Michel Platini, France have made a flying start, winning all three of their games so far, while the Spaniards lost, a little unluckily, in Prague to the Czechs

France will hope to have Eric Cantona back from a bad injury to partner his Marseille club mate Jean-Pierre Papin up front but even if they don't, they will have a powerful well-integrated side

Spain scored nine against a strangely inept Albania, at home and with Emilio Butragueno running riot and setting records, but the French defence won't be as accommodating

Half the Italian team was missing from its recent 4-0 win in Cyprus but this allowed Azeglio Vicini—who says he'll resign if Italy don't qualify—successfully to launch two midfielders from the Genoese clubs, Eranio (Genoa) and Lombardo (Sampdoria)

The crunch here may not come until next October, when Italy play away to the Soviet Union, whose burgeoning young team held them 0-0 in Rome ●

Taylor now swears that he means to build his whole team around Gascoigne, which makes sense, since the Spurs player, whatever his temperamental failings, is clearly the outstanding English footballer of his generation and by far the most creative

ROBBING BANKS

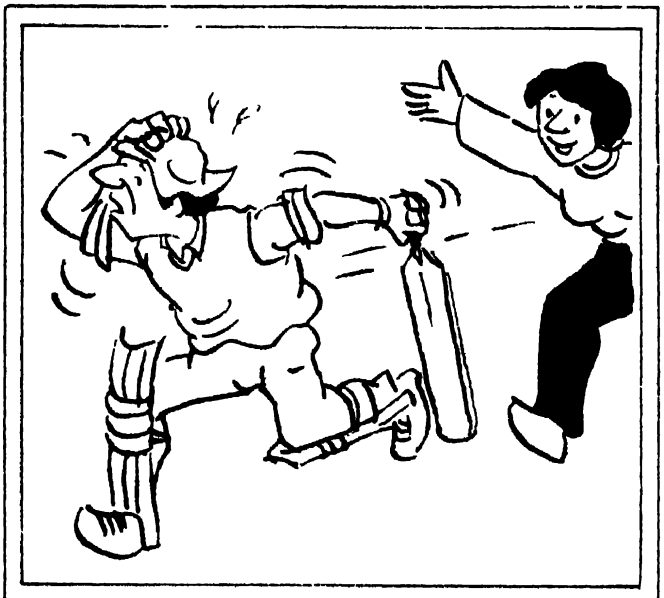
To watch football games

WE really don't know whether to condemn or pat the back of a certain Mr Claude Dawson Jones However, he sure can be voted 'Sports Freak of the Year'.

Described by the cops as a "Los Angeles Raiders fan", Jones is not a hooligan He prefers slightly more advanced methods of operation. But the odds caught up when he was charged with robbing 24 banks in Sacramento, California The reason? To finance his trips to go and watch the Raiders in action.

Jones, currently being held on bail of $1 million, was arrested in a motel room And in his possession were . tickets for a Raiders game, what else? As things turned out, the Raiders lost heavily Probably because they missed their most ardent—if dishonest – fan'





AIDS AND CRICKET

Playing it safe

IS there a sporting cure to AIDS? In a letter published in the *Bangkok Post*, recently, there appears to be. Cricket

According to the writer, "Safer alternatives to sex should be sought A strong (and possible) cure is cricket. Cricket playing nations are capable of only limited amounts of sexual activity."

Well, Bangkok should know all about the prevention and cure of AIDS. But do they know about the large availability of 'maidens' in cricket?

FROM IRAQ TO U.S.A.

One way ticket

THE Iraq VS Rest of the World (sounds like a play off, doesn't it?) fiasco is slowly influencing the world of sport Many athletes have been caught up with the outbreak of war, but it is particularly distressing to professional soccer player Waad Hirmez

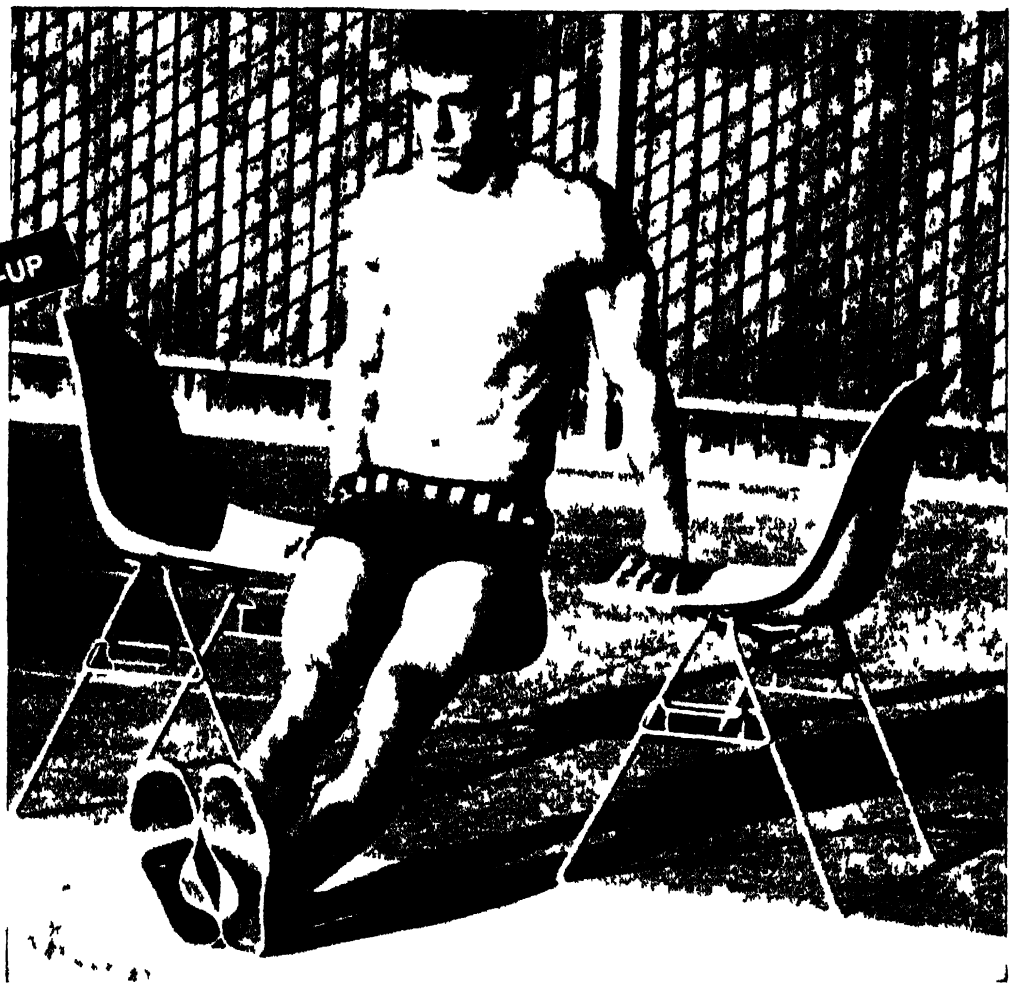
The 29-year-old player, who came to the United States from Iraq in 1979, became a US citizen in '86 and is now a midfielder for the San Diego Sockers And he's worried because "although my mother lives in San Diego, I still have two aunts, an uncle and four cousins in Baghdad." He went on to say "my parents' home is only a mile away from Saddam's palace, and by now it must be gone," ruefully admitting that a planned trip to take his wife and children there is "not possible" now.



Like most Americans Hirmez is fervently praying for peace. But maybe he should thank providence that he is alive...and kicking.

FITNESS

Warning!

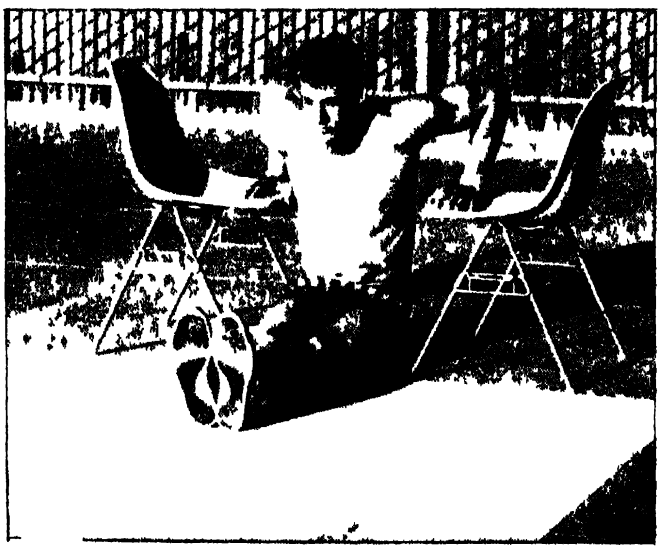


CHAIR PUSH-UP

WHAT s happening with those shoulders and arms guys? Considering we ve given you so many push ups to do the shirt sleeves should be fitting a little tighter And the shoulder seams stretching to the limit

Well if they aren t then you ve obviously been lazing off C mon fellas get those muscles pumping That s the only way we re going to broaden those shoulders and con them folks into believing that we ve got slim waists That of course is if you ve got a problem with the waist If not even better Having a naturally slim waist supplemented by broad shoulders isn t going to do you any harm

The first one we re dealing with this week is



Chair Push ups Placing two chairs facing each other about shoulder width apart put your palms on the edges and stretch the legs out in front Making sure the chairs are securely balanced, bend the elbows to lower your hips toward the floor Then, gradually straighten the elbows and lift yourself back to the starting position This one works the shoulders and the triceps

The next one we're

Pushers Will Be Envied





INCLINE PUSH-UP

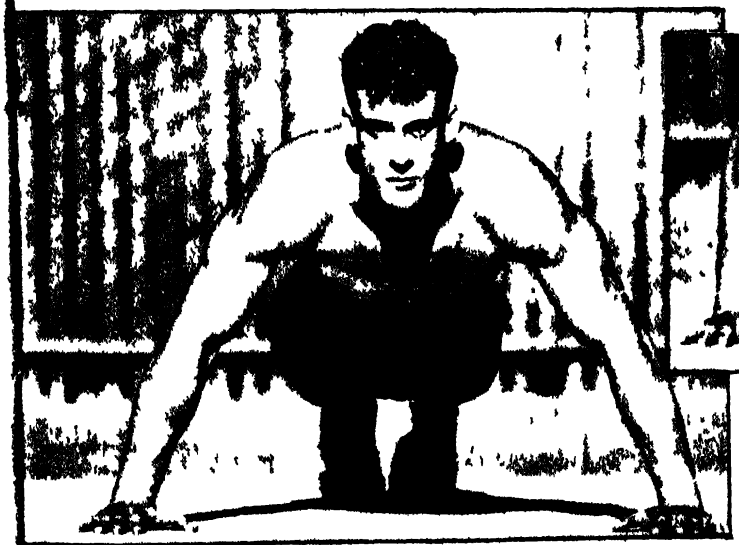
discussing is the Incline Push-up In effect a little easier than the Marine Push up, you use the same position and movement except that the arms are placed on two high objects This places extra load on the chest, triceps and frontal delts Try and get your chest as low as possible going below the level of the hands, if possible That'll really stretch out those delts making them grow

And the final one for this week is Wide-Grip Push-ups Again very similar to the Marine Push up, in that it requires you to get down on the floor and try to touch nose to floor before pushing up again But this one's done with the hands placed much wider than shoulder-width

Lower yourself till the chest touches the floor, and push yourself back to the starting position, taking care not to lock the elbows when you straighten them out fully

So, try these out for size, all you musclemen And, ladies, don't get discouraged if you can't do all these You're not meant to— although it wouldn't hurt you—and just sticking to some of the more basic push-ups will do the job for you

Like we said earlier, trimming that waist is about the toughest job in the business And it just keeps getting tougher with age So if you're planning on keeping that shape you're proudly flaunting right now (hope you are proud of it!) then, you've got to get started on ways of maintaining it





WIDE-GRIP PUSH-UP



MARK

Aravinda De Silva might not look like Mel Gibson. But he is Sri Lanka's lethal weapon as the New Zealanders found out recently....

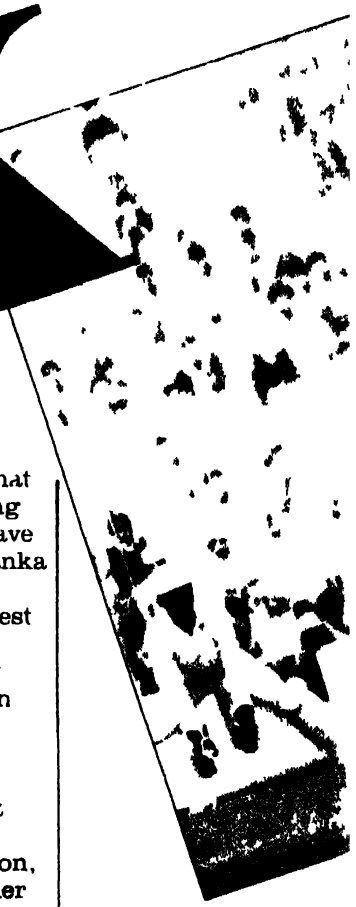
SOME seven years ago an 18 year old named Piinaduwage Aravinda de Silva made his international debut at cricket's holiest shrine Lord's, England For De Silva it was a quiet baptism to big time cricket as Sidath Wettimuny and Duleep Mendis with some stupendous batting were at centrestage of the Sri Lankan performance

Since then Sri Lankan cricket has seen many ups and downs Today while the likes of Mendis and Wettimuny have called it a day Aravinda de Silva has become one of the pillars of Sri Lankan cricket

"Don t call us babes of international cricket," he says "How much of international cricket have we played since our entry as a Test-playing nation some years ago?" De Silva asks "Please wait for some time," the affable De Silva pleads

Even Imran Khan, one of the finest cricket captains ever feels that Sri Lanka is a sleeping giant He is said to have remarked that Sri Lanka has the potential to become one of the finest batting sides in the world If the recently concluded Wellington Test against New Zealand (Sri Lanka scored 497 for nine declared in their first innings of the drawn game) is any indication, then maybe, in another two years time, Imran's predictions might come true

In recent times, Sri Lankan batting has revolved around the likes of De Silva, Arjuna Ranatunga and Asanka

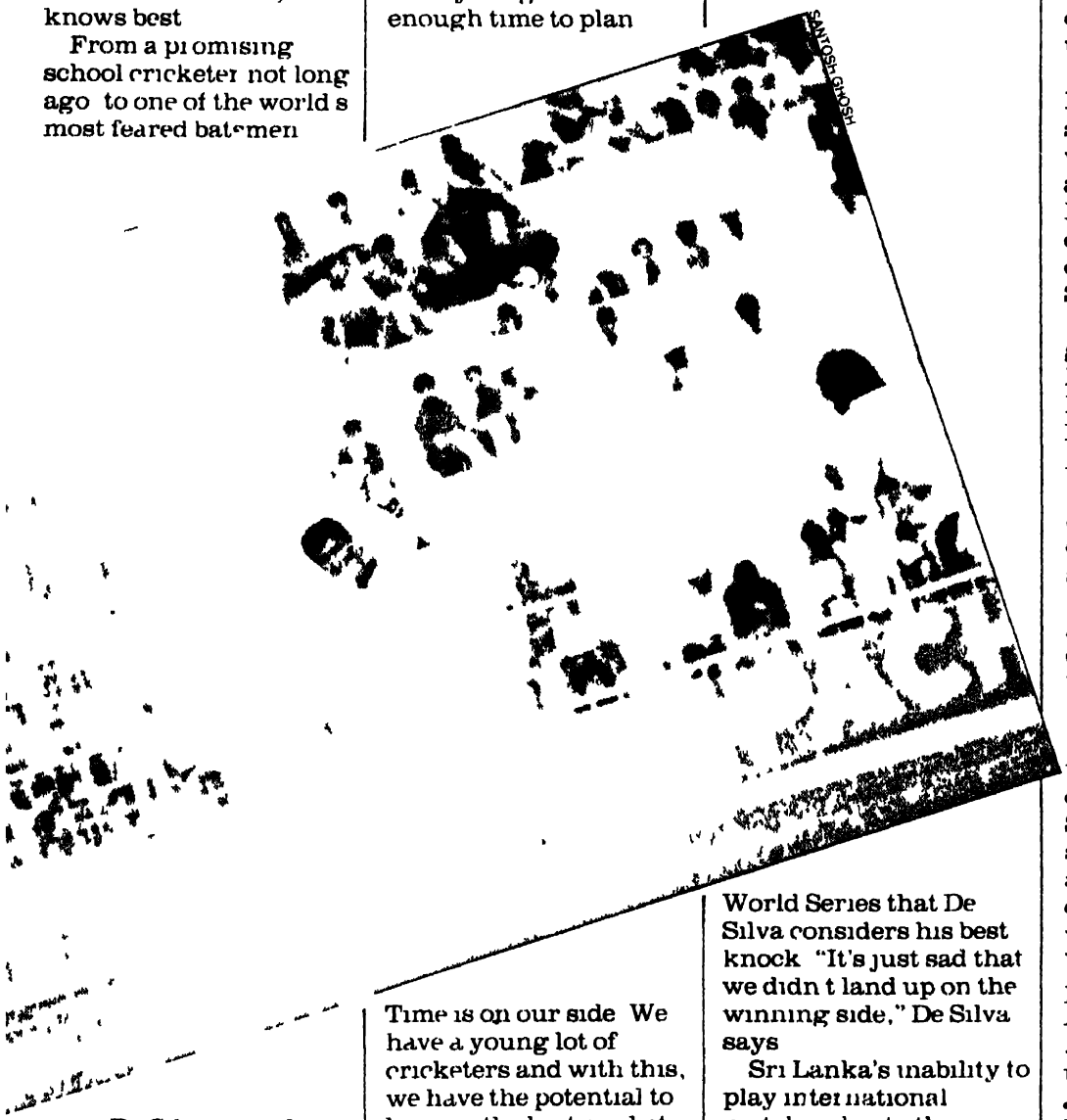


Aravinda De Silva with his flashy style of batting has always mesmerised spectators. Here he goes for a big hit in the recently concluded Asia Cup.

Gurusinha In fact, De Silva has become a house-hold name because of his swashbuckling style of batting The international media has named him 'Mad Max" or 'Mettle Mickey" for his ebullient style And De Silva continues to amass runs the way he knows best

From a promising school cricketer not long ago to one of the world s most feared batsmen now, De Silva s rise has truly been meteoric The initial years of international exposure were a process of learning "Yes I learnt a lot about the trade from Roy Dias, Mendis and Ranjan Madugalle They were three different types of personalities and each one a fine cricketer," De Silva said

The tips he got from his seniors have paid rich dividends De Silva is now Sri Lanka's vice-captain and it has been quite a tough job deputising to Arjuna Ranatunga ' Arjuna has a big job ahead of him He is young and has enough time to plan



Time is on our side We have a young lot of cricketers and with this, we have the potential to become the best cricket team Sri Lanka has ever produced," feels De Silva

It was after the MRF World Series last year, that De Silva's reputation as a world-class batsman started taking shape In five one-day internationals, De Silva aggregated 280 runs at an average of 56 This was only bettered by West Indians Desmond Haynes and Richie Richardson

It was a brilliant 96 against the Australians at the Fatorda Stadium in Margao in the MRF World Series that De Silva considers his best knock "It's just sad that we didn t land up on the winning side," De Silva says

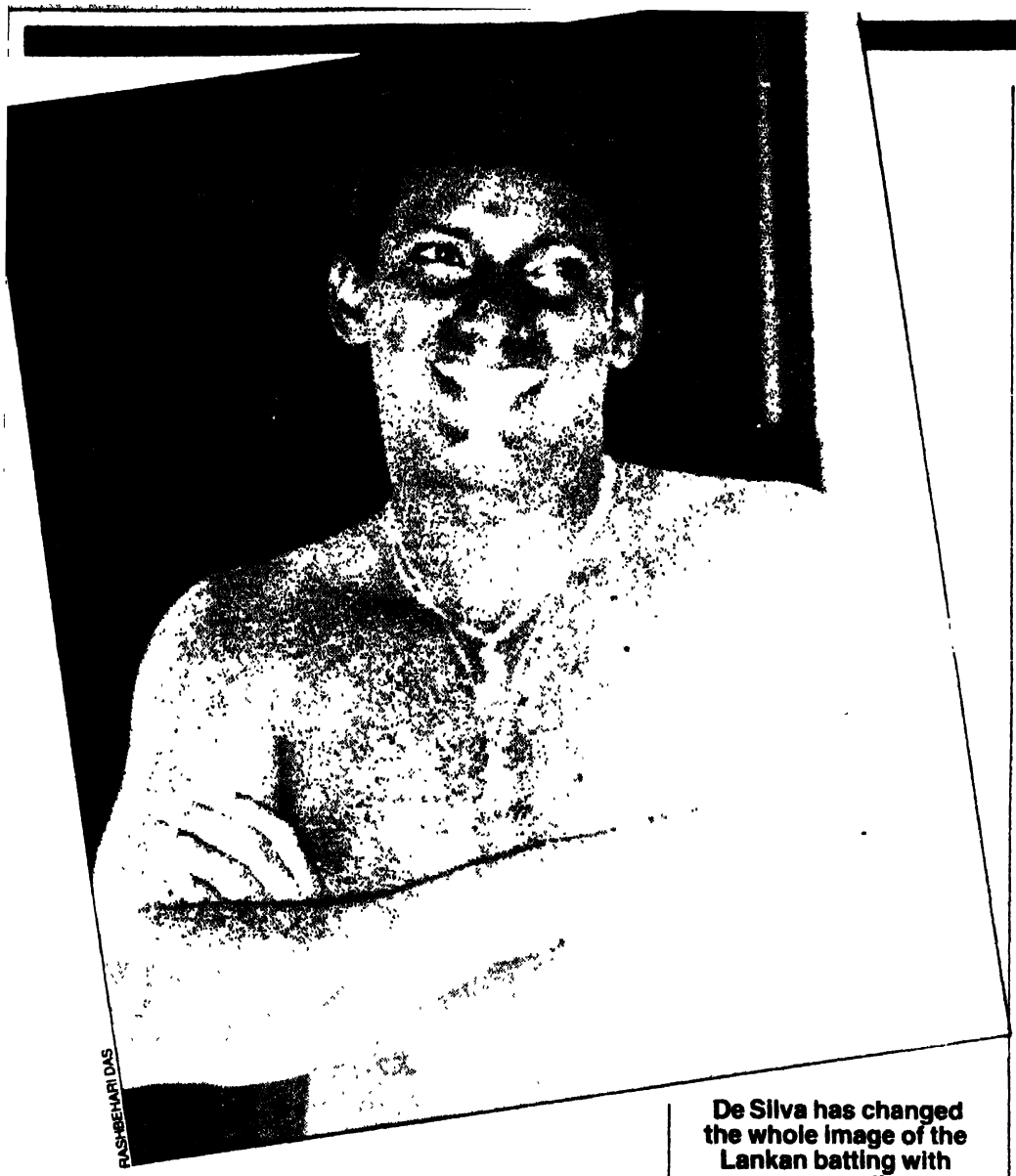
Sri Lanka's inability to play international matches due to the political strife in the island has not only hindered the progress of Lankan cricket, but it has also made people ignorant about some memorable innings played by the Sri Lankan cricketers overseas De Silva's reputation in the process has also suffered His two Test hundreds against a strong Pakistani bowling attack in Faisalabad and Karachi and his 167 against Australia in the Brisbane Test are well nigh forgotten amidst other international cricketing highlights in the last few years

"The two hundreds in Pakistan were very satisfying The wickets were bad and playing against Akram and Imran on a tricky wicket can be a real test I really enjoyed myself ' De Silva recollects

Meanwhile De Silva got to his career-best knock in Test matches His unbeaten 203 in the Basin Reserve Test recently became the highest Test score by a Sri Lankan De Silva s double century surpassed Brendon Kurupu s unbeaten 201 against the Kiwis in Colombo in 1986 87 With that knock he took his Test total to 1 189

There is another interesting story connected with De Silva's best ever Test score He not only ended a jinx of bad scores in one-day internationals which preceded the Wellington Test but proved a point to sister Araliya who lives in Auckland 'My sister used to phone me daily and asked me to score big runs I think I have made her content " the soft-spoken De Silva said

De Silva's blossoming into a seasoned campaigner has basically been the result of a trial and error method "I change my grip and stance every



RASHBEHARI DAS

now and then. If you have watched closely, my stance and grip on Pakistani or Indian wickets will differ from that on say Australian wickets. I keep on experimenting. The idea underlying this change of grip and stance is very simple. I am a natural striker of the ball. I want to get runs. So I do the modifications. For example, if I want to play the ball squarer, I hold the bat much lower down or open the face of the bat. Plus, doing things like that I tend to concentrate more," De Silva says.

It is not surprising then that, De Silva can play some of the most unorthodox strokes in the game. For example he can possibly hit a six over point. Only De Silva could take a six off Imran en route to a Test century. That requires guts. "I don't know if that's guts, but I think it's god-given talent (De Silva is a Buddhist). I hate to get tied up at the wicket and sometimes have a rush of blood to my head, I love to hit the ball. If I think that a ball can be hit for a six, I go for it. I have been successful at the international level with some unorthodox strokes. I have done it against all top bowlers. Now I don't fear any bowler. However, I would think twice before taking chances with Abdul Qadir or Sir Richard Hadlee," De Silva says.

De Silva has changed the whole image of the Lankan batting with some sterling performances

But De Silva agrees that if he has to go far in international cricket, he has to change his temperament, his mood. His reflex is his advantage now but that may not be his asset five years hence. "Quite true. I am trying to change my style of batting, but not at the cost of aggression. What I am trying to do is to stay at the wicket for a longer duration, than getting out after a quick fifty. I think Ranatunga's and my staying in the middle counts a lot, because we have seen that if either of us gets out, our inexperienced tail simply fails to wag. We have often lost some winning matches because I have thrown my wicket at important stages," De Silva admits.

Of late De Silva's presence has lent a lot of stability to the Lankan middle order. Gone are the days when the Sri Lankan batting collapsed after the initial stages. "It's different today We have talented batsmen and we are experimenting with the batting order. Chaps like Hashan Tillekeratne, Champaka Ramanayeke and Marvan Atapattu are really promising," De Silva said.

De Silva left school at the age of 17 to pursue a career in cricket. "My mother was against that because there was so much uncertainty in our country. Only my dad supported it Today my mother is happy," De Silva says. He adds that the Lankan Board, too, has turned over a new leaf. There are better ideas coming in now.

Sri Lanka have a jampacked international season ahead and it may be at the turn of 1991, that De Silva's Sri Lanka may cut out a niche for themselves in international cricket. That is if he hasn't already!

Soumitra Bose

MARTINA NAVRATILOVA

Hello, Again

MARTINA NAVRATILOVA has never been just an ordinary woman. What applies to the rest does not necessarily concern her. She is different, unique She has played with Billie Jean and Evonne Cawley, Rosie Casals and Betty Stove, Chris Evert and Hana Mandlikova—they have all since retired, but Martina, in her third decade on the ladies tennis tour, is still fresh and competitive

In 1975 she was ranked world No 3 In February 1991 she is world No 3—in between she has been No 1 many times, but moreover it shows a remarkable consistency and a startling dedication

When Martina won her ninth Wimbledon singles title last summer, it was widely believed that she would use it as a perfect exit line To retire in unparalleled style Yet like Jimmy Connors she has an abiding love for the game, though unlike Jimmy Connors she is in close contention for any tournament she plays So she kept playing

A further parallel with Connors was injury and Martina, now 34 years old, found that her highly physical serve and volley game was putting great stress on her knees She was feeling old, and like actresses who cannot abide the sight of wrinkles, went under the knife

Arthoscopic surgery on her knees in November removed the excess calcium which was weakening her and Martina returned in late January this year, feeling, as she said, "ten years younger "

In addition to the two vertical scars across her knees, Martina also possesses a new service action. Unhappy with her excessive slice action, she has opted for a more compact serve to get 'more racket on the ball'.

Both these physical and technical alterations appear to have paid off as she totally outclassed Gabriela Sabatini in a recent exhibition in Hong Kong And with Steffi Graf showing continued signs of stress, Martina's new dream of an unprecedented 10th Wimbledon title does not appear unreal at all.



COLORSPORT

TENNIS TRIVIA

NUMBER of the five "best individual female athletes this year" who were tennis players in The National Sports Daily's 1990 Year-In-Sports Readers Questionnaire: 5 (Steffi Graf, Jennifer Capriati, Monica Seles, Martina Navratilova, Gabriela Sabatini).

"THE biggest jerk in sports this year," according to the same 1990 Readers Questionnaire: Andre Agassi (19%).

A clause written into one of flamboyant Andre Agassi's clothing contracts: The length of his hair.





ARANTXA SANCHEZ-VICARIO's three goals in life: "To become number one, to have a house on the beach and to meet Tom Cruise."

Compiled by Paul Fein



COLORSPORT

WHAT Ann Quinn, an Australian sport science consultant who serves as Pat Cash's trainer, avers should be the cornerstone of every player's conditioning program: Agility training.

AMOUNT of money a photographic company paid in 1980 for the rights to the Bjorn Borg-Mariana Simionescu wedding ceremony and reception in Bucharest: 100,000 pounds.

IVAN LENDL's two non-tennis sports dreams: Cycling in the Tour de France and playing goalie in a pro hockey exhibition "for a few minutes."

THE greatest player that Lew Hoad considers he ever met: Pancho Gonzales.

THE best player that Pancho Gonzales says he ever saw: Pancho Gonzales.

ODDS that London bookmakers put up that Boris Becker will marry Steffi Graf by 1995: 100-1.

WHAT Billie Jean King once called the worst job in tennis: Officiating.

HOW fiery Italian Diego Nargiso once argued an officiating decision: He climbed up the umpire's chair.

ONLY player ever to beat six-time champion Bjorn Borg at the French Open: Adriano Panatta (1973 and 1976).

AVERAGE number of fan letters that 19-year-old Yugoslav Goran Ivanisevic estimates he receives daily from female admirers around the world: 60.

HOW world No. 11 Jonas Svensson, after practicing with Bjorn Borg, praised the former king of tennis: "He is still the world's best player with a wooden racket."

PLAYER who hits the ball better on the rise than anyone Arthur Ashe has ever seen: Andre Agassi.

THE CURIOSITIES OF CRICKET

JONATHAN RICE makes some modern-day additions to one of cricket's more unusual record books, published recently in England.



IN 1897, a certain Mr A.L. Ford, under the pseudonym 'An Old Cricketer', published a brief pamphlet entitled Curiosities of Cricket, from the Earliest Records to the Present Time. The book itself has become a cricket collector's curiosity, because only 25 were printed, a fate which many wish had befallen several other cricket books of the past few years. However, facsimile reprints have put the book within reach of those, like myself, who just like to see how daft cricketers and cricket spectators really are. Any book that lists cases of 'Death of fielder from falling over cliff while following ball' is worth reading. (That particularly sad event happened early in 1865 on Salisbury Plain, St. Helena. It sounds more like a plateau than a plain to me.) 'Umpire ducked in pond for giving unsatisfactory decision' (Bevenden v Penshurst, about 1892) was probably well deserved, but we have no idea whether the match was restarted before the fielding captain apologised. Some curiosities are curiosities no more.

Lack of detail

Most of the Curiosities are all the more interesting for the lack of detail. We learn, for example, merely that six Women with Rake played.

Dean Jones: 'Batsman scoring a century after being run out for 0'.

11 Men with Hunting Whips in 1890 (I assume the game they played was cricket, but an old cynic like me might draw other conclusions). The result is not recorded. A further one-liner vouchsafes the information that one H. Barrow, playing for Harewood against the unfortunately named village of Stank, scored 13 runs from one hit (on ice). Why were they playing on ice? We will never know, even though sharp-eyed readers will notice a few





It is very unfortunate that cricketers are not like postage stamps. As all philatelists will appreciate, a slightly damaged postage stamp can be worth a great deal more than a perfect specimen...It is one of the sadder Curiosities of Cricket that a slightly damaged cricketer does not increase in value...

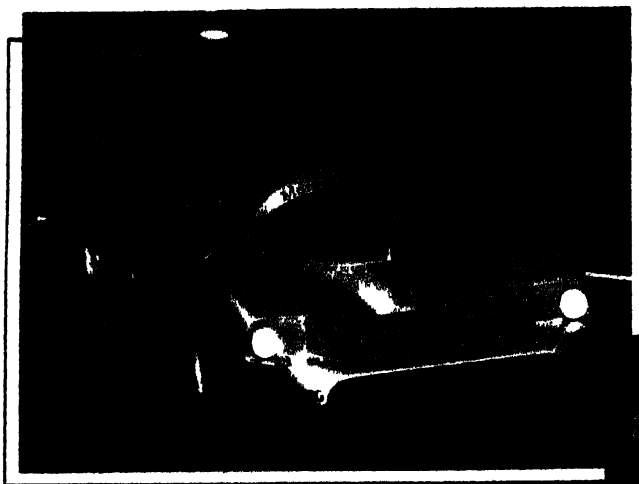
Gatting's nose starts entry into cricket folklore

...pages further on, under the heading 'Long Scoring', that the match yielded a total of 896 runs for 14 wickets. This is cricket reporting at its most succinct, and I am sure that the journalists following the fortunes of the England tourists in Australia would do well to take a leaf out of An Old Cricketer's book.

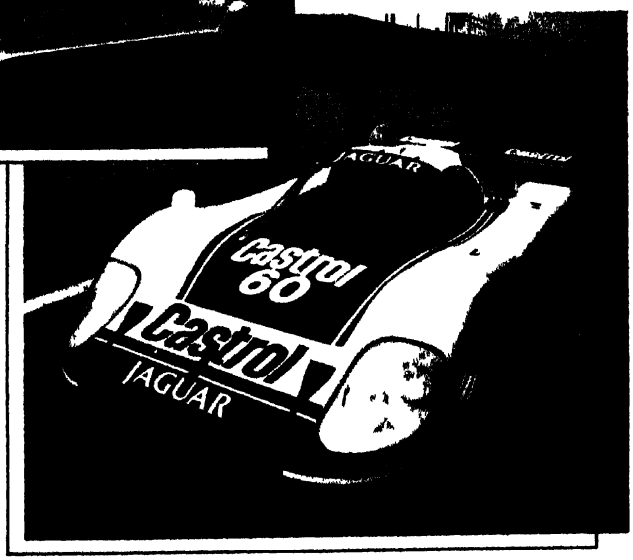
The recent history of English cricket can be summarised in a few lines of modern Cricket Curiosities, telling us all we need to know about the state of the game as we move into the final few seasons of the second millennium. How about 'England batsman's finger split while batting: G.A. Gooch, in Australia, 1990'? That tells us all we need to know. There is no point in going into stomach-churning medical detail. A few winters ago, the entry would have read 'England batsman's nose-split while batting: M.W. Gatting in West Indies, 1986'. No illustrations required. 'Laid-back left-hand batsman cracking thumb taking catch: D.I. Gower, Australia, 1990'. Cricket Curiosities are not only about injuries, though, however bizarre some of them may appear to be, they're about strange dismissals, odd teams and unusual scoring feats. And this tour has had its share of these too. 'Batsman scoring a century after being run out for 4: D.M. Jones, Australia v England, 1990'. 'Batsman given not out because the ball bounced too high: J.G Wright, New Zealand v England, 1990'. This approach to cricket reporting will save acres of newsprint, and make for a far less rancorous if more enigmatic way of discussing the shortcomings of our national squad.

'Batsman sent to Australia to strengthen injury-hit England touring party, but then consigned to the nets: M. Morris, 1990'. Or what about 'Bowler and man sent to cover for him while injured both picked for same match: G.C. Small and P.A.J. DeFreitas, England XI v Victoria, 1990' There will also be a few new entries to the Curious Matches section 'Where An Old Cricketer stuck to 'Bachelors v Spunsters' and 'Match for 11 Pairs of White Breeches and 11 Waistcoats', Down under the squads will be '11 Men in Great Form with No Injury Worries against At Least 17 Men, Some With Only One Hand, Some With Thigh Strain, Some With Precious Little Talent In The First Place and Others Who Seem To Have Lost Their Once Formidable Skills Entirely'. 'Triangular One-Day Pyjama Tournament Described as World Series Cup' is certainly a Curiosity, especially when after weeks of playing the cup in league style, two of the three teams progress to the finals. In the original 1897 pamphlet, there was a stark,

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Castrol sponsored Mercedes
Winner – World Sports Prototype
Championship



Castrol Jaguar –
Runner-up IMSA GTP
Manufacturers Championship

WORLD SPORTS – PROTOTYPE CHAMPIONSHIP - 1990

DATE	RACE	WINNER	RUNNER-UP
APRIL 8	Suzuka Japan	MERCEDES C9	MERCEDES C9
APRIL 29	Monza Italy	MERCEDES C11	MERCEDES C11
MAY 20	Silverstone England	JAGUAR XJR 11	JAGUAR XJR 11
JUNE 3	Spa Belgium	MERCEDES C11	JAGUAR XJR 11
JUNE 16/17	Le Mans France*	JAGUAR XJR-12	JAGUAR XJR 12
JULY 22	Dijon France	MERCEDES C11	MERCEDES C11
AUGUST 19	Nurburgring Germany	MERCEDES C11	MERCEDES C11
SEPT 2	Donington England	MERCEDES C11	MERCEDES C11
SEPT 23	Montreal Canada	MERCEDES C11	NISSAN R90C
OCTOBER 7	Mexico City Mexico	MERCEDES C11	NISSAN R90C

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'Laid-back left-hand batsman cracking thumb taking catch: David. I. Gower

almost Brechtian, mention of '13 Heavy With Sin v 13 Light With Honesty', played at Maidstone in 1882. Now, 108 years on, that sounds like Pakistan v New Zealand, except that all the bowlers who picked at the seams on both sides were the ones Heavy With Sin, and the batsmen who had to watch the ball boomeranging out towards fourth slip were the ones Light With Honesty. I will not attempt to pick the modern equivalent of the 1893 match played in Calcutta, 'Handsomes v Uglies'.

Postage stamps

It is very unfortunate that cricketers are not like postage stamps. As all philatelists will appreciate, a slightly damaged postage stamp can be worth a great deal more than a perfect specimen. If ever a true collector comes across a Penny Black with Queen Victoria printed upside down, or even a 22p first-class stamp with a non-serrated edge, the pulses race, the adrenalin flows and the bank balance begins to bulge. It is the peak of a stamp collector's career. It is one of the sadder Curiosities of Cricket that a slightly damaged cricketer does not increase in value, not even in Australia or West Indies where there are many more perfect specimens than imperfect ones. And in Britain we have so many players whose printing is upside down, so to speak, that it is the unmarked cricketer that has the rarity value.

We must all hope that by the time 1991 gets itself properly under way an English victory in a Test match will not still be classified as one of the most extraordinary of the Curiosities of Cricket...

We must all hope that by the time 1991 gets itself properly under way, an English victory in a Test match will not still be classified as one of the most extraordinary of the Curiosities of Cricket.

RUNNING AT

Rob De Castella. Rosa Mota. Ingrid Kristiansen. Steve Jones. Four of the world's best marathoners share their insights on this most challenging, most mysterious and most awe-inspiring event





ROSA MOTA

PHOTOGRAPHS: TOMMY HINDLEY

On the continuing challenge of the marathon, especially after all these years:

JONES: We're still crazy after all these years. We must be if we continue to do it. There must be some sort of fascination there. I've got my own reasons, my own motivation. I'm still rather inexperienced at the marathon. Although my running career has been long and well-documented, I've only run 11 marathons as opposed to what Rob has done. I still have a lot to learn.

De Castella: But you always make mistakes, because there's just so much that can happen. I think that's part of the challenge. I feel that I can still run faster, and until I'm convinced that I can't run faster, I'll keep trying. It's difficult to get everything right every race, because there are so many variables.

You still make silly little mistakes, and they have many implications on your performance. It's tough to run the ideal race, the perfect race. That's what we're all after—that elusive perfect race when the conditions are right and the pace is right.

Kristiansen: Do you think age might keep you from that?

Jones: I don't think age has anything to do with it. Look at John Campbell. He's 41.

De Castella: I think the age factor comes down to commitment and motivation.

Jones: And confidence.



On what one thought during the long miles of a marathon?

Meta: I always try to run an easy pace. I like to finish strong. I don't like to finish tired. I never finish and think I can't do more. I like to think I always have more in me.

Jones: Stopping! It depends on how you're running. If the race is going well, you can think about whatever you want to think about.

De Castella: You have to concentrate on what you're doing.

Jones: That depends on how you feel and your position in the race. If you're out front, then you have nothing to think about. You're almost home.

Kristiansen: In a close race it's harder —when you are always in a pack in the front. I think then you start to think negative.

Jones: I disagree. I think it's harder to be out in front on your own that it is to be with the pack. The pack can help you.

STEVE JONES

Kristiansen: If you feel comfortable with the pack, it's okay. But you might also feel. "This is little too fast for me."

Jones: When you're hurting—when you're struggling in the pack—that's when you concentrate the hardest on how you feel. You are aware even less of what is happening around you.

When you're on your own behind the pack or on your own in front of the pack, that's when you think about how you feel. The times I've run with a pack, I've never thought about how I felt until I just couldn't go on.

De Castella: I never think about how I feel. If you look at photos of any of us, you see this very transfixed expression. And even though you might think you're not thinking about anything, you're very much concentrating. It's not easy to run at the pace we want to run.

On how the concentration factor is the difference between top marathon runners and the next echelon

Kristiansen: (laughs) That's the reason they are the second-best!

De Castella: I've always said one of the real difficulties in the marathon is concentrating for more than 2 hours. It's total' concentration. The hardest part of the race is obviously at the end, when you're most fatigued, but that's when you have to concentrate the most. You have to use everything you have.

Kristiansen: But do you start to concentrate when the race starts? If you start concentrating when the race starts, then you will be tired mentally when you come to the part when you need it. It's easier for us in women's races, because we are not in large packs. We can

usually do our own race
De Castella: It's difficult in a big pack of men—when you have 15 to 20 people running at sub-5-minute pace They're all jostling for position especially at drink stations, and trying to run the tangents

On the most satisfying marathon

De Castella: That's difficult because each race I go into is, at the time, always the most important event for me, regardless of anything else that I've done

Probably, in retrospect, you can answer it by saying which race gave you the most credibility, which was your fastest, which got you the most publicity, which made you the most money or whatever But it's difficult to say Judging from those criteria, for me it might be the World Championships in 1983 or maybe Boston in '86
Kristiansen: Of course, it's easy to look at the London Marathon in '85 because that was my best time But I also think of the Boston Marathon in '86 It was nice to be in a different race- a change from running London and Stockholm for so many years Boston is the oldest marathon, too And part of the London Marathon in '87 was good, but not the last part, because I lost my concentration
Meta: My best marathon was the World Championships in Rome in 1987 I knew I could get a good marathon with nice weather, but it was hot and the surface was bad Also, '85 in





All champions: (From left): Rob De Castella, Rosa Mota, Ingrid Kristiansen and Steve Jones

Chicago was good because it was my best time And I think of the Olympics, too But for me, medals are more important than times Because medals stay forever Times change

Jones: Two spring to mind for me London in '85 and New York in '88 People may have thought, especially the ones in England, that Chicago in '84 was a flash-in-the-pan for me I realized I had to do well in London to show that Chicago hadn't been just a strong occasion

I had a coach up until the '84 Olympics Then he retired, and from July of '84 until London, I coached myself It was very satisfying to have coached myself, especially toward the end of the race when I knew I was going to win It was just one of those days when it all worked And for New York in '88

De Castella: What about Chicago in '85 [when Jones ran 2 07 13]?

Jones: That was a different experience again because I had already won Chicago in '84 and London in '85 I had already proven to myself that I could be a world-class athlete Of course, I didn't get the record in Chicago

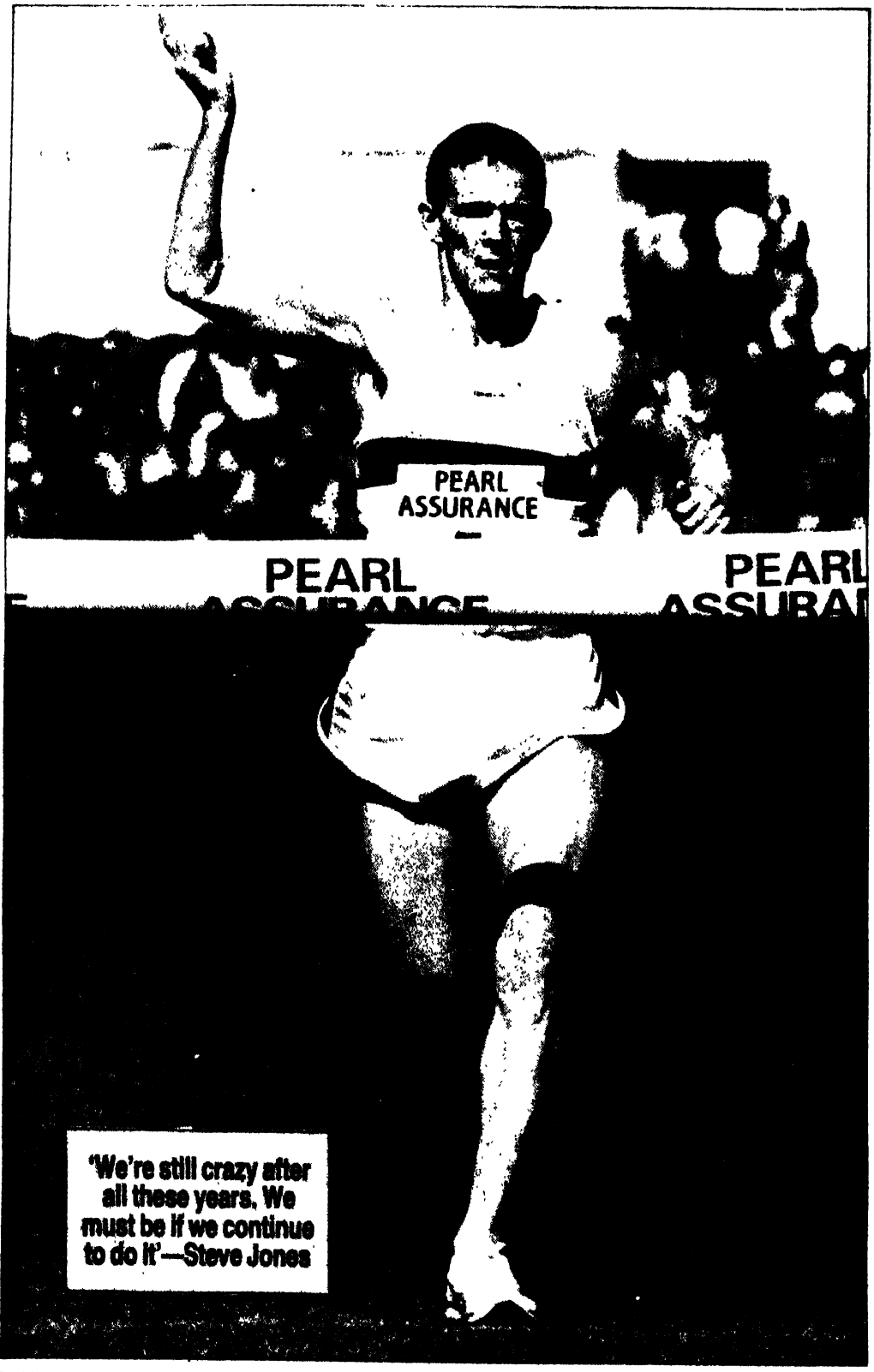
Kristiansen: You were 1 second short

De Castella: But the way you ran that, to me, is still one of the greatest marathons ever

Jones: That day happens only once in a lifetime But I still feel the two other marathons meant more to me New York in '88 happened after three or four years off, between injuries and sicknesses I left the Royal Air Force in June

of '88 and just concentrated on my training, getting a good background for New York.

It worked, once again. I didn't do it on my own this time; I had coaching. And a friend of mine came from Wales to be here and train with me. That was very satisfying. A lot of people sacrificed time and effort to help me out. That's one of the reasons why I remember that race.



On the disappointments of running a bad marathon

Jones: You just try to forget it.

Kristiansen: I always forget my races, even if I go fast or have a nice race. In this sport, you can never look back. You always must look toward the next one. It's very important not to think that you are so great when you are doing a great race, just as you cannot think you are so bad when you are doing a bad race.

De Castella: One would like to think you will be remembered for your whole career, not just for one or two races, whether they be very good races or very poor races. But there's no doubt that running bad races doesn't do your confidence any good. It's not much fun. If anything, I try to use it as a motivation—to make myself more determined to run faster and not have to experience that thing again.

I've had two very disappointing races. One was the World Championships in Rome, when I didn't finish. I felt so bad that I couldn't even satisfy myself with the way I was running. It just felt so out of character. Even looking back on it, I don't really consider it a race. Also, I was a bit disappointed earlier this year with my performance in the Commonwealth Games. Not so much by the fact that I ran badly, but that over the last few miles I just lost interest. I just wanted to finish as soon

as possible. I didn't enjoy feeling that way, losing interest in the middle of a race.

When you're running well—when you know you're in good shape physically—mentally you're just able to really extract something super from yourself. But when you know you're overtrained and tired, it becomes not only a physical tiredness but a mental fatigue as well. You start to say, "Why am I even bothering?" You've got to have confidence in yourself to know that it's not a flaw in your character or a flaw in yourself as an athlete. It's just an indication that you're trying to force it a bit too much.

Jones: I can't even describe the feeling as being humbled. It's much worse. The worst I've felt in a marathon was in the European Championship in '86. I know you shouldn't count your chickens before they hatch, but the medal was around my neck at halfway. It was the classic case of overtraining. And I became dehydrated, too, and since I had never suffered it before, I didn't know the symptoms. I just thought, "I'm tired because I trained hard."

At halfway, I had a 2-minute lead, and on the return, everyone waved to me. Then, within 5-K, my legs just sort of went. I remember seeing Rosa and Jose Pedrosa her coach at 30-K and they shouted, "You still have a minute!" Within 800 meters, Gelindo Bordin and Orlando Pizzolato passed me. Then, next thing I know, Hugh



"I made a big mistake to run a marathon without the right training. I love and respect the marathon, so this was a big lesson"—Rosa Mota

Jones went by and tapped me on the shoulder. Everybody who went by tapped me on the shoulder and said, "Sorry."

I got to 35-K, and about eight guys from my club at home were there. They were jogging on the spot shouting me on. They got tired of that, so they ran ahead to the next mile and shouted me on again. It took me 18 minutes longer to run the second half than the first, and 12 minutes to run the last 2½ kilometers. I was hurting.

I remember coming into the stadium I felt like I was running on the spot I just wanted to stay composed When I finished I just wanted everybody to leave me alone There's a picture of me at the finish standing very upright and I've been credited for standing at attention for somebody else s national anthem I just didn t want to fall down

Some friends of mine and Steve Binns is one of them told me that they were crying as I ran down the back straight They just felt so sorry for me I didn't feel anything But I wasn't going to drop out, because all my friends were there for me I remember just seeing the line in the middle of the road for miles I wasn't in pain I was just broken

Mota: Last year in Osaka I didn't finish the race because I felt bad I didn't care about time, I didn't care about place I just didn't have any luck, and I felt really bad Then, a few weeks later, I ran Los Angeles, and I felt strong But I made a big mistake to run a marathon without the right training I love and respect the marathon, so this was a big lesson

On the best marathoner, male or female, they have ever seen

Jones: Technically now, it s Bordin

De Castella: At the moment yes As a group the Africans are incredible athletes The only hope that we have is that they might make a lot of silly little mistakes

Mota: Like they did at Boston this year

De Castella: I got criticized in the press for making a generalization at Boston, but I still stand by it fairly strongly The Africans make more silly mistakes than we do Of course Wakihuri is an exception, and Hussein is a very smart runner too

Jones: Ikangaa, too But the African mentality is just to burn each other off

Kristiansen: They do that on the track, too

Jones: I don't think that makes them great marathon runners

De Castella: They're great athletes, but that doesn't necessarily make them great marathon runners

Jones: I think they could be, if they would only control their effort the whole way

De Castella: Look at Densimo His record in Rotterdam was spectacular



Douglas Wakihurii: one of the great masters of the marathon from Kenya

Jones: I don't agree with that I've got this thing about Rotterdam It may be 26 2 miles, but it's an orchestrated race Okay, they run 26 miles, but it's how they run it Even the lead car is a rabbit That race doesn't have my respect, nor does Densimo's time on that course

De Castella: But it's still the fastest time and an indication of what he can do What I was going to say is that he hasn't gone on and justified it

Jones: That's why I can't accept it

De Castella: On the other hand, someone like Ikangaa hasn't run that sort of time, but his career has spanned 10 years

On the physical and mental aspects of a marathon

De Castella: It's 80 per cent mental, considering all the discipline and dedication and your attitude toward racing and how you deal with the pressure The training is easy I could write out a training programme for someone to run a 2 08 marathon, provided he has the talent to do the training But the mental side of it is very difficult to teach people That's why, up until recently, before the advent of sports psychology, athletes had to have been born with a natural talent

On the type of person a normal marathoner is

De Castella: We're the good guys We're much more social

Mota: We are more friendly Before the start, we talk, and even after the finish

De Castella: It comes with

the event We have so much in common, and we have an incredible respect for each other We know how hard each other has trained You may have the talent, but you also have to have the discipline to train hard And, to a certain extent we compete against the event I don't think any of the other distances really do that We're competing against the marathon We feel that the best effort on the day wins

On the extent of drugs in the marathon

De Castella: It's something we all have to work as hard as possible to eradicate It's pure and simple cheating Once you start to cheat anybody can win Because our sport is becoming more professional with all the money everybody wants to win It's a matter of policing the sport more than they do at the present and educating the athletes A lot of them justify drug abuse by thinking their competitors do it They rationalize, and you have to convince them that everybody else isn't doing it Those who are caught should be out of the sport for not just two years, but four or five years

Jones: For life

Meta: But the blood-doping is not easy to detect

Jones: If you don't abide by the rules, you don't compete We see this with South Africa

De Castella: It's a very hard stand to take, but I think the situation of drug abuse in our sport requires a very hard stand to be taken

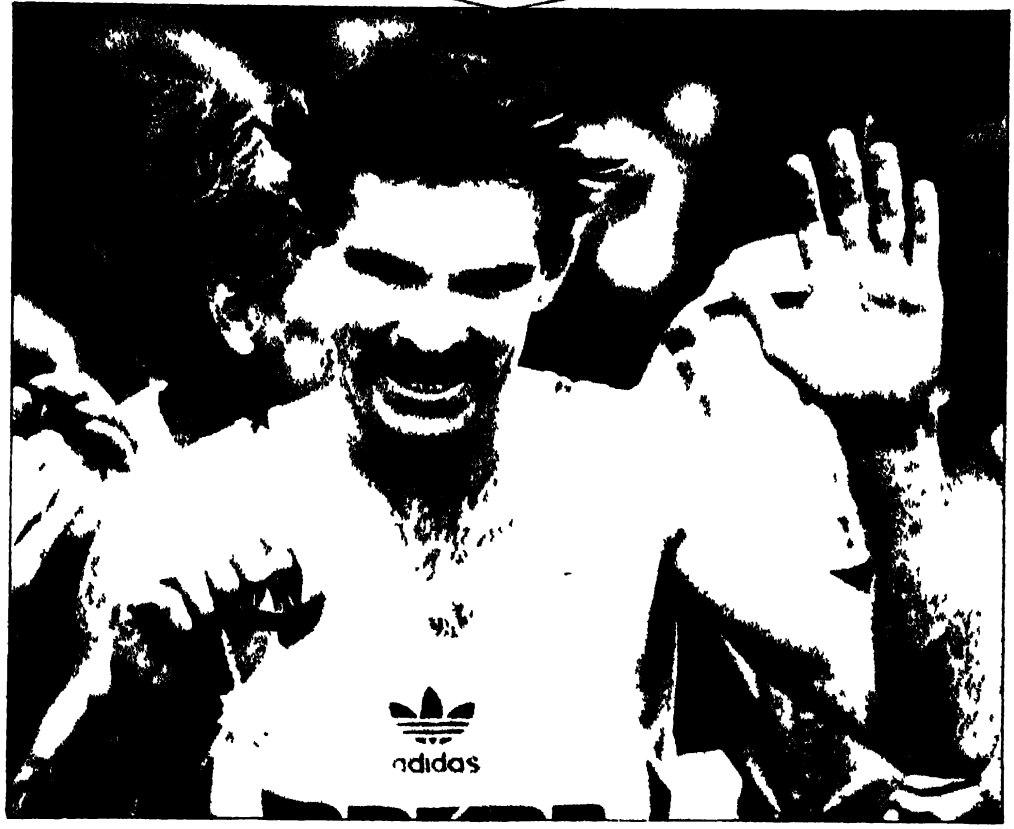
Jones: It's the only way you'll give every athlete the confidence to compete, assuring that they all had the same breakfast, virtually, and that they don't take drugs Not that we go to the starting line thinking 'I wonder if he's taking drugs because if you had that worry, you wouldn't train

De Castella: Unfortunately we have this new drug, EPO

Kristiansen: But there are such side effects! You may win a million dollars, but you may be dead two years later

De Castella: I believe the whole drug policy needs revision by the IAAF and IOC It's absurd that athletes are being banned and lumped in with steroid abusers for taking cold medicines when they're sick Why should a distance runner with a sinus infection or a heavy cold be banned for taking anything? Instead of having one incredibly long list with everything on it that every athlete has to abide by, there should be event and sport specific lists, and lists too for both training and competition I've got a cold now In theory, if I were taking Sinutab and got rung up by the federation and told to do a test tomorrow, I could test positive I think the drug issue is extremely important and has to maintain credibility It's bad for the sport

It's difficult to get everything right every race, because there are so many variables. You still make silly mistakes and they have many implications on your performance—Rob de Castella



On the future of the marathon

De Castella: The depth of the sport is what's improved the most Look at the women In 1980, there was only Grete The depth for both will improve even more as marathon running becomes even more professional

Kristiansen: Wait until the Kenyan and African women start to run They can be great athletes, but today they become wives and mothers too soon

Jones: If they have even half the talent of the African men, they'll be there

Katy Williams

Accused

IT was real bad luck for Steffi in the Australian Open as she went down to Jana Novotna in the quarter final The German Press is responsible to a large extent as they are still publishing reports of her father s escapades I hope that she can bounce back to form for the French Open
SUBRAT SAMAL,
Burla

Time For Change!

IT comes as no surprise that theIndians were given a drubbing in the Super Soccer Series by the European team The Indian players lack the temperament, speed and coordination Pitting them against a world class team does not give them the required exposure The format certainly needs to be changed because Indians are not capable of giving any competition Instead if the teams are comprised of both Indian and foreign players then maybe we can see some good football instead of seeing a one sided game The players will benefit and the spectators can also get to see some good evenly matched soccer The players will also get the much talked about exposure
ROHIT PAUL M
Bangalore

A Slip

IT was Perth that played hosts to the World Swimming Championships and not Melbourne as was mentioned in the issue dated 16 22 January Sometime last year the magazine wasted many pages showing a super fit Zeeshan Ali As of now he is not fit to play in a tournament Leander Paes has also been given a lot of coverage Maybe the magazine would do well to give some coverage to the other players
M C PIERS,
Bangalore



Sorry State Of Affairs

1990 cricket milestones in the new year issue compiled by Hari Prasad Chatterjee covered all the important milestones in the year 1990 But no mention was made of the very unprofessional attitude that Manoj Prabhakar has been showing through the year Firstly it was an open battle with Maninder Singh He was not punished throughout He has been questioning umpiring decisions and even then he is a allowed to go scot free It is a sorry state of Indian cricket than an established player like him is setting such a bad example The selectors should not allow him to go scot free
S AKHILESH KRISHNAN,
ABHISHEK RAMASWAMY,
Madras



What's Next?

FIRST it was the International Permit Meet Then it was the Super Flopper, read Super Soccer What's next? Might be 'Iron' Mike vs Zoram Thanga or Dharminder Yadav Somehow we Indians have always misunderstood the meaning of the world International Exposure' Either we get thrashed by teams like PSV or we invite shoddy teams to play in tournaments like the Asia Cup and then pride ourselves in winning the trophy A sincere appeal to Russi Mody Maybe he can invite teams like Bayern Munich or Real Madrid to play teams like PSV If not the players then the crowds can at least get to see some good soccer Another Super Soccer series like the one this year is certainly not wanted
S SURESH
Madurai

Welcome Change

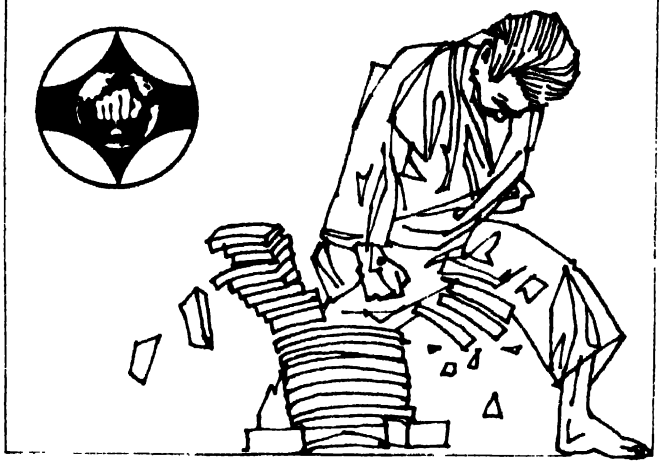
CONGRATS to Tiger Pataudi for the superb editorial in the 6th Jan '91 issue It was a welcome change from the usually cricket oriented editorials Now we know that he is capable of writing on aspects other than cricket
S H QAISAR,
New Delhi

Congrats!

CONGRATULATIONS to Satnam Singh for winning the Oyama Cup'91 The interview with Sosai Masutasu Oyama was extremely perceptive and interesting Thanks a million for the nice coverage of the event
HEMANT CHOPRA,
Calcutta

KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND



CARRYING" on with the *kata* we are serialising, the first movement this week is a 90° left turn, performing a left lower block while going into *zenkutsu-dachi*. Then step forward with the right, going into *zenkutsu-dachi* and throw a right middle punch. Follow this up with two more forward steps, throwing a left and right punch respectively. After that, turn 270°, going into a left *kokutsu-dachi* and preparing for a *mawashi-uki*.

By Shivaji Ganguly
Kyokushinkaikan karate
PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA

The All India Instructors' Camp, organised by the Kyokushinkaikan Karate HQ, is being held from 4—10 March, 1991 at Harish Park, Bhawanipur, Calcutta Any person with a good martial art background can apply to Shivaji Ganguly at 136 Harish Mukherjee Road, Cal 25. Fees: Rs 1,600 (inclusive of camp fees, boarding & lodging). Reporting date. 3 March, between 4.00 and 6.00 p.m.



Turn 90° to left, performing a left lower block



Step forward with right, throwing right middle punch. Then take two more steps forward, throwing a left and right punch respectively



Turn 270° and prepare for mawashi-uki

Players Are Too

Do you think India's football standard is declining because the standard of club football in Bengal has deteriorated?

I agree that Bengal players are made to play too many matches in a season and they get jaded Stars like Bikash Panji, Krishanu Dey and Tarun Dey play over 100 matches a season. However, the Bengal players have lost pride in performance. They are not upset when they lose In my days, when playing for Mohun Bagan or East Bengal if we lost a match we remained shocked, our pride was hurt and we always aimed for revenge. Now that spirit is totally missing.

The clubs are also greedy for money. Previously Mohun Bagan on principle just played two outstation tournaments, the Durand and Rovers. Nowadays, they have even started playing in the DCM and several other tournaments. Players are too greedy...just to make a quick buck. They play exhibition matches in rural areas and in the districts for money. When I played in Calcutta, I never played for any office team, as I didn't want to over-exert myself. Nowadays all the players want jobs and there are too many office tournaments.

In my days, when playing for Mohun Bagan or East Bengal if we lost a match we remained shocked, our pride was hurt and we always aimed for revenge. Now that spirit is totally missing.

Sportsworld: Can you tell us about the TFA?

We started by coaching young players, from the age of 12-14 years. They were talented but we nurtured them. I made them play in all positions but then judged their ability and accordingly decided their positions. We provided them with all the facilities, weight



Mohammad Habib (middle) with another great of his time (Nayeem): nostalgia

Greedy: Habib

training, gymnasium, regular medical check ups, education and football videos and other forms of relaxation

The TFA is the first of its kind in India Every year we examine new players and those who are not up to the mark are dropped For instance, Manoj Kumar of Delhi was dropped as his height did not increase beyond five feet I am glad that Flavio Leitao and Alok Das were selected for India, for the Super Soccer series It is a tribute to our system



Mohammed Habib, played for East Bengal, Mohun Bagan and Mohammedan Sporting, from 1966 to 1982-83, a record 18 years. Popularly known as "*Bade Mian*" or Little Master of football, Habib was the epitome of professionalism. P.K. Banerjee called him, "the king of kings". During his career, he was the most sought after footballer in Calcutta. Slight of build the short-statured Habib played successfully even against well built foreigners, due to sheer will power, determination and technical skills. Originally from Hyderabad, Habib was not highly gifted, but constant practice and dedication, made him one of India's all time greats. Since 1984, he has been coaching the Tata Football Academy (TFA). In 1990-91, he was given the honour of coaching India.

Is one TFA sufficient to improve the national standard?

Good question and I agree we should have many academies like the TFA The motive of all the academies should be to produce players who will excel for India We should not just produce talent for clubs SAI also started a SAG scheme for the youngsters But they have spent a lot and results are limited

Do you think there is an overdependence on foreign players in Calcutta football?

Yes I would say so East Bengal needlessly brought out of form Julian Camino from Argentina and John Devine from England a couple of years ago Was it necessary? There were many Indian players better than them Mohammedan Sporting also just want to pack their team with foreigners, instead of developing talent in India In my opinion, Majid Basker was the only really great foreign player Calcuttans had the privilege to witness His control, shooting, aggression, running and shielding the ball were all world class

You have coached and played for India. What is the difference between Indian football in your days and now?

In my days, players like Peter Thangaraj, Chuni Goswami, Yusuf Khan, P K Banerjee, Balaram Kannan and others had great will power We never accepted defeat, even when playing against top class foreign opposition Our ambition was to play two or three Asian Games I played in 1970 and 1974 But these days the players ambition is limited They are just satisfied wearing India colours which is easily obtainable nowadays It was tough in our times

We were also more determined and never got worried about injuries

In 1978 I sustained a knee injury but by exercising and sheer will power continued playing for another five years In contrast one of our Indian players in practice was hit on the head by an opponent s knee It was a minor injury, but he showed it to a specialist took two X-rays and missed practice

When I played in Calcutta I maintained my character and was never distracted I never smoked or drank or indulged in any pastime or vices which could mar my ability on the field Such total dedication is required for success in football

Novy Kapadia & Ghaus Mohammed



ATP CHALLENGER

The Art of Self Des

The fallout of the Khanna vs Amritraj feud affects this much-awaited prestigious meet

WE in India have this uncanny knack of being self destructive It's almost second nature to us

When the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) condescended—should that read were hustled ? to allow India the privilege of hosting one of its Challenger events it should have been time to rejoice

Sandwiched, in the ATP tour format between the top tournaments and the lesser satellite circuits the Challenger was to be the highest level international tennis tournament being played here since the Seventies That alone should have prompted an all out effort by the tennis-promoting organisations in the country to make a success of it

But no, the tendency to hit the self-destruct button did not allow that to happen The fact that it was ATP player president Vijay Amritraj who had pulled strings to get the tournament for the Karnataka Tennis Players Association was reason enough for the All India Tennis Association (AITA) to attempt putting the proverbial spoke in the wheel

After the initial reluctance AITA secretary Mr R K Khanna thought it wise to give (presumably for his public image) the tournament the go-ahead The idea of which was to provide Indian players an opportunity to knock up a few ATP points, anyway

It seems a habit now that the Amritraj Khanna rivalry is dragged into all aspects of Indian tennis The Challenger series was not to be an exception

The AITA insisted that the organisers route the letter asking for government permission to hold the tournament through them Though the ATP rules do not require clearance from the national association the AITA's constitution makes this clearance compulsory This therefore became the bone of contention But if one were to read between the lines, all the *tamasha* was basically an extension of the war between the two factions of Indian tennis

By the time better sense prevailed over Khanna—and he generously declared that he had no objections to the Karnataka Players Association holding the tournament it was almost D-Day And the lack of preparation was very apparent on the otherwise well organised tournament in the garden city

In an age when even up and coming players chalk out their playing programmes well in advance, it is ridiculous to expect top level competition when the organisers themselves don't know whether their tournament is being held or not? And with the gulf war affecting air travel the tournament was doomed to be disappointing from the very start

Fortunately the Indian satellite circuit had just ended and many of the players had stayed on to have a shot at the higher-rated Challenger tournament

The constant complaint that the tournament was not up to the mark either in standard or in flair might have been justified to some extent One would even risk contradicting Vijay Amritraj's claim that the tournament had talented players who

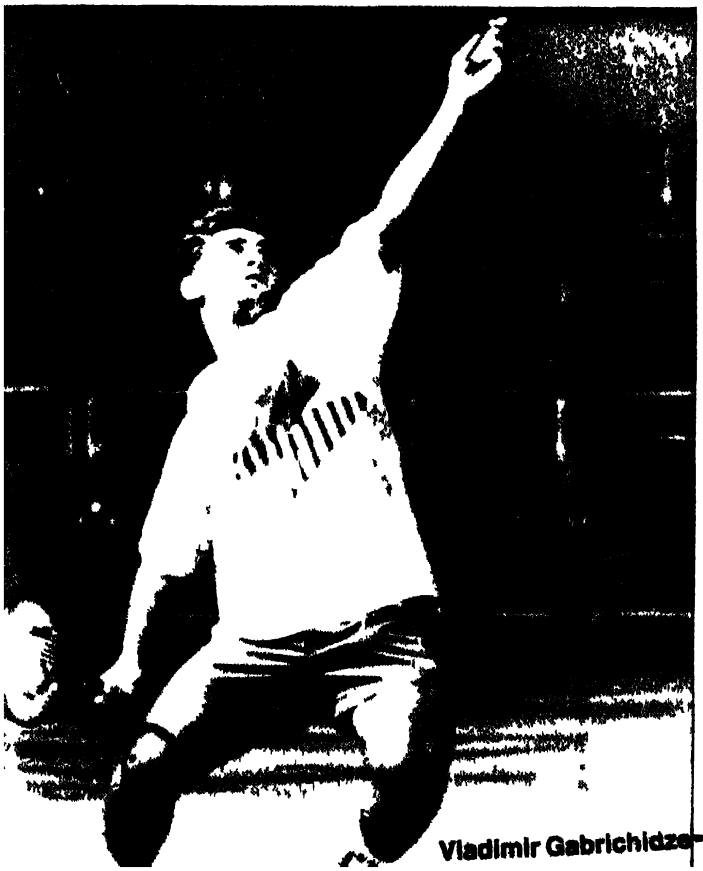


Of truction

could be the Agassis and Changs of tomorrow Maybe Mr Amritraj saw something this correspondent didn't

And while we moaned the apparent mediocrity of the foreign players who came to Bangalore, we failed to appreciate the fact that only one Indian made it past the last 16 stage S Vasudevan The tall South Indian made the quarter finals with a hard fought third set tie-break win With no desire of being too harsh on our player it would be pertinent to add that the Indians were the only players who had Davis Cup experience under their belts No other player in the draw had even got a sniff of his country's Davis Cup blazer

The absence of the now popular Leander Paes was the talking point of the week Paes' last-minute withdrawal from the tournament on grounds of fitness could have been mistaken (and indeed it was by some cynics) as a case of cold feet The Wimbledon junior champion, fresh from his Masters triumph in Indore was in Bangalore prior to the start of the tournament drawn to play favourite Gabrachizde in the first round The grapevine had it that this was the reason for Paes' withdrawal



Vladimir Gabrichidze

While this may not be true at all, Paes' management could have handled things with a little more tact and diplomacy As it was, the organisers felt slighted by the new national champion So did the many disappointed fans especially young school girls, who had hoped to see the home grown junior Wimbledon champion

Moving to the tournament itself, while Vijay Amritraj should be credited for having pulled the ATP Tour towards India, even he would admit that the Challenger was not given its due importance Whether this was due to the feud that preceded the tournament was immaterial, since it would in no way influence the reports of the ATP observers at Bangalore on the way India handled the Challenger

Ball-boys with no footwear, no proper facilities to water the hard courts in the hot afternoons, young and nervous school kids keeping lines and a general public apathy towards the tournament couldn't have gone down well with the ATP representatives present

In spite of good-intentions the organisers keeping the gates open to the public free of cost,the crowds were selective Some sections of the press, which went overboard in the coverage of the satellite circuit, chose to ignore the more prestigious Challenger And the AITA thought its duty ended the minute it gave clearance to the tournament

On that Sunday afternoon, when German Frank Dennhardt walked up to collect his first prize of 3,600 US dollars after he had overcome the temperamental Soviet, he remarked, 'I've been waiting for this moment since I joined the tour four years ago '

Which made one think, India had to wait over ten years to stage a tournament of this nature And what did we do? Self-destruct!

Andy O'Brien, Bangalore

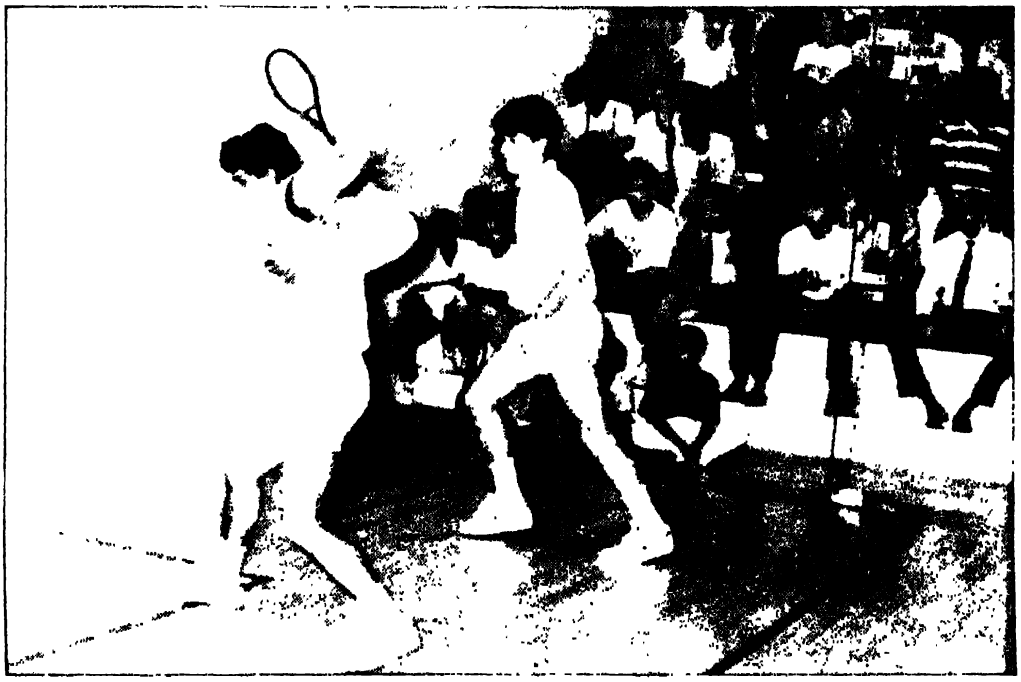
Pakistan Reign Supreme

GOLD was unlikely, silver a possibility, no medal an equally distinct possibility, but we finally had to settle for the bronze. By all accounts, a very creditable performance by our inexperienced but gutsy junior boys in the 5th Asian Junior Squash Championship, Colombo By winning the bronze, the team comprising national junior champion Averinder Pal Singh, runner-up Udai Singh, erstwhile national under-16 champion Rishad Pandole and Gajendra Singh Rathore, equalled the performance of the Indian Juniors led by whiz kid Adrian Ezra at the last Asian Junior Championship at Bahrain two years ago. Interestingly enough, A.P. Singh was a part of the earlier foursome as well.

Pakistan, amid a general feeling of having fielded over aged boys, reigned supreme, both in the individual and the team events. Abdul Rasheed repeated Jansher Khan's feat of winning the individual event for the second time in a row. The Pakistani boys, professionals to the core, were several rungs above the rest, but nevertheless were given a run for their money by the seasoned Malaysians and stretched by our own Averinder Pal Singh

The focus was never on the gold, but on the silver. In this 6-nation round robin tournament, Malaysia, Singapore, Hong Kong and India were contenders for the silver with host Sri Lanka not quite in the reckoning. After having lost convincingly to Pakistan and beaten Sri Lanka equally convincingly, against Hong Kong the first of our crucial ties was played, at the Taj Samudra air conditioned court.

Playing to the order of 3-1-2, which remained till the end, young Rishad Pandole attacked from the word go and kept a pace too hot for the Hong Kong No 3. He won convincingly 9-7, 9-3, 9-6. Averinder Pal Singh followed it with a crushing defeat of Hong Kong No. 1 Dick Leong. From a 5-2 lead which saw some long well-fought rallies, Leong simply caved in to the pressure of Averinder Singh's consistent attack to lose 5-9, 0-9, 2-9. Udai Singh completed the formality by beating his rival in the classic plate final (where he had got a walk over due to the indisposition of the Hong Kong player) 8-10, 9-10, 9-4, 9-0. It was a most emphatic win made to look easy by the aggressive play of our youngsters. Udai Singh had the satisfaction that his classic plate title was not a hollow one after all.

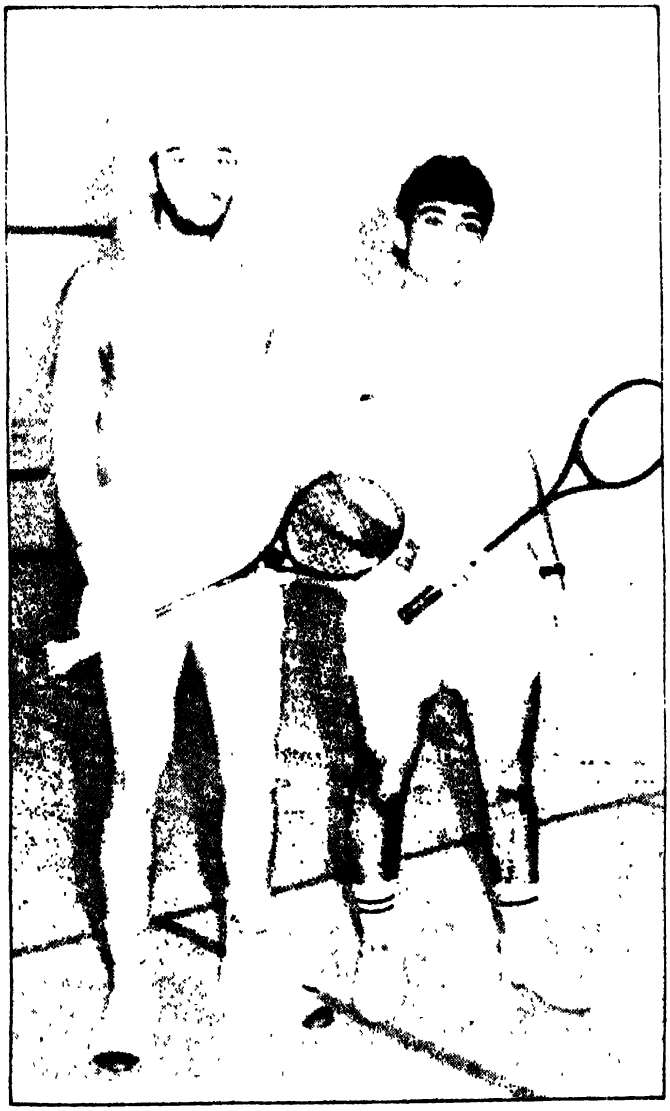


Left: Abdul Rasheed and Zubair Khan met in the final. Rasheed retained the title

Then came the crucial tie against the experienced Malaysians. Rishad Pandole fought as best as he could, but never stood a chance of beating the all round play of Premen Menon. He went down 6-9, 3-9, 0-9. Averinder Pal was pitched against the fluently stroking Chen Seoung Lee. Whenever Averinder Pal gave signs of subduing his opponent, the Malaysian raised his game and produced some incredible winners. And those came, when the chips were down. The Malaysians plucky 9-7, 9-5, 3-9, 10-9 victory



The Indian and the Pakistan team get together for a group photograph before their team match



sealed our hopes of silver. In a match of academic interest Udai Singh got a walkover, leading 7-2 against Henry Ho when the Malaysian came into his way and paid the penalty with a cut on his eye lid.

And so on the last day of the tournament was set up the battle for the bronze with Singapore. The Indians played with a fierce determination giving nothing away. They pressurised the Singaporeans by attacking them without any reprieve. Their aggression paid off and they won convincingly to bring home the bronze. Rishad Pandole beat Steven Tan 9-3, 9-3, 3-9, 9-2. Averinder Pal beat Verson Teo 9-7, 9-2, 2-9, 9-7 and Udai Singh beat Ho Wing Leong 10-9, 9-3, 9-3.

In the battle for the

Averinder Pal Singh of India and Wasim Khan met in the quarter final. It was unfortunate that Singh lost

gold and silver, Pakistan was made to struggle by the fighting Malaysians. The Malaysian No. 1 and 3 took a game each of their worthy opponents, but had to bow to their overall superiority.

While Pakistan was head and shoulders above the rest in the boys section the Malaysian girls enjoyed a similar superiority over the Singapore, Hong Kong and Sri Lankan girls. The individual final was an all Malaysian affair 15 year old Sandra pitched against her more experienced teammate Cheong Wai Li. In a classic battle of skill and technique versus sheer power and athleticism Wu's better touch gave her the edge and earned her the well-deserved honour of "Princess of Asian squash".

What was heartening was the spirited aggression and determination our lads showed in the courts. This experience is certainly going to do a world of good to their game. Of particular interest will be the effect it will have on Rishad Pandole who will be eligible for the next Asian Junior two years from now. With other young players like Rishad Billimoria, Murghai, and the Asthana twins Vineet and Vinay in support, the silver lining is for real.

Text/Photographs by Col. Raj Manchanda

THE HEALTH CHARGE 'EM UP

LAST week we talked about the immune system and how over exercising could lead to various infections because the immune system cannot handle the 'stress' This week we are to journey through the intricacies and also give you some useful tips on how to keep that immune system of yours charged and working

Athletes and fitness enthusiasts have discovered that just following a mere fitness regimen and a healthy balanced diet are not always enough to ward off infections. In fact, many overzealous athletes often find themselves fighting off colds, influenza, sore throat and minor injuries that are caused by over exertion.

This excess can in turn lead to depression resulting in added physical problems, because there is nothing more turning off than having to tune off an exercise programme midway, because the body cannot handle the pressure placed on it by the jogging, the weights and of course, the brain, urging the brawn to run that extra mile or lift that extra pound. Once the immune system is weakened the body becomes more vulnerable to many physical problems, some of them serious.

Our immune system is always waging a war against an assortment of foreign bodies whose presence in the body is detrimental. These foreign bodies include viruses, bacteria, various types of fungus and, the most feared: cancer cells. If these alien bodies are given a free operating zone in the physical system then we become susceptible to colds, influenza, tuberculosis, cancer and even the most dreaded AIDS. The list may sound frightening but it is only partial. What is



Proper food goes a long way in keeping the immune system healthy. Citrus fruits are good sources of vitamins

COLUMN



more frightening is the fact that our bodies are always in contact with many potentially lethal germs

Our immune system composed of a vast number of proteins, organs, glands and soldier cells fight off diseases by neutralising or removing infectious organisms In an extremely complicated process the different white blood cells sense foreign cells that are invading the body and then secrete chemicals that destroy these antibodies The most active of these cells are called the T and B cells In fact any living person needs these T and B cells during every living moment because the bodies are being constantly bombarded by an assortment of germs

AIDS or Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome was really an eye-opener It was after the outbreak of this deadly disease that people began to realise the full necessity of the immune system The main task of the AIDS virus is to eliminate all the T helper cells that are crucial to resisting infections, and it does so very effectively

Our skin is our first line of defence against infection Bactericidal sweat and sebaccous secretions form a protective shield, while the internal surfaces are covered with a layer of mucus produced in the sinuses and bronchi and in the stomach

The immune system can best be protected by a sound nutrition programme Ages ago Hippocrates had said "Let food be your medicine and the statment holds good even today

VITAMINS AND MINERALS: Vitamins provide the best protection to the body Actually the Vitamin C in citrus fruits have a beneficial effect on the immune system Vitamin C stimulates the most important T and B cells Simply put it improves the mobility of the white blood cells It also fortifies the thymus and lymph nodes and is an excellent antidoxant

Vitamin A is another vitamin that plays a vital role It is known as the 'anti infection vitamin' It is essential in keeping the linings of the respiratory, digestive and urogenital tracts healthy Vitamin A also enhances the effectiveness of the immune soldiers located in sweat and tears

Vitamin E is believed to have anti toxin qualities and an ability to destroy germs It is also supposed that this vitamin increases stamina (this is not supported by hard facts) and also helps build resistance to degenerative diseases like arthritis

SUNLIGHT: A blessing from Mother Nature that helps activate Vitamin D in our skin so that calcium can be absorbed and utilised properly Calcium is an essential mineral that maintains bones, promotes musle contraction, nervous system functions, hormone secretions and the activation of the immune system itself

Sunlight's second positive effect is the activation of the pineal gland which secretes the hormone melatonin Melatonin controls sleep, arousal activity and also the estrongen levels in women Now you know why you feel better after that first half hour in the sun But remember never get too much of sun because then the rays are harmful to the body and plays a pivotal role in spreading cancer

A word of caution for those fitness freaks who believe in crash-diets Cutting down on calories below the safe level is also cutting down on the immune system Low calorie diets causes a serious decline in the white blood cells to fight viruses and bacterial infections

Stay tuned in and next week we shall deal with some other tricks of the trade to keep the immune system fighting fit ●

CALCUTTA

The Hongkong Bank Cup

The clouds turned dark just before the running of the Hongkong Bank in Calcutta, the premier sprint in the city's horse racing calendar, as if signalling an imminent upset And so it was

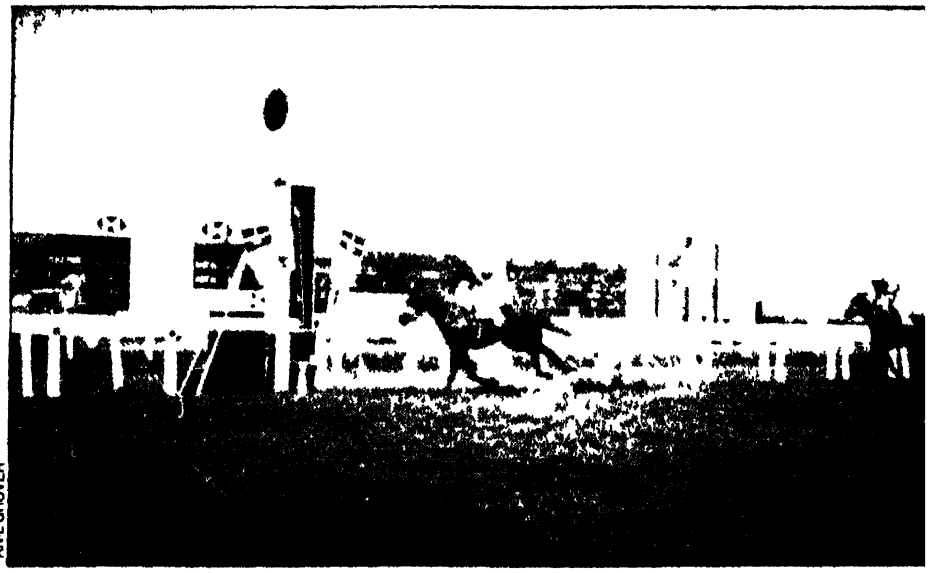
Aazish, the dark bay gelding, set a blistering pace as soon as the starter's orders went up, for the 1200-metre sharp run and in a gate to-post effort, stretched his lead to a thumping 3 3 4 length win over Exclusive, another horse who did not run with too much support

The favourite, Simply Brilliant, simply ran out of fuel and finished a disgraceful fifth in a eight-horse battle for a ticket to the Sprinters' Classic in Madras The brooding drizzle had proved its point and the sun now came up slowly to shine on the Rs 1500 cup

Aazish, carrying 46 1/2 kgs, zoomed to the front rightaway and had enough firepower to kick on further in the straight, coming away 2 1/2 lengths in front of the field round the bend Shershah running alongside did try to upset the rhythm of Aazish before the straight, but the latter proved more than a match for him

Jockey Robert Gowli, taking no chances whatsoever gave him a bit of stick even when nearing the winning post, with the result that Aazish clocked an impressive 1 min 13 9 sec on a rather dull track

The son of Scintillating Air and Irmelin, owned by a ladies quartet (Mrs C N Verma, Mrs V C Verma Mrs Heena Mukherjee and Mrs Suneeta Chitlangia), was also instrumental in giving trainer Vijay Singh and rider Robert Gowli a Hongkong Bank Cup double Last year, at identical weight, the pair had partnered Babi Nobis' Tambourine Man to the prize-winning ceremony Gowli thus is the only jockey in this nine-year-old race for four-year-olds and above, to come in doffing his cap a second time



ANIL GROVER

Aazish winning the Hongkong Bank Cup in great style from Exclusive

Will Aazish show the same 'charge' at the Sprinters Classic in the first weekend of March? Going by the way he played up at the prize-giving ceremony and twice nearly hoofed out the battery of photographers, Aazish is obviously rarin' to go You can bank on him

Anil Grover

ROURKELA

Inter-Steel Chess

TATA Iron & Steel Company (Jamshedpur) lifted the Inter Steel Chess Championship trophy for the third time since the inception of the tournament in 1982 TISCO gathered 15 points in five rounds

TISCO and reigning champions Bhilai, who had international players in their ranks were favourites from the beginning to win the championship TISCO had International Master Neeraj Mishra and V Koshy, whereas Bhilai came with international players like N Sudhakar Babu, R S Gupta, Manoj Verma and international woman chess player Kiran Agarwal Kiran was the only woman player in the championship

Bhilai also gathered 15 points in five rounds and tied with TISCO But their loss against TISCO in the second round proved decisive in the end

This six day meet organised by the sports cell of Rourkela Steel Plant at the Social home attracted 40 players from 7 units of the Steel Plant Sports Board

Satish Sharma

BANGALORE

LIC Athletics

ARUN V RAO of Udupi division emerged the individual champion in the Life Insurance Corporation's 24th South Central Zone athletics meet held at Bangalore recently He bagged three golds in the 100 mts, 200 mts and 400 mts

Mona Hussey of Bangalore Division and P N Padmini of Mysore division were the women's champions bagging three golds each The former excelled in 200 mts, 400 mts and 800 mts, while the latter in the discus, long jump and shot put

Udupi division with 20 medals were team champions followed by Mysore (17) and Bangalore (11)

Ralph F. Patrao

NEW DELHI

Parvana Memorial Football

DELHI Development Authority lifted the coveted North Zone Institutional Football tournament beating hosts and holders Oriental Bank of Commerce 4 3 via tie breaker at the Ambedkar Stadium in New Delhi

Twelve top institutions participated which included teams such as Railway Board, Delhi Transport Corporation Punjab National Bank D E S U F C I and Northern Railways etc in memory of the late Shri H L Parvana the founder of Sports Club Oriental Bank of Commerce

D D A were indeed fortunate to win the championship as they had exhibited poor skills in the initial rounds of the tournament However, their performance improved considerably as they moved up and in the final, they surprised every one by their coordinated disciplined game giving no chance to the favourites Oriental Bank of Commerce

Rasheed Kidwai

The DDA football team were the winners of the Parvana Memorial tournament

AHMEDABAD

Inter-Bank hockey

STATE BANK OF INDIA won the fourth All India Inter Bank hockey tournament by beating the star studded Punjab Sind Bank 2 1 in an absorbing encounter at the Gujarat College ground recently

After a goalless first session both teams made some fine efforts to break the stalemate Rajender Singh of Punjab Sindh Bank netted brilliantly in the sixth minute and gave his side an important lead Ironically enough it turned out to be the consolatory goal for an otherwise powerful Punjab Sindh Bank squad which fielded four current national stars who had participated in the recently concluded 5th Indira Gandhi international hockey tournament at Delhi

Came the 10th minute of the second half and it was altogether a different story The much needed equaliser for State Bank of India was provided by Sanjay Kumar at this moment The 34th minute proved decisive when N S Sodhi playing at his artistic best found the target and clinched the issue for State Bank of India

Bank of India the hosts,defeated Indian Bank 2 1 and secured the third position

Haresh Pandya

GUWAHATI

Inter-District Cricket

KAMRUP District retained the second Khakan Ahmed Memorial Trophy Inter District School Cricket Tournament held here recently

In the final holders Kamrup defeated Sonitpur District by 37 runs Batting first the Kamrup



RASHEED KIDWAI

team piled up 187 for 7 in the allotted 40 overs while Sonitpur could only manage 148 runs in 36 4 overs

All rounder Manjit Das of Kamrup District was declared the 'Man of the Tournament'

In the first semi final, Kamrup defeated Nowgaon by a margin of 54 runs And in the other semi final Sonitpur easily routed the Dibrugarh team

A total of 22 District teams of the State took part in the tournament on the final day Mrs Khakan Ahmed gave away the prizes while Shri Bireswar Baruah, Secretary , Sports & Culture Govt of Assam, presided over the closing ceremony

Pabitra Kr. Deka



Subhrakanti Mishra: winner of the under-17 district tennis championships

RANCHI

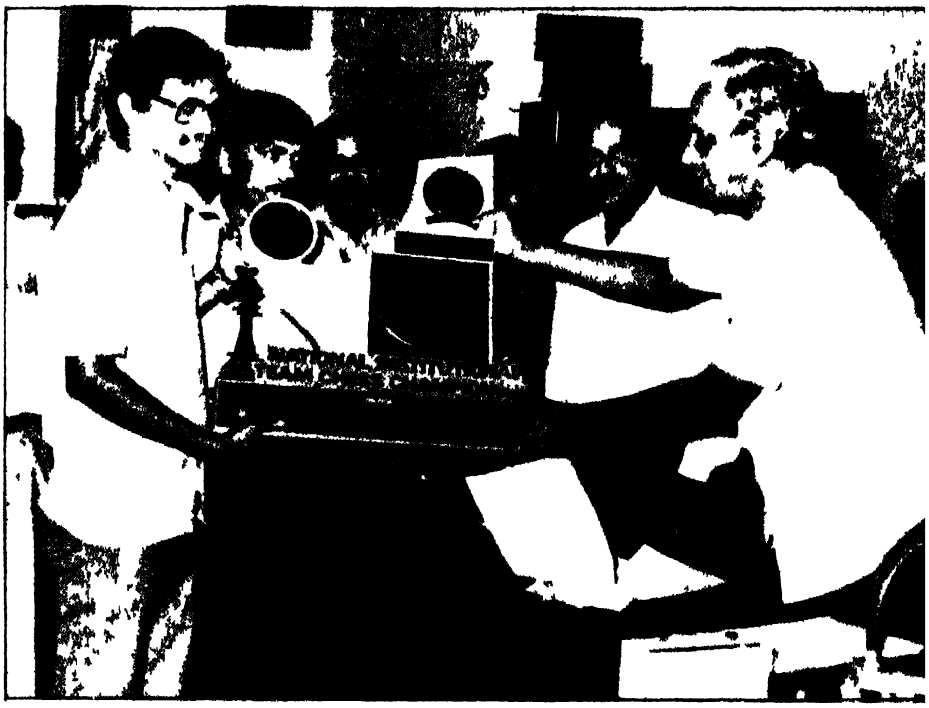
District Junior tennis

AMARNATH RATH and Shubhrakanti Mishra won the singles title of the under 13 and under 17 age group respectively in the first Ranchi District Junior Tennis championship held here recently

In the well contested under 13 final, Amarnath Rath beat Navneet Nakara 3 6 6 1 6 3 In the first set with his attractive volleys and fast cross returns, Navneet took a 1-0 lead But in the other two sets he lost his stamina and Amarnath won the match 2-1

Shubhrakanti Mishra defeated Rajeev Bhatia 6 1 6-2 in the final of the under 17 age group Earlier, in the semi finals, Shubhrakanti Mishra beat Amarnath Rath 6 0, 6-0 while Rajeev Bhatia defeated Karmveer Singh by 6-3 6 1

Anil Kumar Singh



NLC Team captain P. Mitrakanth receiving the Central Revenues Trophy from Mr T.C.A Ramanujam, Chief Commissioner of Income Tax

MADRAS

Institutional Team chess

NEYVELI LIGNITE CORPORATION, aggregating 19 points in the six rounds, won the second National Institute Team Chess Championships conducted by the Central Revenues Sports Board at Madras in January They clinched the title when they defeated Air India 2 5—1 5 in the final round

The NLC team clinched the Central Revenue rolling trophy and with it the cash award of Rs 8000 presented to the winning team, P Mitrakanth, A Pavanasam, S Ganesan (all FIDE masters) and R Muralidharan

Last years winners Indian Airlines, with 17 points, and hosts Central Revenues Sports Board, with 16 points bagged the second and third positions and with it the cash prizes of Rs 6000 and Rs 5000 respectively

There were cash awards for the first eight teams, in this 16-team competition In addition, there were board prizes for the top six individual positions S Rangarajan with a score of 6 6 took the top spot and the cash award of Rs 3000 A Pavanasam (5 5) and S Ganeswan (5 6) both of NLC finished second and third and won Rs 2000 and Rs 1500 respectively

Partab Ramchand

KURUKSHETRA

Inter-university Judo

DELHI University women's team and Kurukshetra University won the women's and men's championships at the fourth All-India Inter-University Judo

championship held at University Sports Complex, Kurukshetra University

Delhi University won three golds, and two bronze medals Neelam Dalal (below 52 kg), and Shashi Prabha (below 61 kg) won the golds while Bhavna Bharti (below 56 kg) and Rajni Sharma (above 61 kg) bagged the bronze medals

In the men's section, Kurukshetra University retained the top position with a haul of five medals Ram Kumar (below 50 Kg), and Ishwar (below 71 kg) won the golds Hari Singh (below 55 kg), and Ishwar (open) collected silvers while Manoj Kumar (below 65 kg) got the bronze medal

Suresh Kumar Lau

Delhi University were the winners of the Inter-University judo women's championships



BANGALORE

Electricity Board Athletics

PUNJAB State Electricity Board (PSEB) dominated the three-day 18th All India Electricity Board Athletics meet held here recently In a meet that had over 250 participants from 15 state electricity boards, PSEB retained the team championship with 27 medals, including 14 golds in 22 events

PSEB garnered 106 points, followed by last year's runners-up, Uttar Pradesh (40 points) and Tamil Nadu (26 points) Amandeep Singh of PSEB won the individual championship by winning the 800 mts 1500 mts and 500 mts events

Ralph F. Patrao

GUMLA

Oraon Memorial Football

TISCO Sports Club West Bokaro Colliery (Hazaribagh) won the All India Kartik Oraon Memorial Football Championship when they defeated Patna Athletic Association, 5-4 in the sudden death here recently

The final, played at Paramveer Albert Ekka stadium, was to some extent a tough contest with players of both the teams resorting to rough tactics The match was goalless after 90 minutes of play and 15 minutes of extra time In the tie-breaker the result was 4-4 Then, in sudden death, A Dey of TISCO netted the winning goal

Earlier, in the semifinals, Patna Athletic Association defeated CISF Rourkela by 1-0, while TISCO Sports Club beat Mohammedan Sporting (sub Jr) 2-1 in tie-breaker

Anil Kumar Singh

CALCUTTA

All-India Ladies Golf

NONITA LAL took her third major title in a tournament in Calcutta, when she won the 74th all-India ladies amateur golf championship at the Tollygunge club It was a well-fought 36 hole affair final where Nonita got the better of Charu Ahluwalia

Delhi s Suparna Sardana beat Sheena Rawla in the final for the Vikramaditya Trophy

Nonita and Charu did some fine putting on the final day The match was so evenly contested



N PRAKASH MAJUMDAR

Nonita Lal: winner of the All-India Ladies golf championships

that after the first set of 18 holes there was no one who was actually leading The golfers shared six birdies in the first session

It was in the second set of 18 holes that Nonita finally began to unravel experience Going into the 19th she was 1 hole up and by the 11th of the second set Nonita had a four hole cushion The 12th and 13th holes were halved and that left Nonita to halve the next to wrap up the title

In the semi final Nonita beat Simi Mehra on the 19th hole This again after Simi had an upper hand in the match but was badly hit after she had to putt thrice in the 15th hole

Eastern Open Golf

DANAPUR based Mohammad Islam finally ended a long wait when he won the Eastern India Wills Open golf championship after finishing runners up in two other major championships earlier held in the city The new year proved lucky for Islam as he chalked up his first Wills win in his career but only just

The 27 year old Railway employee won on sudden death after he was tied with local hero Basad Ali on the Royal Calcutta Golf Club course on 299 points Islam parred the 19th to notch up the title- the eighth in the 11 leg Wills circuit

The final clash really picked up at the 16th hole and it was entertaining all the way till the finish Islam began on a strong note He had a four over par as against Basad s eight over par

The Eastern India win was worth Rs 14 000 for Islam His earnings went up to Rs 40 000 in the 1989 90 season An obviously happy Islam said that he owed a lot to mentor Shashi Raj Son of an armyman Islam has learnt to play golf the hard way There is no golf course in Danapur He works out at the Patna Golf Club

In the amateur section Lakshman Singh was the best with 306 points Three strokes adrift was runner up A S Malik

The following are the positions in the Wills Open 1 Mohammad Islam (299) 2 Basad Ali (299) 3 Shoikh Ali (304) 4 Hyder Khan (305) 5 Rishi Narain (305)



NIRMALENDU MAJUMDAR

Mohammad Islam was the men's winner of the All-India Eastern Open Golf championships

State Archery

RAJAT HALDER continued from where he had left in the nationals (he finished among the six best) and won the men s title in the state senior archery championship at the Rabindra Sarobar Stadium (east) grounds recently The newly-crowned women s national champion Tira Samanta also annexed the state title

But the final day s proceedings started on an inauspicious note as the bus bringing participants from the SAI NIS Complex in Salt Lake to Rabindra Sarobar, met with an accident on the Eastern Metropolitan By-pass Among those injured were the state women s champion Tira Samanta National champion Limba Ram of Rajasthan and his coach Soumen Das miraculously escaped during the same accident

A speeding truck which had apparently lost control over its brakes grazed past the two wheeler on which Limba Ram was the pillion rider Das who was driving the two wheeler and Limba were both thrown out of their seats and in the process almost run over The accident landed both Das and Limba at the hospital Ram s right femur was broken and he received head injuries, while Das' injuries were more serious The coach had broken his knee and wrist and the bridge of his nose was broken Both are now recovering

The bus after edging past the scooter, rammed into the SAI bus Fortunately, a major accident was averted

Soumitra Bose

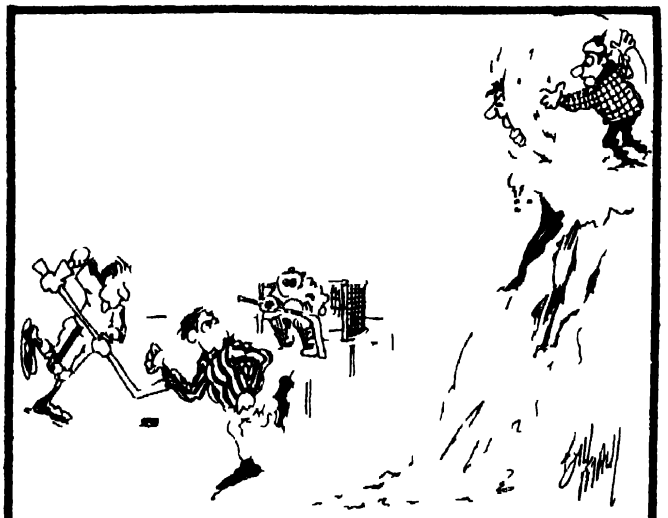
SPORTS HALL OF SHAME — BY NASH & ZULLO



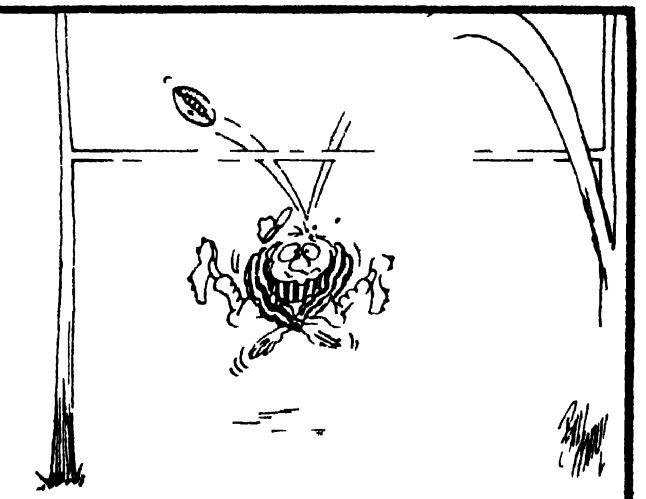
IN 1986 **MIKE FREIDEL**, DEFENSIVE COACH OF THE AUGUSTANA (S D) COLLEGE FOOTBALL TEAM, GOT TOO EXCITED OVER A RECOVERED FUMBLE AS HE THREW HIS ARMS UP IN CELEBRATION HE CAUGHT HEAD COACH JIM HEINITZ FLUSH ON THE JAW KNOCKING HIM OUT ON THE SIDELINES THE FOLLOWING WEEK, RECALLED FREIDEL *"WHENEVER A PLAYER HAD TO TALK TO ME HE MADE SURE HIS HELMET WAS ON AND HIS MOUTH GUARD WAS IN"*



IMAGINE DECIDING A BASKETBALL GAME WITH THE FLIP OF A COIN THAT S WHAT HAPPENED IN 1925 WHEN GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL TEAMS **KANSAL** AND **PINGREE** MET IN FARGO N D AFTER A SCORELESS GAME AND THRFE SCORELESS OVERTIMES, THE REFS CALLED FOR THE COIN TOSS KANSAL CALLED HEADS—AND WAS DECLARED THE WINNER!



ABOUT 5,000 **SWISS FANS** SHOWED THEIR DISAP PROVAL DURING THE HOCKEY FINAL BETWEEN SWITZERLAND AND CANADA AT THE 1948 WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES BY BOMBARDING OFFICIALS WITH SNOWBALLS WHENEVER A CALL WENT AGAINST THE SWISS TEAM THE REFEREES FOUND THEM SELVES EASY TARGETS IN THE OPEN-AIR RINK IN ST MORITZ, SWITZERLAND, WHERE FANS WERE PERCHED HIGH ABOVE THE ACTION ON MOUNTAIN CLIFFS TO ROOT FOR THE SWISS TEAM



IN 1939, WITH THE EASTERN DIVISION TITLE ON THE LINE, THE WASHINGTON REDSKINS TRIED A FIELD GOAL THAT WOULD HAVE GIVEN THEM A 10-9 VICTORY OVER THE NEW YORK GIANTS WHEN THE KICK SAILED THROUGH THE UPRIGHTS, THE GIANTS RESIGNEDLY SHOOK THE REDSKINS HANDS BUT DESPITE WHAT THE FANS AND PLAYERS SAW, REFEREE **BILL HALLORAN** SIGNALED NO GOOD! THE PLAY STOOD HALLORAN WAS SOON FIRED BY THE LEAGUE

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1 What is common to Asif Iqbal Alan Knott and Colin Cowdrey?
2 Who is the odd man out Jack Nicklaus Gary Player Ray Reardon and Hunry Cotton?
3 What is common to the Indian Test cricketers Jasu Patel Kapil Dev and Subhash Gupte?

ANSWERS

1 They all played for Kent CCC
2 Ray Reardon a snooker player The others are golfers
3 All of them bagged nine wickets in a Test Jasu Patel 9/69 vs Australia at Kanpur 1959 Kapil Dev 9/83 v West Indies at Ahmedabad 1983 and Subhash Gupte 9/102 v West Indies at Kanpur 1958

BRIDGE

The other day someone asked me which of the two intellectual games bridge and chess is tougher Well frankly I am not sure and I don t really think that either game is easier than the other However while there are decent chess playing programs that can give above average players moderate opposition there are no good bridge playing computer programs available And this despite computer programming requiring the same aptitude as bridge The main reason is that there are too many variables in the game of bridge and what is right on a certain hand might be quite wrong on another similar one because of a change of a seemingly inconsequential spot card or because of a different layout of the opponents' cards Today's hand from the Holkar Open Pairs elimination round of the 1989 nationals is a case in point -

NORTH (dummy)
♠ A K 10 8 5
Q 4
K 5 3 ?
♣ Q 5

WEST
♠ Q 1 7 6
J 6 3 2
J 7 4
♣ 9 8

EAST
♠ 9 4 2
K
A 10 6
♣ A 1 10 7 6 3

SOUTH
♠ 3
A 10 9 8 7 5
Q 9 8
♣ K 4 2

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
2	Pass	4	?
All Pass			Pass

West dutifully led the nine of clubs East winning his ace and returning a second round of the suit Dummy s queen won and with east marked with the heart king the trump queen was led from the table South won his ace over East s king but when West came in with the heart jack he got to east in diamonds and got a clubruff to set the game Nor would it help declarer to throw a club on the spades before touching trumps for then he would be left with a second diamond loser

The contract, seemingly unmakeable at first glance, can make if declarer gets his third club out of the way before tackling trumps The most elegant line is to win the second club in hand with the king, ruff the third club in dummy and then play trumps Now when east gets in to play a fourth club, declarer is out of clubs and can ruff with the seven to prevent an overruff And if east ducks the first club a club could be given up immediately and the club ruff negotiated before touching trumps

Could a computer be programmed to go up with the club king converting a winner into a momentary loser because the auction marks East with six clubs the trump king and the side ace? Even if it could be it would require such a huge program that no present day PC would probably have the RAM capacity to put it to any use Zia Mahmood of Pakistan in an interview where he unashamedly claimed that he plays best after spending a hot night with a lovely girl has made a standing offer of a hundred thousand sterling pounds to anyone who writes a computer program capable of beating him at bridge Any takers?

Santanu Ghose

THE NAIDU FORMULA — FROM TEE TO GREEN

The Address

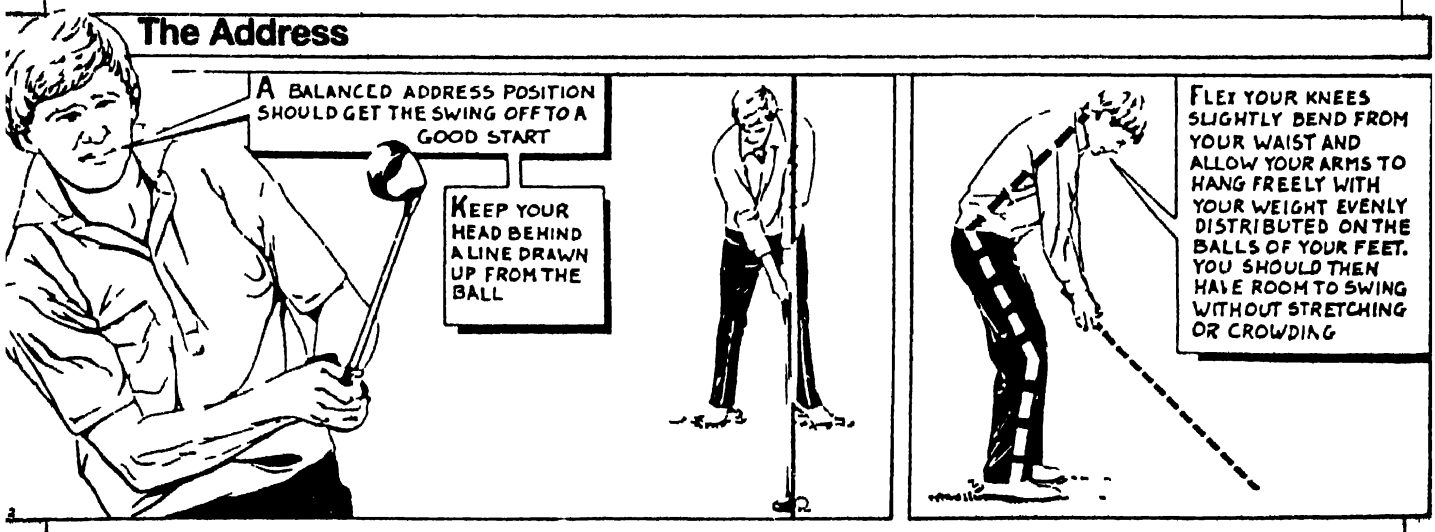


PHOTO OF THE WEEK



TOMMY HINDLEY

Tennis used to be a non-contact sport, but looking at this photograph you wouldn't believe it. America was not at war when this incident took place, but it didn't deter Yankee boys Brad Gilbert (left) and David Wheaton from having a disagreement which only just missed becoming physical. Incidentally, the man holding them apart, Ken Farrar, is the official John McEnroe abused to be defaulted from last year's Australian Open

SAURAV GANGULY 'THE'

COMES a time in every man's life when he's got to make certain vital decisions Sourav Ganguly made his when still in high school Although an avid footballer—he was a regular in the St Xavier's school team—Saurav proferred a 'disinterest' for the sport and was disinclined to pursue it It was a sensible decision, for, now, barely four years later, he's knocking on the Indian cricket team's door

Having played the game only casually in school, Sourav developed a more serious attitude towards cricket, only when he was selected to represent Bengal against Orissa in an under-15 encounter "I had got a lot of runs, as well as wickets, for my school that year when we made it to the semi-finals of the CAB under 15 inter-school league,' he explains, going on to add quite proudly that he was the only player from his school to receive summons from the state

Sourav classifies himself in the "allrounder category. I visualise myself breaking into the middle order. No. 6"



HUNTER

Youthful talent and grizzled experience make the Indian cricket team a tough place to find a slot. But for Bengal's rising star, the hunt is on!



level.

If that was the result of his natural talent and hard work, providence chipped in with a hundred in that game itself. That did it. Football boots lay forgotten as the willow and polished leather took centrestage in the energetic youngster's life. First came the under-15 schools meet; then the zones and finally the national camp at Indore. The following year he was battling his way into the under-17 team, finally making it to the under-19 squad last year.

"I've got very good hopes for the Australian tour"...Sourav is looking forward to playing in the company of seniors like Azharuddin

But what was he doing at the MRF Pace Foundation? Considering it was with the bat that he rose above the ordinary, Sourav's first trip to Madras in 1988 had the eyebrows reaching for the hairline. "I considered myself basically a batsman; someone who used to bat and bowl a bit," he confesses, "but that season I had got a lot of wickets in the zonal's, and that's probably why they sent me a letter of invitation". And his enthusiasm at coming on first change with such success led to his accepting the invitation.

Four times has Sourav been with the Dennis Lillee-inspired MRF Pace Foundation. Each of those being a 15-day stint where mornings were devoted to physical conditioning while evenings consisted of bowling at the nets to Tamil Nadu batsmen. All under the eagle eye of the veteran fast bowler Lillee. "I learnt a lot from them. They taught me the basics of fast bowling," he praised, going on to admit, "I never knew what they were before I went. I just used to run up to the crease and bowl my way. I never knew how to bowl an inswing or an outswing. I learnt it from them".

However, the offer of a four-year contract was asking too much of him. Here was a youngster, raring to soar. And he certainly didn't want to be tied down for the next four years of his life.

Back home, Sourav has adhered to a strict physical regimen. While the season left very little time for anything but cricket, off-season training includes a half-hour run, followed by 15 minutes of sprinting on three days of the week. Three other days are devoted to skipping and

weight-training at his well-equipped gym.

And the results are showing. "I have improved a lot from last season," he says, "especially in my bowling. I think I'm the highest wicket-taker in my side". Sourav then goes on to underline that he is more a product of gritty determination than flashy brilliance. "I practice a lot" he states, adding,"cricket is a game where, if you want to succeed, you have to practice all the time. Whatever talent you possess, it's the same. It's very easy to reach a high level, but if you want to stay there you have to practice".

"I didn't have much talent earlier," he admits, and then pays tribute to his coach, former Bengal player Debu Mitra for honing his game to the level it is at now. "Thanks to my coach and all the hard work, I've improved to whatever I am".

This is one player who comes from a very supportive background, and it shows



How does he motivate himself, especially since he refuses to model himself on an idol? "I've never seen myself batting in a match. Only at nets. So I can't tell whose style of play I emulate. But I can say that I don't model myself on anyone. I don't want to be known as a so-and-so lookalike. I want to be Sourav Ganguly," he asserts. Then, easing off on the aggro a bit, he continues "I loved the game once I started playing it. Then, I saw my brother—Snehashis, also part of the Bengal and East Zone outfit—playing, my dad encouraged me to work hard and my mother is very intrested".

Adding to the encouraging support of the domestic front is his educational institution. Now in the final period of his plus-2 course at St. Xavier's College, Calcutta, Sourav gratefully admits that his "school is very cooperative. I have my Higher Secondary (Class 12) exams in April and I missed my selections but they've allowed me through because I was playing for the state and zone."

With such an accommodating infrastructure, how soon does he see himself breaking into the elite band of men who represent the country at the highest level of the game? Especially when considered that he comes from the Eastern zone, an area that finds it notoriously tough to catch the selectorial eye. "It's much tougher to make it into the Indian team from this part of the country because a

"I learnt a lot from them (the MRF Pace Foundation). They taught me the basics of fast bowling"

West guy like Vinod Kambli is playing the Duleep Trophy games while I've played just one. We get less matches. For him, there's room for failure. If he fails in this game, he's got another game to make it up. But for us, if we fail once, we might not get anothr chance".

When reminded that players like Sachin Tendulkar have paved the way for youngsters to make the Indian team,



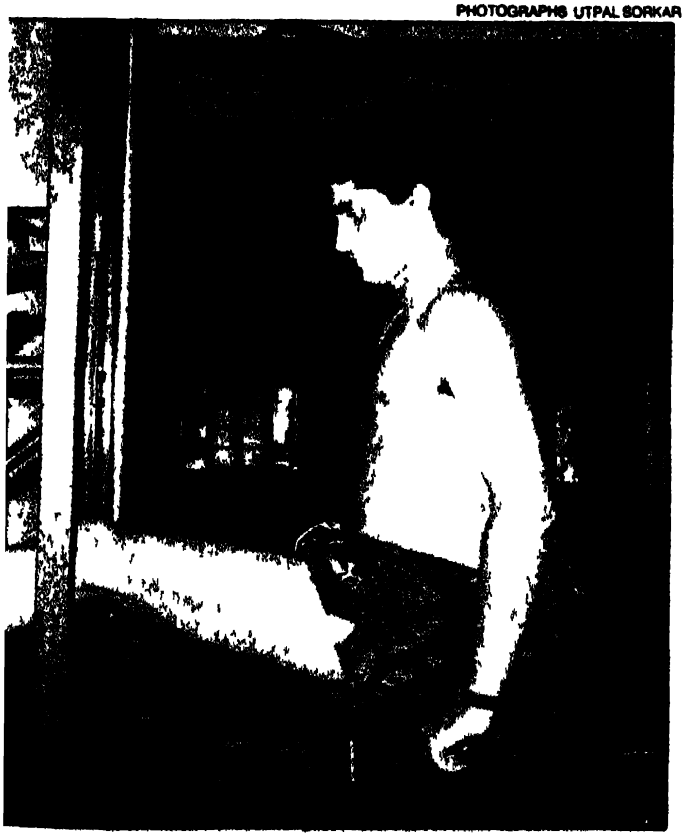
Sourav begs to differ. "Yes, it's true that Sachin has opened the doors, but expectations have also risen." Explaining how everyone expects any rising youngster to to score prodigiously and take wickets every time he comes on to bowl, he visibly shudders when adding, "especially in Calcutta. If I fail in any game, I don't know what they'll do to me. The crowd expects me to score runs whenever I'm out to bat". A grim reminder of the unforgiving attitude of the sporting multitudes of West Bengal.

Yet, this hasn't stopped Bengal's boy wonder from striking up a healthy friendship with Tendulkar. "We met first at the under-15 camp in Indore, and we've been friends since," Sourav says, and goes on to praise the



Do youngsters from the West Zone like Tendulkar and Kambli (standing) benefit from the high exposure?

PHOTOGRAPHS UTPAL BORKAR



Sourav believes that he is the product of diligent hard work

teenaged prodigy for handling the pressure so well.

If he gets along famously with his generation, the older one has no trouble accepting him as well. Playing alongside battle-scarred veterans like Arun Lal and Ashok Malhotra in the Bengal team has taught Sourav much. "I'm the youngest member of the side," he points out, "but I mix with all of them. The least age differnce is with my brother, that's six years, while Lal and Malhotra are twice my age. But I'm very free with all of them and they all help a lot with my game."

What about the future? "I've got good hopes for the Australian tour," he says almost shyly. With India making a mammoth five-month tour Down Under this September—beginning with a normal tour and culminating in the World Cup in early '92—it would certainly give him the opportunity to test his mettle against the best in the world.

And where does he see himself fitting in? Especially considering his multi-faceted talents. Does he consider himself a batsman who bowls a bit? Or a bowler who can throw the bat about too? "My performances should answer that question," is the way he counters, adding "I have batted well and I have also bowled well". It eventually takes another bout of prying to get this chap to admit that he classifies himself in the "allrounder category". "I visualise myself breaking into the middle order. No. 6".

Considering that a certain Kapil Dev Nikhanj fills that slot right now, isn't he worried that it'll hamper his chances? Sourav admits that Kapil is bowling really well now, but isn't willing to compromise on what he wants. If it's Kapil Dev who'll have to make way for him, so be it. The prospect of a tougher challenge only makes the hunt more exciting.

Fortune, they say, favours the brave.

Pradeep Paul

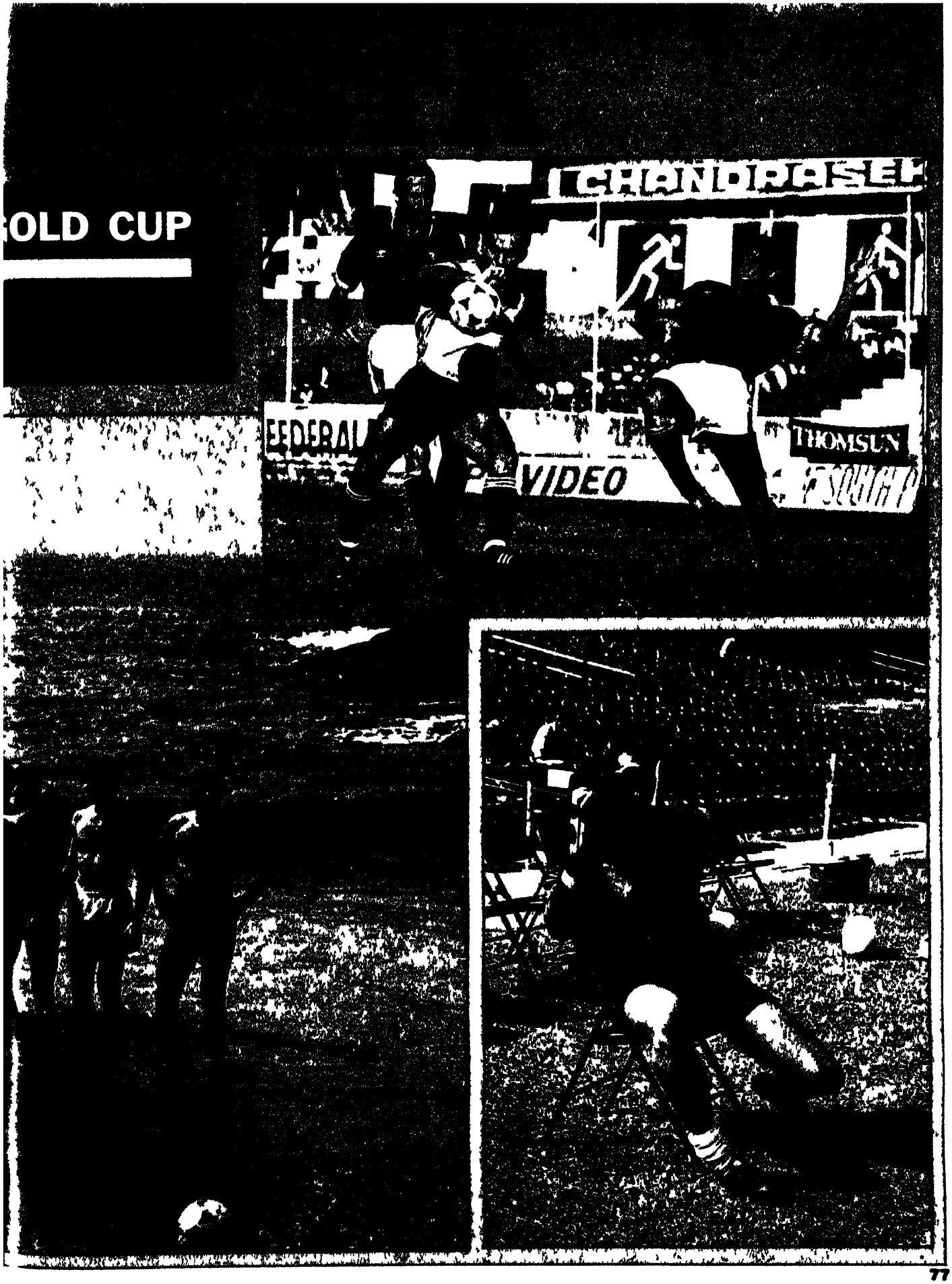
FOOT

NEHR





At Goa in 1989, Hungary stayed at the Colva beach resort and managed to win the Nehru Cup, beating the Soviets. And two years later the Magyar boys again preferred to stay at Kovalam during the ninth edition at Trivandrum. Our photographer NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA went to click the Hungarians at the beach, but surprisingly he found the Romanians having a great time...away from the severe winter in Europe(right). The final match: Romanian hero Lon Vladiou being tackled by two Hungarian defenders (top right). And a Hungarian reserve was shooting the final with his video camera (right below). But what he recorded was the defeat of Hungary by Romania, with the Nehru Gold Cup (top left)


OLD CUP
CHANDRASE
FEDERAL
VIDEO
THOMSUN

THE RESULTS OF THE

Hot Legs Quiz

We were simply overwhelmed by your extraordinary response. Every day, stacks of mail used to be deposited at our office; most amazing being the number of all-correct entries. So much so, it was a real pity we could only give the Rs 500 prize to the *first* all-correct entry received by us. You folks are very well-informed, we must say; and we even had readers who bemoaned the fact that it was so easy! Anyway, well-done all those who sent in entries, congratulations to the winner, and thank you

THE WINNER...

DEEP ROY (20 years old) from Durg, Madhya Pradesh

ALL-CORRECT, BUT TOO LATE!!

Prasanna Vaidya
R Mahalakshmi
Amit Kr Das
Bimal Lama
Soumyarup Kahali
Sumanta Ghosh
Daryus Gazder
Vishnu Balaraman
Kartik Chhaya
Arjun Nath
Rongsen Jamir
Ambar Mazumdar
Deborah Gonsalves
Mohan Alvares
R Geethara
Paramita Banerjee
Fareen Ayesha
Barnali Gogoi
B.S Eishwaria
B S Vidya
Behram Aderbad
Anirban Ojha
Mustafa Anas N P
Biju Jacob
Ruby D'Souza
Gautam Ghosh
Pradyumna Kr Mahapatra
Zualtei Poonte
K.V Suresh
Sandeep Sethi
T Shani Kumar
Narendra K Govil
S C Ullal
Mukund Srinivasan
S J Goswami
Rajnish Sinha
Rajdeep Mazumdar
Raju Bhattacharjee
P Sundhar
Harish Acharya
Monojit Purkayastha
Suresh Kutty
Anindya Nag
G Ezekiel
Sushil Surve
Mahesh Kanchan



1) Florence Griffith Joyner



2) Gabriela Sabatini



3) Gary Lineker



4) Stefan Edberg



5) Zola Budd



6) Steffi Graf



7) Edwin Moses



8) Imran Khan



9) Daley Thompson



10) Martina Navratilova



11) Daniela Silivas

NE ERROR

Tarun Sircar
Anant Francis Myunt
B Gindhar
D Devaprasadam
Shiva Kumar Daga
Stanley Mascaranhas
P V Harish
Soumitra Majumdar
A V Kohli
Sonia Alvares
G Suresh
C R Santosh
Ratan Singh
Prabhas Dhanuka
Chitra Jayaram
Kaustav Dutta
G Myrtle
Shane McMahon
Joseph D'S ouza
Anuz Sharma
Mridula Ghosh
Zuttee
Richard Gomez
James Laisawmliana
Swapnadipa Ghosh
Grazia Sangma
Devesh Kumar Giri
V Bhagyalakshmi
Anushu Changakoti
Rajesh Mehra
Rakesh Purohit
Anjali Ghidiyal
Yezdi Kambatta
Manishpati Tripathi
Vishal Prabhakar
Rahul Chaudhury
Rahul Mukherjee
Ravinder Singh
Sunita Kujur
Basab Majumdar
Fayaz Ahmed
Santanu Deb Roy
Arshad Wali Haque
A Subramaniam
Navvie Sangha
R Hariharan
Kanishka Dutta
Ashish Hari
Dipanjan Ganguly
Aflab Zaman
Kuntal Roy Chowdhury
Kausik Dutta
Subrata Halder
Aditya Sharma
Pankaj Tomar
Maheen Ahmed
Vinayak Yashwant Palkar
Nash Paul D Souza
G S Kumar
Angshuman Ojha
N Peeyush
N C Ojha
Rajaditya Banerjee
Moumita Mukhopadhyay
Syed Naemuddin
Raja Chanda
Khushie Balsara
Sudipto Bhaduri
Vivek Agarwal
Deep Sen
C K Barooah
Maheen Ahmed
Suresh Kumar
Pradeep Kaul
Preeti Shukla
Sridhar Baratan
Awanjit Kr Das
Manoj Khosla
Mayur Chidramane
Sharique Alam

TWO ERRORS

Syed Rashid Moquim
Mayangri Ao
Subrato Mukherjee
Jaswinder Singh
Uttam Mandi
Mohammed Mubasshir
Prasad Ramesh
Vikash Agarwal
Nilanjan Kundu
Anustup Banerjee
Namrata Borkakoti
Arnab Brahmachari
Swati Banerjee
Ravi Ranjan Sinha
Manish Aggarwal
Sajeev Sudarsan
T S Mahesh
Sunayana Sarkar
S H Qaisar
V Devadas
Denthong Teron
Raju Mehta
C A Pathak
Rajesh Kashyap
Geetha Rajan
N Lorraine
Inder Pal Singh
Md Saniful Hussain
Javie Dominic D Souza
Pankaj Anand
Jeet Bannerjee
Ashit Das
Amit Misra
Partha Bhaumik
Aditya Choudhury
T P Das
Jayanta De
Neeraj Singh
Sujatha Shenoy
Vivek Saraf
Avinash Prakash
S T Muthappa
Chitranjan Agarwal
Savita Kirloskar
Bhagavathi S Ram
Apurva Pathak
Sujay Mukherjee
Irene Deworsop
Suranjan Paul
Subhrajyoti Mitra
Asim Bhattacharjee
Rajneesh Tiwari
Anand Lakshman
Anindita Das
Suneira Banerjee
Bhadaur Singh Bhambhani
L Rameshor Singh
Rupa Ghosh
Neeraj Trivedy
Shikha Chatterjee
G V A Sekhar
G S Santosh
Dileep Ramachandran
Gigi Eapen Chenan
Joyanta Ghosh
Sankarshan Mukhopadhyay
Rajesh Mohan Mehra
Naveen Kannan
Saicharan Patel
Debapriya Sarkar
B S Gundath
Raja Sevak
Biju Bora
Anil George
R S Srinath

MORE THAN TWO ERRORS

Ayesha Sood Satyageet Naik Jumie Phukan M G Sampath Kumar Pritam Panja J Arvind K S Saju Supriyo Roy Donnegan Lobo Avinanda Ghosh Pramod Tembe Kumar Shakti T Sriram Sabyasachi Mohapatra Subba Reddy Tikendrajit Das N A Madappa Akhouri Malay B D Murthy S Suresh Sajan Kumar Deorah Simanta Kr Roy M Poonam Kumari S Ravi Dinyar Medhora Dhruba Lahkar Narendra Rawat Biswajit Panda Abu Mohammad Musa Shavya S Raguram N M Purabia Mary Mekala Vishal Bhave Joydev Roy Pawan Kumar Prasad Arup Ghosh Anirban Basak Krishna Arora Sougata Kerr Parthib Banerjee Ojjaini Sen Kanika Puri Kalpesh Hathi K S Gopinathan Anangabhaskar Biswal Ranjay Singh Pratik Dhar R K Pandurkar Dipankar Bhattacharya Snehangsu Dutta Abhishek Maloo Tejas Sinha Arta Mishra Rudra Pratap Singh Subhadip Sircar Sanjay Nilavar M Radhika Ashok Banerjee A Bhattacharjee Anita Choudhury Sudeep Mandal Rajnish Gahlot Malaysree Bhattacharyya Rishi Vasudev Santanu Chakraborty Ravi Hegde B S Sridhar Prakhar Chandra Das R Saganika Suraj Kumar Behera Kaushik Barua Urmi Sengupta Prakash Chandra Roy Asim Bhattacharjee P Haridas Ramesh Gonsalves Siddharth Kannan Amitava Ghosh N Muhindro Singh Anasua Dutta S C Rajasimha Saptarshi Paul J Jerrin Nausheen Kaul Tanusree Tulsian Praveen Maduram Utpal Baruah R Rajesh Mayank Narayan Singh Soumya Jyoti De Mrinalini Singh Biju Nair Aparnesh Talukdar Bharat Grover Sanjoy Singh Ronnie Guha Abhijit Basu Gerald Gonsalves Arvind Meda Satish Agarwal K S Rahunandan S M A Baseer Dhiman Chattopadhyay Brendan Quinn Arnab Ghoshal Anupam Bhatia Suchismita Ghosh Jaideep Mukherjee Sandip Kr Bose V S Sunil Debasis Mitra, Arun Bhandary Shankar Tatia Biester Sangma Jacob Chorian Sanjay Kumar Bose

PRIVATE EYE

WE LOOK WHERE WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO!

FOR SALE! FOR SALE!

Messrs Gazza and Lineker



Lineker paying the price for Gazza's fame

IT seems as though the remedy to tackle Gazza's constant tantrums has presented itself: Put him up for sale! Unfortunately, this might mean making Gary Lineker a scapegoat out of the whole business

The situation on the whole is not a happy one Lineker and Gazza may soon become part of soccer's slave market as Tottenham Hotspur, the English first division club for which they play, puts up the transfer lists

Having announced losses of over £2.6 million ($4 94 million), the club reported a deficit after tax of £1.3 million ($2.47 million) upto May last year

The directors of Tottenham Hotspur, in their bid to eliminate loss-making activities and trim overheads, checked out what each player is worth. And were pleasantly shocked to find out that Gazza alone can fetch at least £6 million ($11.4 million) in the international soccer bazaar

While that itself could pull them out of the red, Linekar too may be made into a scapegoat as the club looks to put themselves in the financial clear And maybe, just maybe, they would be only too glad to see Gazza go.





TOMMY HINDLEY

A boisterous Aussie crowd strut their stuff

MEAN 'STREAK'

Bare it all

THERE is a general feeling among foreigners that Aussies like to be as 'bare' as possible while watching sport You know, take in some sun, mate! Problem is some of them overdo the strip-tease act To counter this, the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG) now employs two specialist policemen at all big cricket games These two are officially termed the 'Streaker Police' They are posted one at each end of the ground and their responsibilities begin and end at spotting incipient streakers

At the MCG security staff have been armed with shot guns instead of pistols in an attempt to prevent vandalism

Cricket is surely a tough game in Australia even if you are not playing for England

FLYING HIGH

From the maladies below

You can't be down for long Down Under. And this suits the demoralised English cricket team just fine.

David Gower and John Morris, however, carried it a bit too far when they decided to do a bit of aerobatics. Boarding 1939 Tiger Moth biplanes, they persuaded their pilots to 'buzz' the Carrara Oval to celebrate Robin Smith's century against Queensland. The problem was, neither of them were granted prior approval for such a thing.

The two planes, which regularly carry customers for joyrides, swooped in just after Smith completed his century. While the one carrying Gower dipped below the level of the six 200ft. floodlight pylons which ring the Carrara, the other stayed above the lights. A daring fly-by which was witnessed by a shocked Peter Lush who said "I know absolutely nothing about it and you can say that I'm not very pleased."

The Englishmen seem to have the rules clear cut: If you can't impress on land, why not try in the air?



freewheeling

CELEBRATED lyricist Tim Rice had probably never met Alexey Dreev before he wrote his hit-musical *Chess* If he had met the Russian chess player, Rice would never have thought of associating the board game with showbiz All this may sound too harsh on Dreev, especially coming for one who is as clued up about chess as our *Up pradhan mantri* Devi Lal is about Led Zepplin But the bottom line was that Dreev was an awful bore A sure cure for insomnia

In Madras, last week, I risked going to see our young chess wizard V Anand take on the big bore of Russia Risk, I say, because being accustomed to the equation that sport equals action, I was afraid of my reaction to sitting in complete silence for six hours watching two men occasionaly move some ivory across a chequered board

By the end of the day not only did I find that the Rook moved straight, the Bishop diagonally (one would have expected the Bishop to be 'straight') and the Queen as she pleases (naturally), but I had actually found myself appreciating the game Except, of course, when Dreev sat statuelike, chin resting on hand, pondering his next move as if it were as important as George Bush contemplating the use of nuclear warfare against Saddam Hussein

And Anand, on the other hand, was like an over anxious teenager playing his favourite video game, desperately waiting for the game to be over to check his score The repeated blinking of the eyes, the constant fidget in the chair, the occasional glance at his mother seated opposite in the first row All signs that could be mistaken for lack of concentration, but in fact had a lot to do with eagerness, enthusiasm and, more importantly, confidence

Dreev's long bouts of meditation not only irritated the audience, but even bugged Anand Often, Anand would not know what to do with himself while Dreev went into one of his stupors Sometimes Anand would slip out into the lawn alongside the hall to take a quiet walk in solitude Only to return and find Dreev still sitting motionless The only time Dreev saw that same lawn, was when he took a few seconds off for a smoke Of course Anand had made his move by the time Dreev had reached for his cigarette packet and turned his back on the table It was an amazing contrast in styles As contrasting and varied as the two dominant colours in front of them

Two young men, from two totally different backgrounds, with a totally different outlook to the game While delving into the past, I stumbled across a fascinating and interesting reason for this difference in attitude and style between the Indian and the Russian

The history of chess records that one of the primary reasons for the game's popularity in Russia lay in the very lifestyle of the people What better than a cosy fire place, vodka and a long-drawn-out board game during those typically cold Russian evenings? Chess to the Russian was a lifestyle more than a sport And since you had the entire evening to while away, why not take your time about things' Dreev must surely be a descendant of this lifestyle

Anand, on the other hand, played a great deal of his early chess at the Tal Club in Madras Set up by India's first International Master, Manuel Aaron, together with the USSR Information Service, the club is considered one of the best nurseries of Indian chess With facilities being inadequate in the club's earlier days, and the demand for the game, especially among the younger generation, on an upswing, the club had a serious problem on its hands It was not possible to give a game to each and every member who turned up to play The solution was simple A member could make use of a table and the board for a maximum of five minutes only, whether he could finish or not It was under these conditions of 'Active chess' that Anand developed his superior speed play

If one were to calculate the time the two players took to make moves, during the match at Madras, the ratio would work out to something like 3 1 That is, for every one move Dreev made, Anand made almost three in that same time span

No wonder, that along with the obvious joy, there was relief on many a face at Madras' Trident Hotel when Anand sent the Russian packing in eight days flat.

Alexey Dreev was sent back to those long Russian winter evenings to contemplate his next move

Andy O'Brien

Dreev (left) surrenders to Anand and then goes through the post match formalities



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MEET PETE SAMPRAS





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The Aussies take the Ashes and head for the Caribbean to battle for ultimate supremacy in world cricket

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VOICES

"You can't stop him (Gascoigne). We needed 12 men out there, but even if we had put someone on him he would still have done the things he did. He is a special player and you wouldn't want that type of talent to be lost from England."
BRIAN HORTON, Oxford United's manager after Gazza scored thrice in the 4-2 drubbing they got from Tottenham Hotspur in the FA Cup

"I enjoy speaking to kids. If you can tap into their minds early, they can focus on what they want to do, even though it's 10 years down the road. You can give them something to shoot for."
JACKIE JOYNER KERSEE, on a programme to help children in sports and provide them with a role model. This programme also aims at providing income to past and present Olympians.

"Once I start playing a few more tournaments, if I have a good clay season, maybe I can start challenging Becker and Edberg once again.
IVAN LENDL, on his chances to regain the No 1 spot

"When my career is over I will be able to tell my kids I fought at Madison Square Garden"
SUGAR RAY LEONARD, on his first professional appearance in New York, against Terry Norris

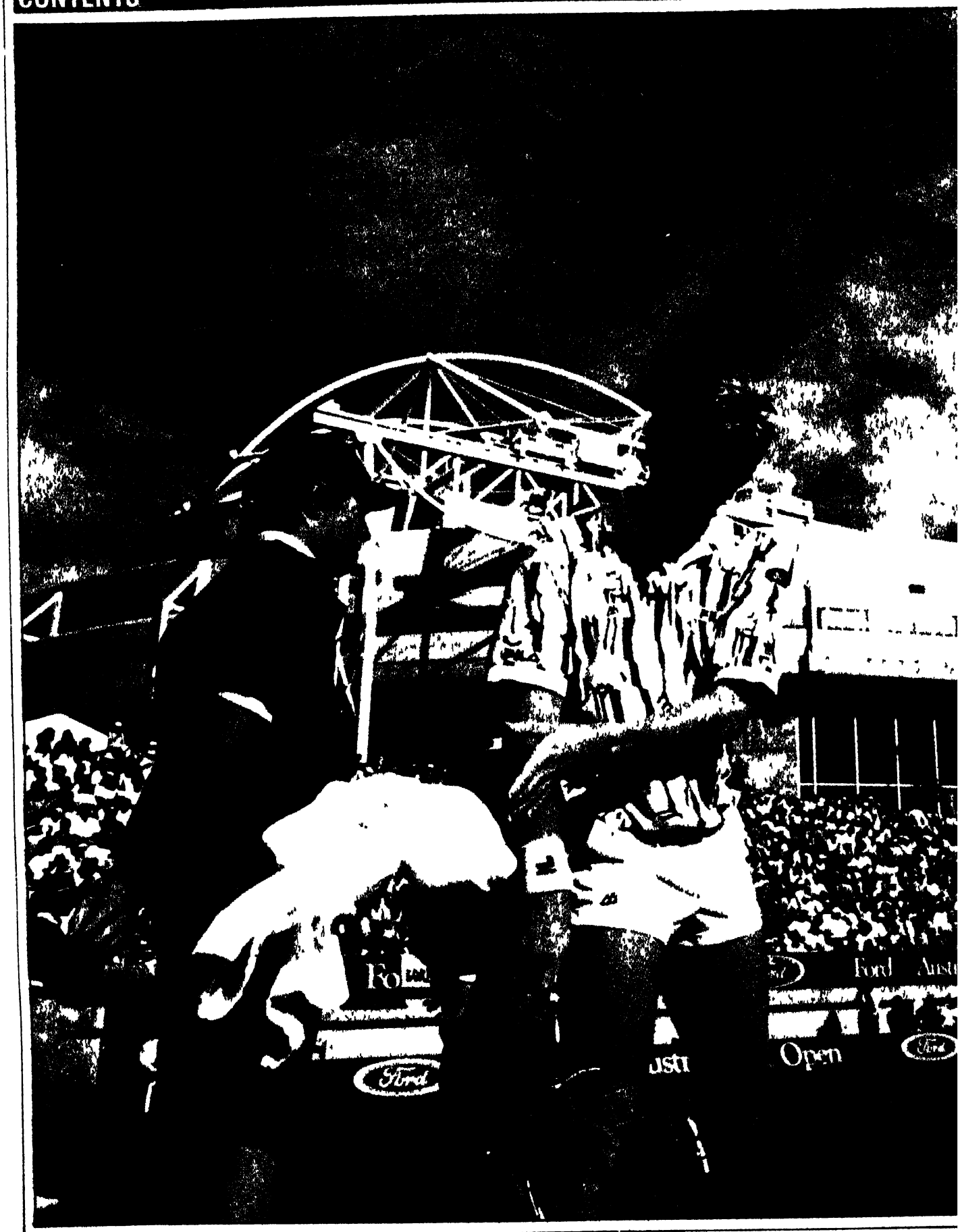
"None of us know whether we will survive or in what form. Our main preoccupation now is finance. The uncertainity has made our work extremely difficult."
BEATE WINKER, director of the Werner Seikherbinder sports school, one of the 25 institutions that impart training to over 10,000 young talents now on the verge of closure, after the unification of Germany

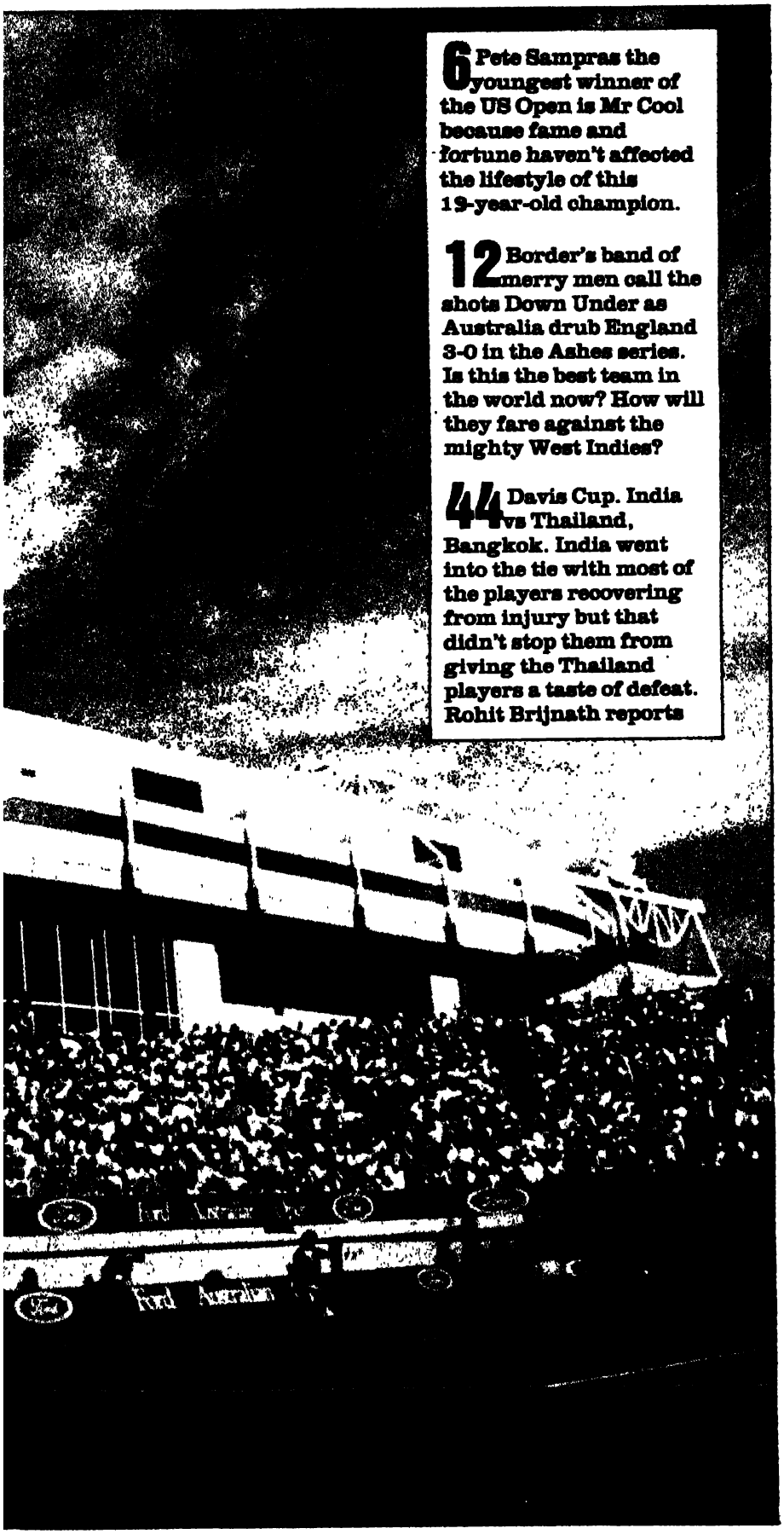




"When you're not so well known, you have to entertain people, to give people their money's worth. Now that people know me, they come to see me play, and see some good clothes."
ANDRE AGASSI, on his flamboyant image.

"When players do something wrong, a furore is created and punishment is quickly meted out. Now the officials have bungled and not only the players but the rest of the cricket lovers are watching what the board officials do to their own comrades-in-arms."
SUNIL GAVASKAR, on the feud that erupted during the Ranji Trophy match at Delhi


Ford
Open



6 **Pete Sampras the youngest winner of the US Open is Mr Cool because fame and fortune haven't affected the lifestyle of this 19-year-old champion.**

12 **Border's band of merry men call the shots Down Under as Australia drub England 3-0 in the Ashes series. Is this the best team in the world now? How will they fare against the mighty West Indies?**

44 **Davis Cup. India vs Thailand, Bangkok. India went into the tie with most of the players recovering from injury but that didn't stop them from giving the Thailand players a taste of defeat. Rohit Brijnath reports**

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PETE SAMPRAS

MR COOL

Pete Sampras is 19 and so gosh-darn mature and rich and unaffected by fame you want to scream. So go ahead. Pete's just out there to win...



PETE SAMPRAS was blushing The 18-year-old was sitting in the lobby bar of the Intercontinental Hotel in Miami during the Lipton International Players Championships in March last year and the waitress, having just served him a soda, looked at him with a gleam in her eyes and asked, "Hey, are you one of those junior tennis players?"

"Do I look that young?" Sampras answered the question with one of his own "Yeh," replied the waitress, "like 15 or 16 " "God, and I didn't even shave this morning," Sampras mused "Scruffed beard and everything and I still look like a kid "

This was not the first time that Sampras had been the object of flirtation Following his quarterfinal match at the Ebel U S Pro Indoor in Philadelphia one month earlier (a tournament he went on to win), Sampras was presented with a rose and a kiss by some girls seated courtside After agreeing to pose for a picture, Sampras hurriedly retreated to the locker room, admitting later, "I'm not worried about girls screaming at me, I'm just out there to win"

EARLIER last year, Sampras was just a member of the tennis Track Pack, another blade runner trying to beat his contemporaries to the finish line He was happy to do so in relative obscurity

But now, at age 19, Sampras is a U S Open champion and world No 5 And as his 17-year-old sister Marion explained 48 hours after Pete had exterminated Andre Agassi in straight sets at Flushing Meadows, "Now the phone doesn't stop ringing Mostly we keep the answering machine on But one man called saying he'd made a bet and wanted to know what ethnic background we are (Greek) Then, some girl called and said, 'I love you, Pete,' and hung up She didn't even leave her name I just wonder if she loves him because he's good-looking, because he's a good tennis player or because he's making a lot of money "

Fame is a new experience for the Sampras family Sister Stella, a 21-year-old senior at UCLA who won the NCAA doubles title in 1988, was so emotional after Pete won the Open that when he called home a couple of hours after the final she could barely blurt out her congratulations

"I was crying on the phone," says Stella "I think I was more excited than he was You know Pete, he's just so calm and laid back He just said, 'Hey Stella, how're doin'?' I was the one who couldn't talk I just kept thinking about all those years when we played together as juniors and how hard we both worked Now it had all paid off "

SOTERIOS (known to his friends as Sam) Sampras knew very little about tennis when he, his wife Georgia, and their four children were living in Potomac,



Maryland, in the seventies But he did recognise the athletic ability in his youngest son "When Pete was 3 years old," says his father, "he could both throw and kick a ball in a perfect straight line I didn't know that Pete would play tennis, but I knew he was an above-average athlete "

Contrary to some published reports, Sam did not uproot his family to California in search of tennis utopia The truth is, both a job change and the lure of warm weather caused the Sampras family to pack up during the summer of 1978 and drive crosscountry to Rancho Palos Verdes, home to a couple of other aspiring tennis greats named Eliot Teltscher and Tracy Austin

"The only tennis Pete and I had played was against the basement

"When Pete was a three-year-old", says his father, "he could both throw and kick a ball in a perfect straight line. I didn't know that Pete would play tennis, but I knew he was an above-average athlete."

wall and at the local high school tennis courts in Potomac," explains Stella When we got out here, we joined the Peninsula Racquet Club and we all started taking lessons

While all the Sampras children played it was Pete who showed the most promise—as well as shades of a temper that today's observers would never believe was ever part of his makeup "Sure, Pete got upset,' says Stella, who practised with her brother until he simply got too good for her "We used to accuse each other of cheating all the time I had to have my father there so Pete wouldn't get upset or fool around I'm sure he hated losing to a girl, especially his sister"

"I do remember one time when Pete threw a racket at the fence

My father told him if he ever did that again he wouldn't be allowed to play anymore."

Sampras' parents never forced their son towards a pro career. "It was Pete who said he needed a coach," recalls his father. "I didn't know enough about the sport to teach it, so all I could do was monitor the other teachers." And there were plenty of them; one, it seems, for each stroke in Pete's arsenal. Robert Lansdorp started him off in Los Angeles, but after two years he was traded in for footwork specialist Del Little and the man who was to become Pete's stroke technician and mentor, Pete Fischer, a pediatrician at the Kaiser Foundation in Bellflower, California, who teaches tennis on the side.

Sampras will probably never have Agassi's flash or Becker's bravado, "I don't even plan to throw my shirts or my racket into the crowd," he says.



"Pete Fischer taught me how to play the game," says Sampras, whose style changed dramatically from baseliner to serve-and-volleyer when, at age 14, he shed his beloved two-handed backhand. "He taught me how to serve and volley, he taught me strategy. He didn't teach me strokes—I already had those—but he was very smart. He has like a 190 IQ and I have to give him a lot of credit for helping develop my game."

Sampras and Fischer split up more than a year ago, partly because Pete needed someone to travel with him full-time, but also because the elder Sampras was growing concerned that his son was becoming too dependent on his coach. "I wanted Pete to be strong and not rely on someone else," says Sam. "A lot of kids have their mothers and fathers travelling with them all the time, but I try not to bother him."

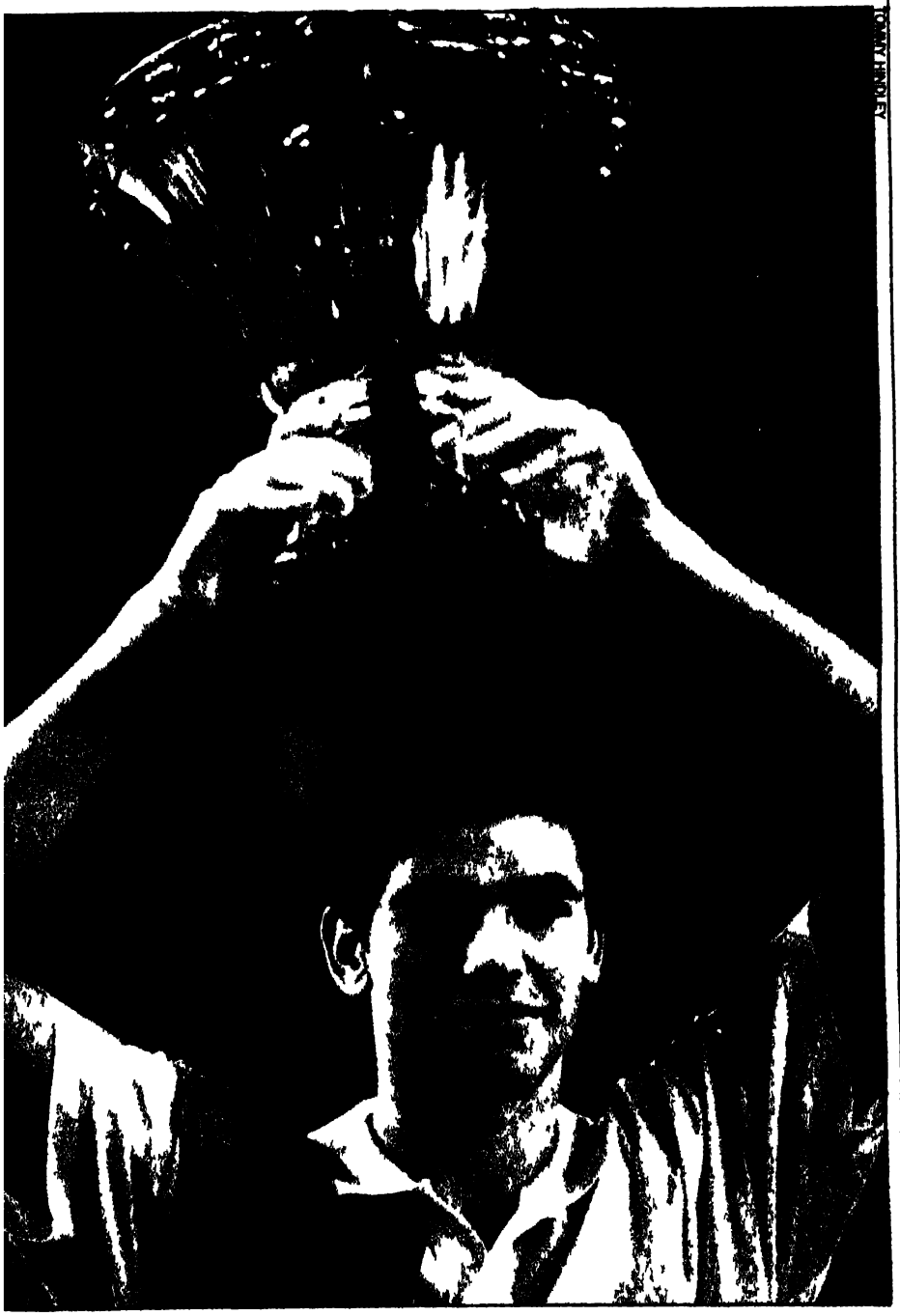
"You really can't tell Pete what to do," adds Sam, who resisted getting on a plane when his son reached the later rounds of the Open; instead, he took his wife to the movies during Pete's semifinal victory over John McEnroe and for a walk through the mall during the championship win over Agassi. "He's got his own mind and he's got to realise what his weaknesses are. It's like being an alcoholic. You can't do anything about your problems or your life until you realise them yourself."

Another reason the Sampras parents try not to coddle their star child is because of their other children. There were some tense moments when eldest son Gus, now 22 and a recent graduate of Long Beach State, and daughter Marion were not given their fair share on the family attention meter. "When we were young it was kind of hard on everyone," admits Stella, who says her brother has inspired her to try the

pro tour after her college graduation "Pete and I were travelling all over and winning trophies and my parents didn't really realise that there was some jealousy on the part of my older brother and younger sister I think it affected Gus the most because he had to take us around to some of the tournaments before I was old enough to drive But my dad just told him, 'One day Pete's going to help you,' and he has Now Gus and Pete are really close "

BOTH Sampras and Fischer agreed it would be best for Pete to continually play "up" in the juniors, sacrificing a top ranking (he did reach the final of the USTA National 18s in 1987 before losing to Michael Chang) to further develop his game—particularly the 120-mph serve that delivered 100 aces during the Open And instead of practising with his fellow juniors, Sampras accepted an invitation to spend a week with the world's best, Ivan Lendl, sharing a practice court, taking part in his workouts and watching his matches during the '88 Nabisco Masters in Madison Square Garden

"The guy practically killed me," says Sampras, who once called Lendl "the Larry Bird of tennis because he doesn't have much talent, isn't very flashy, but works incredibly hard " (Sampras also dubbed McEnroe "Magic Johnson, because he can do anything he wants and has incredible touch ") "Lendl had me biking 20 miles a day, talking to me about discipline and working hard and practising until I couldn't walk home I'll never forget that "



TONY HENDLEY

"Now the phone doesn't stop ringing. Mostly we keep the answering machine on...Some girl called and said, 'I love you, Pete,' and hung up. She didn't even leave her name. I just wonder if she loves him because he's good-looking, because he's a good tennis player or because he's making a lot of money."—Pete's sister Stella

By early 1988, after reaching the third round of the *Newsweek* Champions Cup in Indian Wells, California (beating Teischer and Ramesh Krishnan), Sampras had decided to turn pro His ranking at the time was 311 By the end of that year he had cracked the top 100 But it wasn't until late August '89 that people other than those closest to Sampras knew he had star potential It was there, on the third night of the US Open, that Sampras upset defending champion Mats Wilander in five sets in the second round

"I just couldn't get over it," recalls Sampras "I remember



driving back to the hotel around midnight and I just couldn't believe that I was still in the tournament I mean, everyone expected me to lose It wasn't so much beating Wilander as it was that I was in the third round "

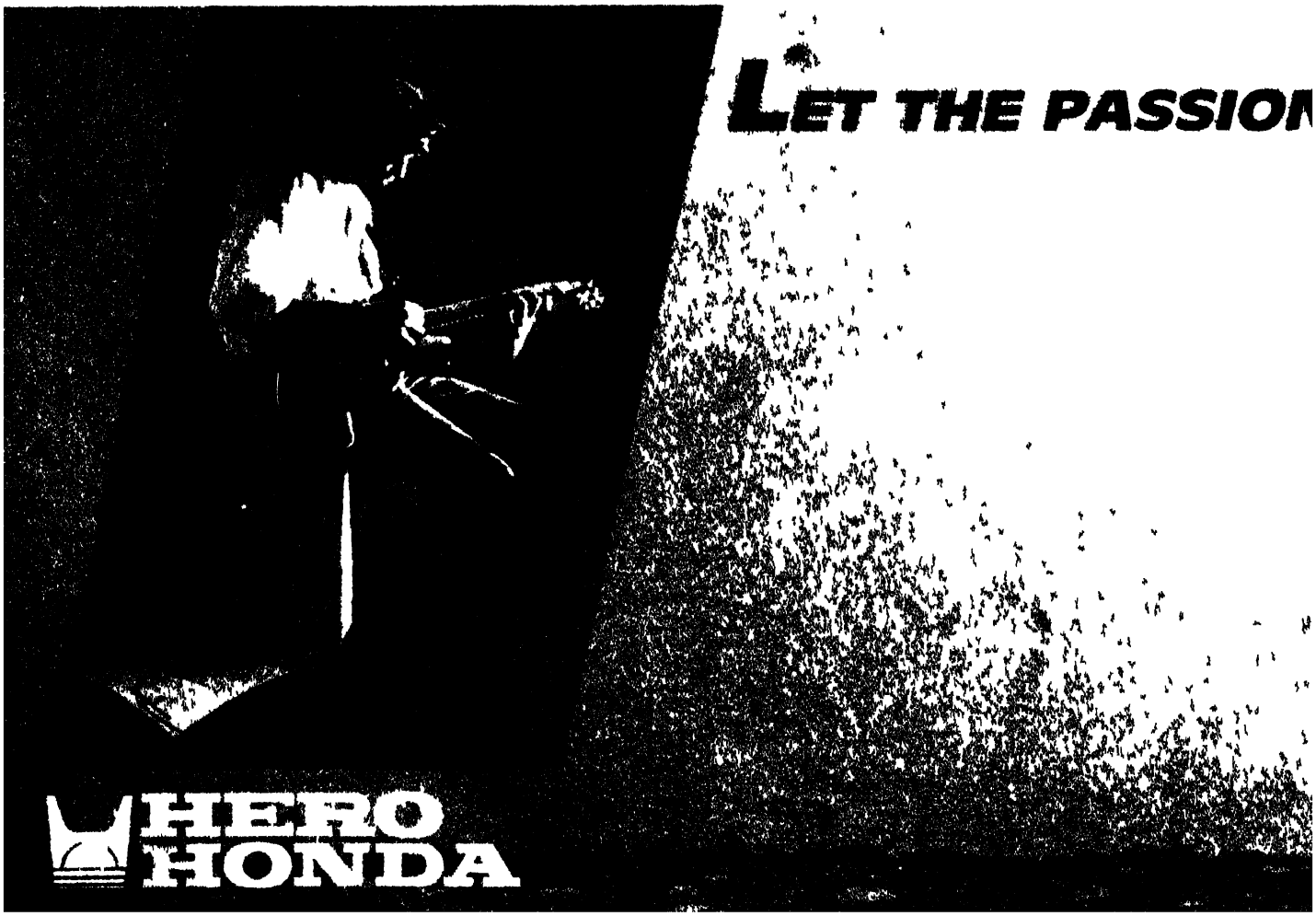
By the start of last year, Sampras had risen to No 81 in the world Then he went down to Australia, reached the quarterfinals in Sydney (beating fourth-seeded Tim Mayotte) and the fourth round of the Australian Open

A month later Sampras defeated Andres Gomez in the Philadelphia final, but a hip flexor injury suffered during the Lipton tournament forced Pete off the tour for almost two months He returned in time to win a grass-court event in Manchester, England, but was felled in the first round at Wimbledon by serve-and-volley specialist Christo van Rensburg "It took a couple of weeks to get over [Wimbledon]

Says good friend Jim Courier, "Pete's got this grin, like the Joker whose mouth comes up on both sides. It's really pretty funny."

because that was the tournament I was really gearing up to do well in," admits Sampras, who has always placed the All England Championships above his own national tournament "It was my biggest letdown of the year "

PETE says he doesn't need anyone else with him on the road, except for coach Joe Brandi,



brother Gus, or maybe a friend like Jim Courier, whom he worked with earlier last year at the Nick Bollettieri Tennis Academy in Bradenton, Florida, and with whom he has won several pro doubles titles.

"The best thing about Pete," says Courier, "is that he's so loose and nothing seems to phase him I'm high-strung and Pete's so lackadaisical, like the Rubberband Man He's helped me loosen up and I think I've kind of helped him tighten up

"Pete and I have had some great times," adds Courier. "I remember once when we were down in Tampa, Florida, we went to the Malibu Grand Prix racetrack It was so hot and we were sweating as we were going around, like 18 laps At one point I'm sitting in the pit stop and here comes Pete whipping around the corner Just as he gets near me he does a 360 [degree spin] I was nervous but he was just grinning the whole way He's got this Batman grin,



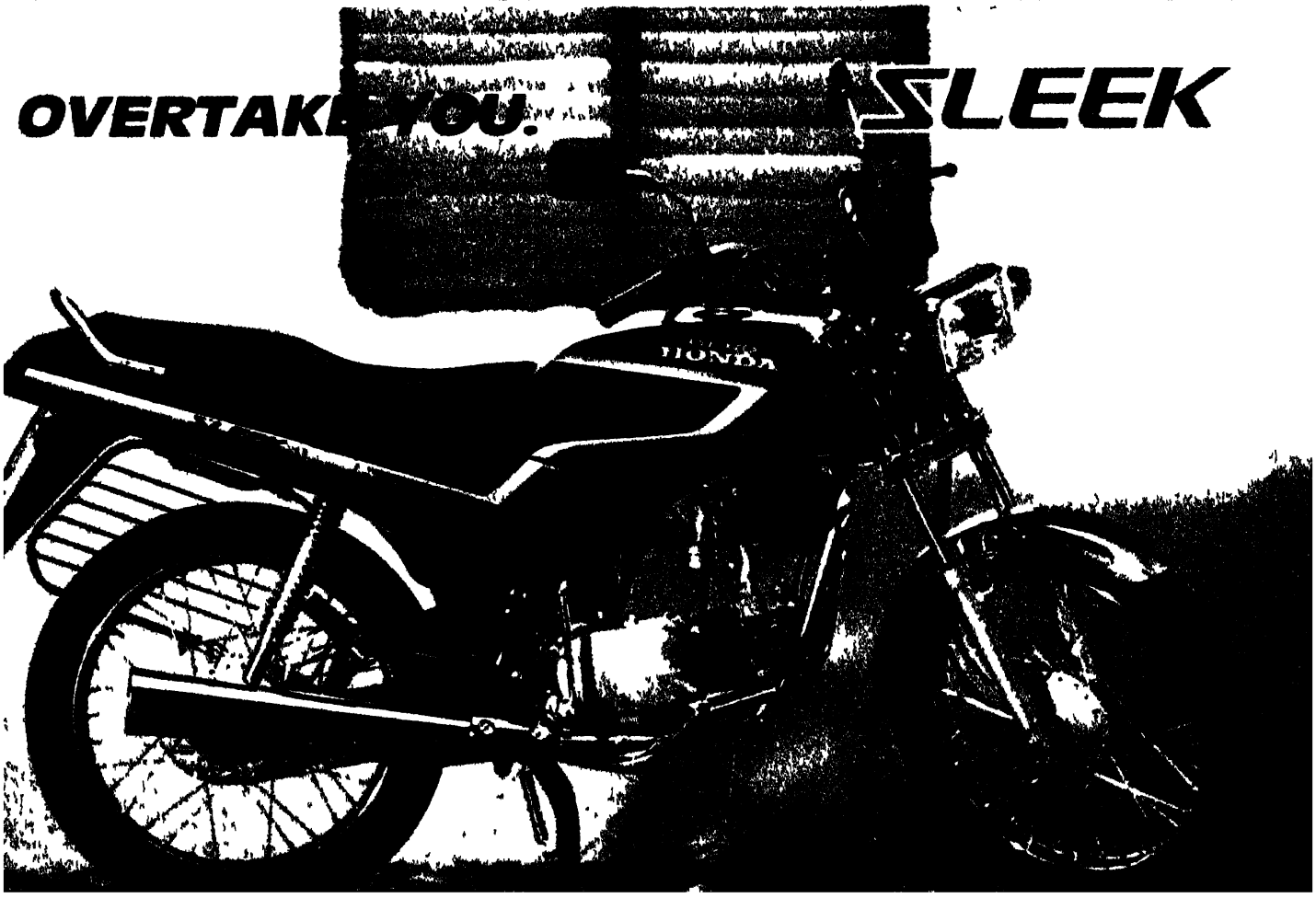
SPORTS ILLUSTRATED

y'know, like the Joker whose mouth comes up on the sides It's really pretty funny "

Sampras may grin like the Joker, but he looks more like a younger version of the actor Robbie Benson. Still, more often than not, he prefers to play the straight man. When told at the Open that President Bush called Andre Agassi and not him before the final, a stunned yet bemused Sampras said, "The President? I didn't even know that. My phone was off the hook." Or when he was asked what he would do with the $350,000 first prize , he deadpanned, "I'm going to throw a surprise cocktail party for the media."

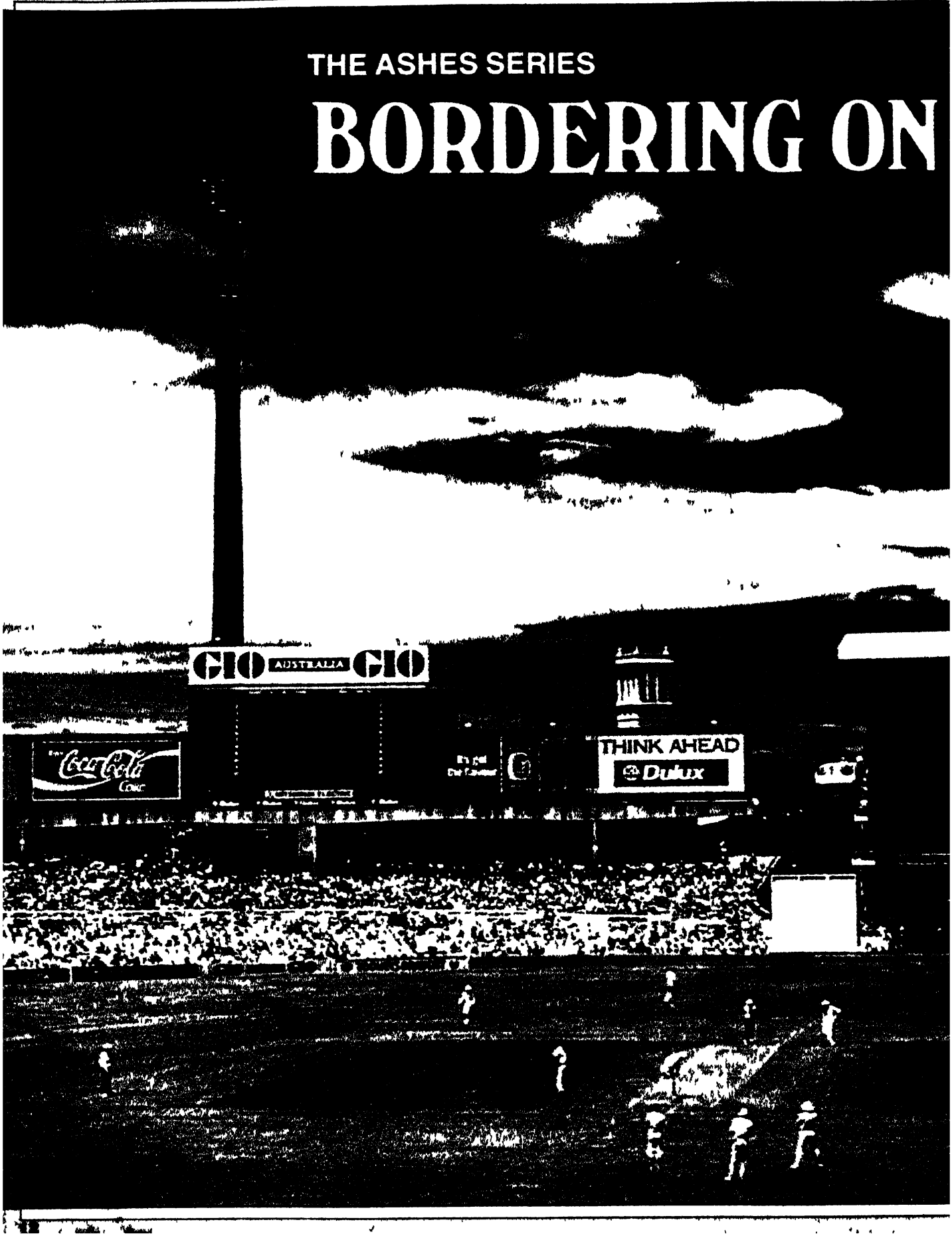
Sampras will probably never have Agassi's flash or Becker's bravado, ("I don't ever plan to throw my shirts or my rackets into the crowd," he says), and sometimes you want to shake him just to see if he really is so gosh-darn mature. But at age 19, Pete Sampras has already travelled pretty far by himself and sees no reason to stop now. "Tennis is a job," he says, not sounding at all blase "The tennis tour is like your office That's where I make my living I just happen to do it at a very young age "

CINDY SHMERLER
COURTESY WORLD TENNIS



THE ASHES SERIES

BORDERING ON



THE BEST

A convincing 3-0 margin from the five-Test series establishes Australia's superiority over arch-rivals England



MONUDDEEN HAMEED

PATRICK EAGAR

THREE months after his squad first arrived in Australia, England captain Graham Gooch

Border now looks ahead to the battle of them all...against West Indies

is making no bones about his feelings after yet another disastrous Ashes tour Australia, eager to prove the point of supremacy after the 1989 drubbing of England on English soil, has repeated the feat here

With Allan Border's men winning the final Test of this five-Test series in Perth, the Ashes have been retained with a 3-0 margin and the threat posed by England's new-look side has been neutralised fairly savagely England now travels across the Tasman Sea to take on New Zealand, while Australia, buoyed by new-found confidence, will fly to the Carribean to take on the West Indies

Australia, eager to prove the point of supremacy after the 1989 drubbing of England on English soil, has repeated the feat

Even before the current series ended, Gooch made his feelings known to the rest of the world "I'm gutted, really disappointed At the end of each day, I feel really responsible I failed to get the best out of my players and have been unable to motivate them sufficiently We have to find people who

Gower's comeback to form wasn't enough for England


PATRICK EAGAR

really want to play for England people who are willing to play their best at all times It's not that much to ask

"I know we've copped some flak at home during this tour but the bottom line is that we've deserved it all At times we have been unable to concentrate for the whole six hours that makes up a day of international cricket and that boils down to poor discipline from the players on the field

"And at the end of the day it's those players who will suffer They won t make it—and they've only got themselves to blame On

"I'm gutted, really disappointed. At the end of each day, I feel really responsible" ...Gooch

this tour we have simply sat back and gone through the motions

"The Australian team spirit is precisely the spirit I have been trying to find, but haven't seen in some of our players Even a 3-0 victory in New Zealand would not

PATRICK EAGAR



put a smile back on my face.

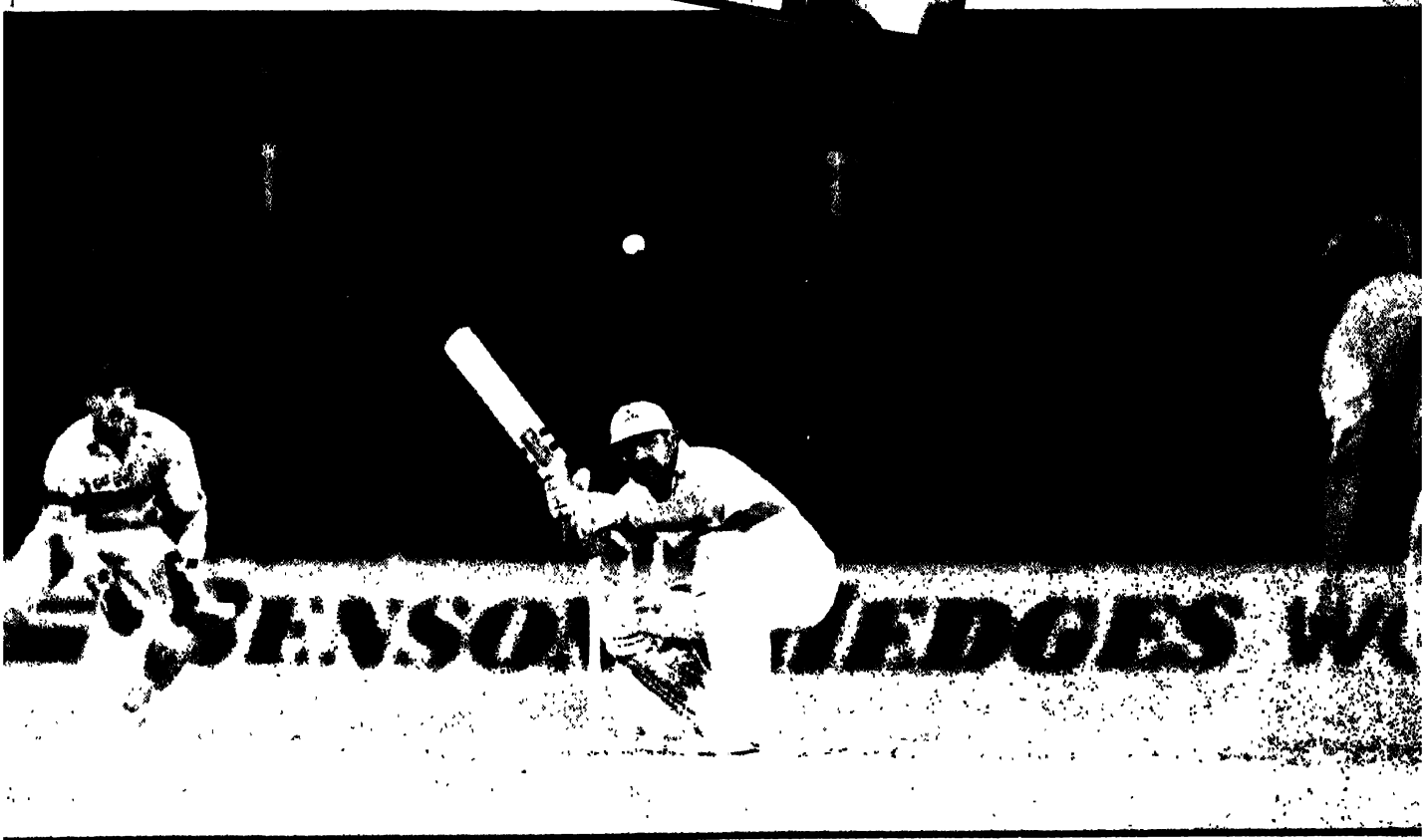
"I don't think our competitive spirit has been what it should be, and that came through in some of the matches. Our attitude has to improve so that we can pull through when the going gets tough. Everyone has to look at their performance honestly and decide



English celebrations...Atherton and Gower toast their 3rd Test centuries with bubbly

helped tilt the scales England's way.

England's batting collapses this summer were spectacular. In the Brisbane Test, they lost seven wickets for 77 runs in the first innings and seven wickets for 54



David Boon was the most prolific scorer for Australia

whether they are giving their best. Certainly it's fair to say a lot of players' careers will be on the line."

Gooch himself performed magnificently during this series, compiling 426 runs in the Tests at an average of 53.25, despite being hampered by a serious hand injury. Yet the England captain had reason to be disappointed with his team-mates, claiming that this was the worst fielding side he had ever been associated with, in any class of cricket.

Yet England was not without its classic batsmen. David Gower, who top-scored in both innings of the first Test, then scored centuries in the second and third Tests. The presence too, of Allan Lamb and hard-hitting Robin Smith should have

"Certainly it's fair to say a lot of players' careers will be on the line"...Gooch

runs in the second innings. In the Melbourne Test, they lost nine wickets for just 40 runs in the second innings. In Adelaide, seven Test wickets fell for 69 runs and in the final Test in Perth, eight wickets fell for a paltry 53.

For Australia, grit and fortitude paved the way to victory when natural talent faltered (and it did not falter often). The batting was consistent and when the

PATRICK EAGAR

ENGLAND (Batting)

	I	INNS	NO	RUNS	AVGE	HS	100	50	CT/ST
Graham Gooch	4	8	0	426	53.25	117	1	4	6
David Gower	5	10	1	407	45.22	123	2	1	1
Phil Newport	1	2	1	40	40.00	40*	0	0	0
Allan Lamb	3	6	0	195	32.50	91	0	2	2
Mike Atherton	5	10	1	279	31.00	105	1	1	5
Robin Smith	5	10	2	238	29.75	58	0	2	2
Wayne Larkins	3	6	0	141	23.50	64	0	2	1
Alec Stewart	5	10	0	224	22.40	91	0	2	8
Jack Russell	3	5	1	77	19.25	30*	0	0	9 1
Chris Lewis	1	2	0	34	17.00	20	0	0	1
Philip DeFreitas	3	6	1	77	15.40	45	0	0	0
Gladstone Small	4	6	1	42	8.40	15	0	0	5
Phil Tufnell	4	6	4	13	6.50	8	0	0	1
Angus Fraser	3	5	0	27	5.40	24	0	0	1
Devon Malcolm	5	7	1	27	4.50	7	0	0	0
Eddie Hemmings	1	1	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	1

Bowling

	OVERS	MDNS	RUNS	WKTS	AVGE	BB	10W	5W
Chris Lewis	15	0	58	3	19.33	3/29	0	0
Angus Fraser	143	31	311	11	28.27	6/82	0	1
Philip DeFreitas	113.3	22	318	10	31.80	4/56	0	0
Eddie Hemmings	73	16	199	6	33.16	3/94	0	0
Graham Gooch	23	5	69	2	34.50	1/23	0	0
Phil Tufnell	140	45	345	9	38.33	5/61	0	1
Devon Malcolm	223.5	42	665	16	41.56	4/128	0	0
Gladstone Small	149	33	424	9	47.11	3/34	0	0
Phil Newport	20	0	78	1	78.00	1/56	0	0
Mike Atherton	15	2	70	0	0 00			

top order failed to get going, the middle order propped up the innings, unlike England

Greg Matthews, recalled midway through the series after three seasons in the wilderness, promptly took control of the situation when things looked bleak for Australia and reeled of a century to save his side. Matthews then established himself once more as a key member of the side and will travel to the West Indies as one of the senior players

Among other comebacks, the lanky West Australian Bruce Reid returned to first class cricket just to test out his back, severely injued last season. His first match back for the state side was a success and Reid was picked for

PATRICK EAGAR



Chris Lewis did his bit with the ball for England but...

the Melbourne Test, whereupon he became one of a select band of men to take 13 wickets against England in a single Test.

Also making his return was fast bowler Craig McDermott, whose attitude and will were often criticised on past appearances for his country. McDermott, having spent two years on the sidelines without playing a Test match, promptly weighed in with 42 runs with the bat when his country needed it most, and then charged in with venon to take eight wickets for 97 runs in a single innings.

But the most pleasing aspect of the series for Australia, in the wake of the dropping of Steve Waugh, who had struggled for runs, was the confident form of his

AUSTRALIA (Batting)

	I	INNS	NO	RUNS	AVGE	HS	100	50	CT/ST
David Boon	5	9	2	530	75.71	121	1	3	4
Greg Matthews	5	7	2	353	70.60	128	1	2	1
Craig McDermott	2	2	1	67	67.00	42*	0	0	0
Mark Waugh	2	3	0	187	62.33	138	1	0	0
Allan Border	5	7	1	281	46.83	83*	0	3	4
Geoff Marsh	5	10	3	314	44.85	79*	0	3	5
Mark Taylor	5	10	1	213	23.66	67*	0	2	8
Ian Healy	5	7	0	175	25.00	69	0	1	24
Dean Jones	5	7	1	163	23.28	60	0	1	4
Steve Waugh	3	4	0	82	20.50	48	0	0	2
Terry Alderman	4	5	2	33	11.33	26*	0	0	4
Merv Hughes	4	5	0	44	8.80	30	0	0	3
Carl Rackemann	1	2	0	10	5.00	9	0	0	0
Bruce Reid	4	5	2	13	4.33	5*	0	0	1

Bowling

	OVERS	MDNS	RUNS	WKTS	AVGE	BB	10W	5W
Bruce Reid	180.1	49	432	27	16.00	7/51	1	2
Craig McDermott	97.4	12	360	18	20.00	8/97	1	2
Merv Hughes	142.1	38	365	15	24.33	4/37	0	0
Terry Alderman	148.5	33	428	16	26.75	6/47	0	1
Greg Matthews	169	51	422	7	60.28	3/40	0	0
Allan Border	28	6	82	1	82.00	1/37	0	0
Steve Waugh	40	15	103	1	103.00	1/7	0	0
Carl Rackemann	28.5	5	109	0				
Mark Waugh	4	1	13	0				

Compiled by Hariprasad Chattopadhyay

The most pleasing aspect of the series for Australia, in the wake of the dropping of Steve Waugh, who struggled for runs, was the confident form of his twin brother Mark



The Waugh factor! Steve and Mark (right)

twin brother Mark. The younger of the twins by only a few minutes, Mark Waugh has been a prolific scorer for three seasons in county cricket as well as Sheffield Shield cricket. As a one-day cricketer too he has shown great promise in the Australian squad.

But it was as his brother's successor that he really shone, becoming only the 15th Australian to score a debut century with such elan that his twin brother is going to have to do everything he can to win back a place in the side that is keen to topple the West Indies.

David McMahon, Melbourne







PATRICK EAGAR

THE ENGLAND CRICKET TEAM

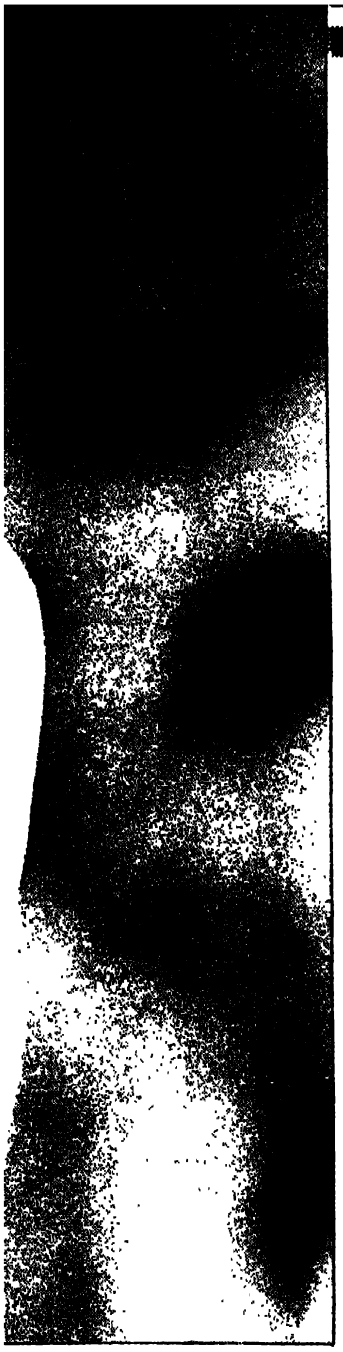
SHAME & SCANDAL

IT SEEMS LIKE IT'S THE END OF THE ROAD FOR ENGLAND'S MIS-MANAGERS

WE will have to wait for the ghosted memoirs to find out what happened in the England dressing room during the tea time interval of the first day of the last Test at Perth But given past performance and the awful reality of what happened thereafter, it is not hard to guess what Micky Stewart, the England team manager, said 'Good luck lads, you know what to do '

Unfortunately, the current England team do not know what to do They need to be told, to be managed

The conversation that should have taken place would have been along the following lines "We're



It will be a pity if Gooch faces the music for the England debacle or if he chooses to take the rap. The gentlemen to blame are Micky Stewart (left inset) and Dexter (bottom)

In Australia it has all gone wrong again. It has been a tour dogged by bad luck, but also by bad management. Lush had found it difficult to get players properly dressed and in the right place at the right time...



in a strong position. But let's not spoil it. Let's not do anything stupid. We must play ourselves in again and make sure that this session is better than the last, which was better than the first. This is only the first day of the match. There is lots of time. Let's try to lose no wickets before the close."

What happened, of course, was that the England vice-captain strode back to the wicket, tried to pull a ball from McDermott in the very first over, an absurdly ambitous stroke, and was caught. Twelve overs later, England, who had stood at 212 for three at tea, were all out for 244. The next day, Australia did the opposite: fight to save an innings from a poor start.

AROUND the management of the England team there is the smell of decay, of a regime that is playing out time. The word is that Stewart and Peter Lush, the tour manager, are on their last tour. The position of Ted Dexter as chairman of the England committee is also open to question.

The team are tired and beaten. Middle and late-order batting collapses betoken culpable selection as well as a lack of fighting spirit. Immature attempts by the players to have a little fun on a joyless tour have given sustenance to the scandal-mongering section of the press corps.

The application of discipline lurches from the blind eye to the big stick. Even the loyal-by-nature cricket writers, sensing that they will not have to share future tours with the current management, are openly critical. And it is an open secret that Lord's already has a replacement management team in mind.

This time, one hopes, it will not be the England captain who is made the scapegoat. Graham Gooch's batting and self-evident commitment have enhanced his reputation. Even his tactical failings cannot now be used to condemn him completely, for under the modern structure of England cricket the team manager also bears a measure of responsibility in that department.

The concept of a full-time, football-style team manager was accepted by the Test and County Cricket Board in the middle 1980s. Such an appointment was intended to give continuity, to give structure to a professional training and fitness regimen, to make the captain's job less onerous.

In some people's view, the point was to add some brains, something clearly in short supply. The idea was that the team manager would deal with cricket matters, leaving the tour manager to deal with administration, diplomacy, and public relations. Together, with the captain, they would be responsible for discipline.

The Lush-Stewart partnership, England's first of its kind, enjoyed a remarkably successful honeymoon on the England tour of Australia in the winner of 1986-87. Under Stewart's direction, the squad was fitter than before. Stewart and

Mike Gatting, the captain, shared the same tough, no-nonsense attitude Public relations was well-handled by Lush whom the press found open and co-operative Most important of all, the Ashes were won

But management is only truly tried in adversity, and when the first real test came, Lush and Stewart were found wanting The next winter tour, of Pakistan in 1987-88 was one of the most ill starred ever undertaken, and its repercussions are still sorely felt by England The previous summer antagonism had developed between the two teams, with allegations of gamesmanship made by both sides

The explosion came in Faisalabad when Gatting the England captain, was involved in a shouting match with the umpire, Shakoor Rana Shakoor Rana who claimed that Gatting had abused him and called him a cheat, refused to continue the game unless Gatting apologised Neither Lush nor Stewart was able to resolve the situation, and a full day's play was lost, as well as England's chance of levelling the series

Not the least disturbing aspect of the affair was the weakness of the management, which, while appearing to condone Gatting's loss of control, did not feel strong enough to pack their bags for home Suddenly, their back of stature in the field was exposed.

STEWART is a dedicated, utilitarian man, obsessed with fitness but unsubtle in its application He is often likened to a sergeant major, the practice field his parade ground Indeed, Stewart has always indentified with the infantry, uncomplicated players like Gatting and Gooch, whose achievements were born of hard work and pugnacity

Lush, who never played first-class cricket, was brought in by Lord's as a marketing man shortly before the first World Cup was held in 1975 In that capacity he was remarkably successful, playing a prominent part in securing sponsorship of Test cricket as well as the championship

But like so many, Lush was promoted away from the arena of his talent Gradually, as England tried to make their approach more professional, it became common for him to visit countries that England were due to tour, to make the necessary arrangements That role led to his elevation to tour manager

Unfortunately, as his importance increased, a tendency towards pomposity became evident, particularly in his relations with the Press Stewart and Lush, who at first had enjoyed good press relations, developed a bunker mentality Suspicion, hostility and secrecy were the order of the day, along with an inability to distinguish between news and sports reporters, between tabloids and broadsheets The first reaction to any embarrassment was to deny everything, or to make no comment, only letting out the truth under pressure, and then drop by drop

It was hoped that the appointment of Dexter as the England cricket supremo would improve

Alan Lamb was forced to run the five mile distance to the team hotel. He missed the next two Tests that followed because of injury. (Inset) the team





AROUND the management of the England team, there is the smell of decay, of a regime that is playing out time. The word is that Stewart and Lush, the tour manager are on their last tour. The position of Ted Dexter as chairman of the England committee is also open to question

matters Dexter quickly grew close to Stewart, was brimming with ideas and good intentions and had a natural instinct for publicity

But their very first decision, to appoint the England captain for the 1989 home series against Australia, went wrong In a display of ultimate loyalty to his old lieutenant, Stewart persuaded Dexter that Gatting, who had been sacked after the barmaid affair, should be brought back as captain They were overruled by another member of the England committee, Ossie Wheatley

Gower, the compromise choice, enjoyed the confidence of Dexter, but not of Stewart whose influence he sought to diminish by returning to the days when the England captain was sovereign But Gower failed on the field as England were hammered

Already the shortcomings of the much-heralded Dexter era were revealed Things were going badly wrong England resembled a rudderless ship The question was where was Dexter? It was to be oft repeated

When Gower was not merely deposed, to be replaced by Gooch, but eliminated from the team, the preparations for the tour of the West Indies were put in train by Stewart This was perhaps his finest hour, with each player being given a personal fitness regimen, and impressive pre-tour coaching sessions at Lilleshall

At first it paid off England acquitted themselves brilliantly to begin with and well overall in the Caribbean, and enjoyed further success against moderate New Zealand and India last summer

But in Australia it has all gone wrong again It has been a tour dogged by bad luck, but also by bad management Lush has found it difficult to get players properly dressed and in the right place at the right time He failed to impose discipline early on and overreacted when trying belatedly to impose his authority

Stewart has failed too Despite his insistence on practice and fitness England's fielding has been woefully short of international standards and a number of players have broken down The most ludicrous example was Lamb's five-mile run back to the team motel in Ballarat just before Christmas after scoring a century Lamb aggravated a calf injury which had first been sustained on a similar run in Barbados, and missed the second and third Tests.

Dexter paid a flying visit, saw bits of one Test and was once seen departing at the tea interval The players are said to regard him as a nice fellow who does not have the slightest idea what is going on Mike Brearley once wrote that Dexter the captain was "more interested in theories than people When the theories became ineffective his own interest waned', and it is difficult to avoid the conclusion that the same applies to his present position

Lush's contract with the TCCB expires in April And although Stewart's contract extends to September 1992, they are expected to be replaced by Bob Bennett and Keith Fletcher, who are running the England A tour of Sri Lanka with conspicuous aplomb

But what of Dexter? In the early days of his tenure, Dexter was the hands-on leader, paid more than £20 000 a year in compensation for lost earnings while on England business But there appears to be a change of emphasis on the part of officials of the TCCB

When inquiries are made of Dexter's whereabouts, the line is that he is conducting his own business, as if his position was honorary, as if the affairs of the England team abroad are not a matter for him Could it be, as he himself has hinted, that Dexter also faces the chop? ●

AUSTRALIA VS WEST INDIES

FINAL

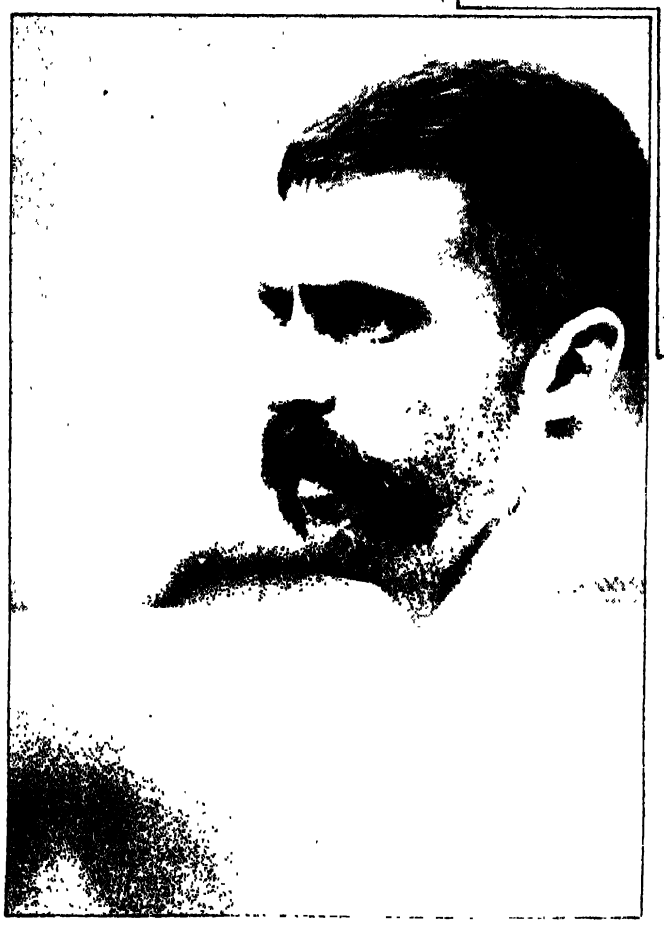
DAVID McMAHON previews the decide for the final time the

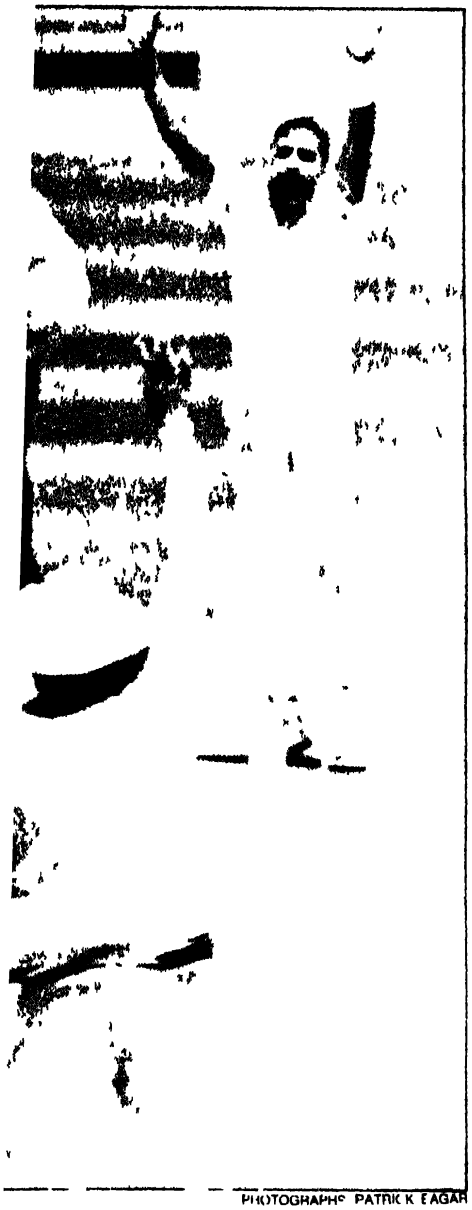
IT is going to be the Test series that will decide, without doubt, the number one cricketing nation in the world, but who will win is not just the only question What Australia wants to know is not how Merv Hughes will cope with the West Indians, but how the West Indians will cope with Merv Hughes. The Victorian big man has had a taste of touring England, where he was an instant hit, and he is going to need all his antics to parade on the islands Hughes, a crowd favourite wherever he plays, is sure to lift the West Indian crowds with his antics as well as his cricket.

In fact, former Australian captain Ian Chappell is of the opinion that Hughes is going to be a vital part of the touring side's success formula. Of Hughes, whose face stares down from Australian billboards in advertisements for power tools with words to the effect "There's nothing like tough tools", Chappell says: "Two things will



Merv Hughes: an instant hit wherever he plays





PHOTOGRAPHS PATRICK EAGAR

Merv Hughes' face stares down from Australian billboards in advertisements for power tools with words to the effect: "There is nothing like tough tools"

decide the fate of the Frank Worrell Trophy Whether the Australians can retain their resolve against a side that is their equal in skill and determination Also, whether they can retain their sense of humour

Says Chappel, 'the West Indies test their opponents courage and then their patience If either is lost in battle then it's all over and the Windies will steamroller the Australians That s when a dose of Merv Hughes will come in handy He will be a great favourite of the locals as they love fast bowlers and characters' If he can keep the crowds laughing and his teammates happy, he will have done a great job for Allan Border '

Actually, the Australians look good to come home with the world title under their collective belts As a one-day side, they should even have the edge over their opponents, and if they can translate that confidence into action in the Tests, half the battle will be won If Australia has one shortcoming, it is the lack of a quality leg-spinner, but the team hopes that the pace battery, backed up by Peter Taylor and the effervescent Greg Matthews, will prove too strong for the much vaunted West Indies batting There has been bad blood between these teams in the not-so-distant past Two years ago, during a Test match at the MCG the West Indies quicks bowled a vicious line and as the injuries mounted, Border said tight-lipped that if he had four quicks he would use them the same way When asked what he thought would happen if every Test playing nation used quick bowlers in that fashion Border replied that Test cricket itself would die Now that Border has his quick bowlers the West Indies might just fine the pace a little hard to handle

Gordon Greenidge admitted in an interview with this correspondent a year ago that he and the other frontline West Indian batsmen were not the force they used to be In fact said Greenidge, the entire batting line-up had slowed down 'We will never be short of fast bowlers," he said, but added candidly "What we need are a few world class batsmen to take the place of Viv Richards Desmond Haynes and myself'

Not long after the West Indies had battered the Australians two years ago at the MCG, their own batsmen were as vulnerable as they had ever been against the pace of Hughes and Mike Whitney, both of whom are on this tour In addition, Border has the skills of Bruce Reid, making his comeback after two years on the sidelines with an injured back, and Craig McDermott, eager to prove, after a two-year absence from Test cricket, that his

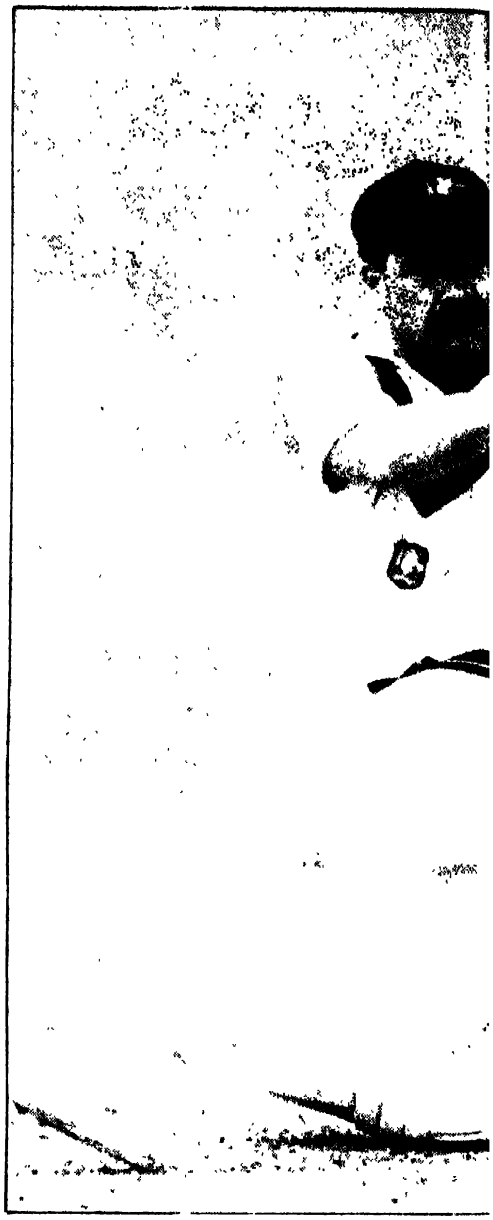
JUSTICE!

forthcoming titanic battle that will

number one nation in world cricket...



Ambrose and Bishop will give the Australian batsmen no respite



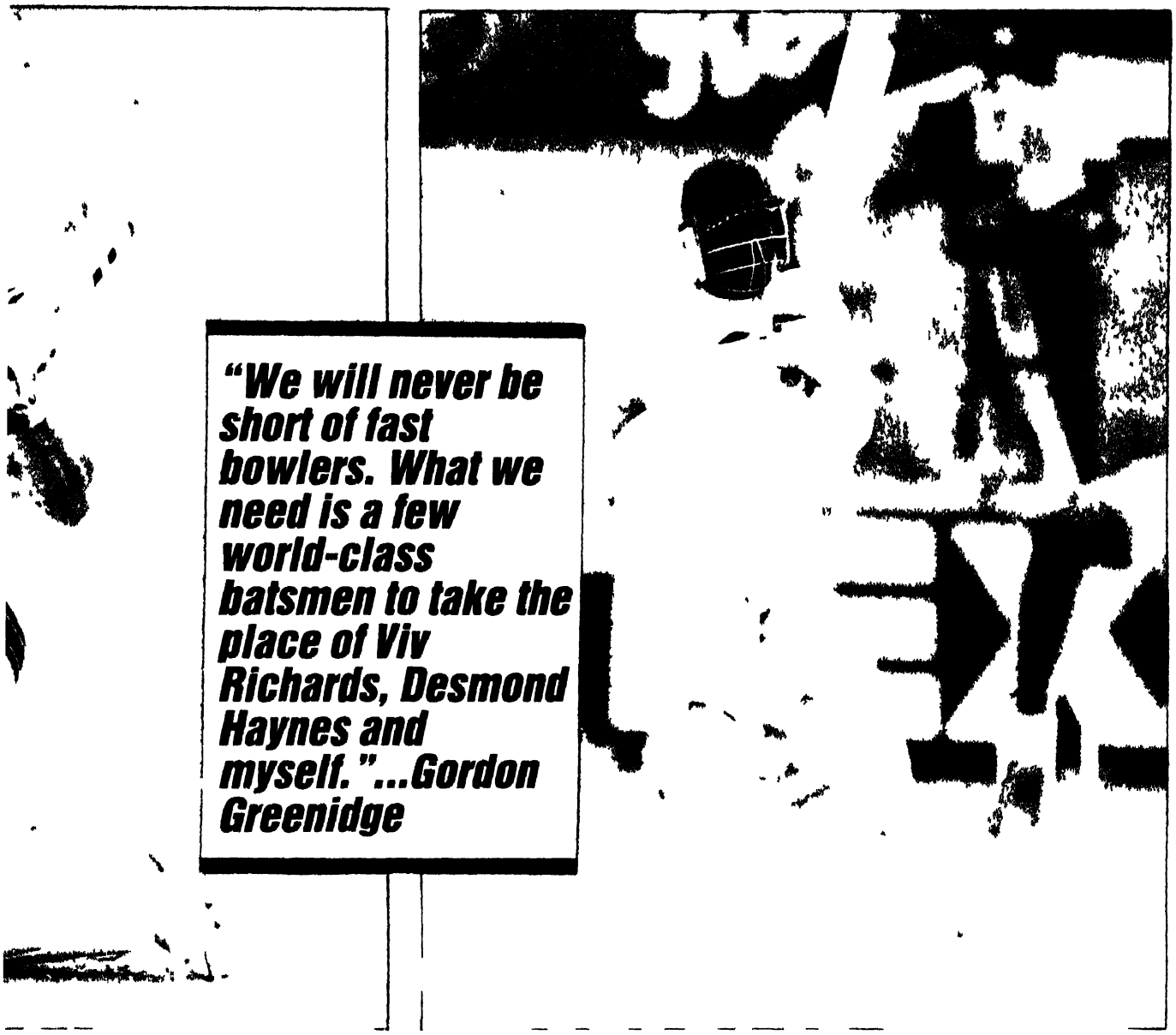
David Boon: Australia'

oft-questioned mental attitude has not suffered

The choice of Whitney in the touring squad was something of a controversy. Whitney made a fairy-tale debut for his country during the Ashes series in 1981, when Ian Botham wrested the Ashes single-handedly from the touring Australians. Whitney, then an obscure New South Wales paceman, was playing the English county circuit. Summoned from the field during a match, he had no idea what awaited him. The Australian team, in dire need of a replacement, had summoned him to join them. Plucked thus from obscurity Whitney literally walked straight into his first Test.

Since then, though, he has done little of note, playing only a handful of Tests, but always performing consistently for his state. Yet he was picked for the Adelaide Test against the West Indian side two years ago and responded with nine wickets, his left-arm guile nullifying the tourists' batting strength. Now Whitney goes on a full tour, despite the fact that the experts cautioned against the picking of two left-armers (Reid and Whitney). Whether he plays the first Test will depend on injuries, but as the least-credentialed pacemen in the squad, he is the one with the greatest psychological advantage against the opposing batsmen.

Border is fortunate to have Matthews back in the ranks. Matthews is anyone's equal when it comes to courage and determination, and his century in his comeback Test against England this Australian summer was proof of his grit. His presence in the lower-middle order will help steady any sudden collapses, but the pressure will be on those key men, the openers David Boon and Geoff Marsh. Boon, struggling for



"We will never be short of fast bowlers. What we need is a few world-class batsmen to take the place of Viv Richards, Desmond Haynes and myself."...Gordon Greenidge

atest blessing

Gordon Greenidge: slowing down?

form before the Ashes series, was in danger of losing his place in the Australian side, yet he reeled off more than 500 runs in the series to top the tour averages and is now looked on as the man likely to lead the assault on the quick bowlers

Marsh is a bit of a worry, for he was in patchy form at home during the summer Dean Jones, who scored that stirring double century when Australia last played the West Indies will be keen to prove a point, and wherever he bats in the order, will be just the sort of instinctive batsman needed to throw the fast bowlers off the scent

One man can be said to hold the key to the series Ian Bishop He and Curtley Ambrose will give the Australian batsmen no respite and it pays to remember that one Malcolm Marshall will be there as well very much the third bowler now but with the sort of guile and experience (and pace) that will never allow the Australians to settle into a comfortable rhythm

But, how do the two team stack up? The West Indies have the greater pedigree in batting But their leading stars are a bit long in the tooth and (if this can ever be said about those beautifully fluent batsmen) have little to motivate them as they reach the last stage in their careers On the other hand the Australian batsmen are still on a high after their successes against England and will be looking to revenge the attack that mauled them two years ago The West Indies have the faster bowlers Australia the bowlers with more variety But finally the two most intangible factors Australia bats further down the order and is eager to prove to the world that it is the best cricketing team at present

But then again the West Indies are on home ground ●

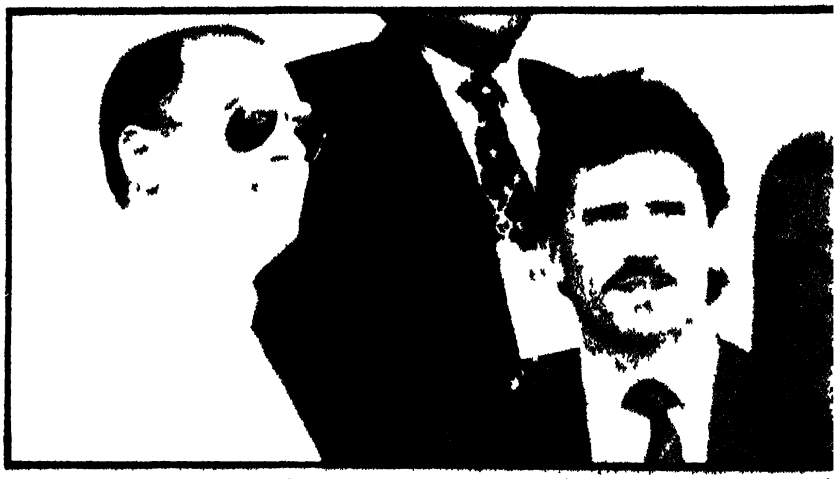
Allan Border: 18

Allan Border, the Australian captain, needs only 18 runs more to complete 9,000 runs in Test cricket. He has already become the second highest run-getter in Tests after Sunil Gavaskar (10,122 runs in 125 Test matches) So Border requires 1138 runs to reach the Little Master's mile-stone

SERIES	COUNTRY	TEST	INNS	N.O.	RUNS	AVG	HS	100	50
78-79	England	3	6	2	146	36 50	60*	0	1
1979	Pakistan	2	4	1	276	92 00	105	1	2
1979	India	6	12	0	521	43 41	162	1	3
79-80	West Indies	3	6	0	118	19 66	54	0	1
79-80	England	3	5	1	199	49 75	115	1	1
1980	Pakistan	3	5	2	395	131 66	153	2	1
1980	England	1	2	2	77	—	56*	0	1
1980	New Zealand	3	4	0	100	25 00	45	0	0
1981	India	3	5	0	228	45 60	124	1	1
1981	England	6	12	3	533	59 22	123*	2	3
1981	Pakistan	3	5	0	84	16 80	37	0	0
81-82	West Indies	3	6	1	336	67 20	126	1	3
1982	New Zealand	3	3	0	44	14 66	38	0	0
1982	Pakistan	3	6	1	118	23 60	55*	0	1
82-83	England	5	9	2	317	45 28	89	0	3
1983	Sri Lanka	1	1	1	47	—	47*	0	0
83-84	Pakistan	5	6	1	429	85 80	118	2	2
1984	West Indies	5	10	3	521	74 42	100*	1	4
84-85	West Indies	5	9	0	246	27 33	69	0	1
1985	England	6	11	2	597	66 33	196	2	1
1985	New Zealand	3	6	1	279	55 80	152*	1	1
85-86	India	3	5	0	298	59 60	163	1	1
1986	New Zealand	3	5	1	290	72 50	140	2	0
1986	India	3	4	1	245	81 66	106	1	1
86-87	England	5	10	1	473	52 55	125	2	1
1987	New Zealand	3	4	0	288	72 00	205	1	0
1988	England	1	2	1	50	50 00	48*	0	0
1988	Sri Lanka	1	1	0	88	88 00	88	0	1
1988	Pakistan	3	5	1	230	57 50	113*	1	1
88-89	West Indies	5	10	2	258	32 25	75	0	2
1989	England	6	9	3	442	73 66	80	0	6
1989	New Zealand	1	1	0	50	50 00	50	0	1
1989	Sri Lanka	2	3	0	165	55 00	85	0	2
1990	Pakistan	3	5	2	134	44 66	62*	0	1
1990	New Zealand	1	2	1	79	79 00	78*	0	1
90-91	England	5	7	1	281	46 83	83*	0	3
		120	206	37	8,982	53 14	205	23	51

BORDER's year by year runs

Year	Runs scored
1978	29
1979	1073
1980	730
1981	915
1982	573
1983	584
1984	831
1985	1099
1986	1000
1987	371
1988	465
1989	818
1990	284
1991	210



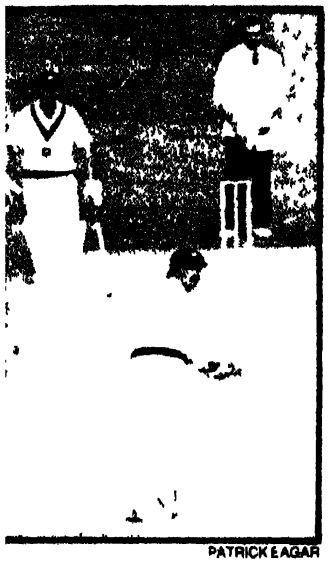
runs to reach 9,000

At a glance

T	INNS	NO	RUNS	AVG	HS	100	50	CT	WICKETS	BB	10 W	5 W
120	206	37	8,982	53 14	205	23	51	129	26	7/46	1	1

How he crossed 8,000 runs

1000	runs	in	13	Tests,	26	inns
2000	runs	in	27	Tests,	48	inns
3000	runs	in	39	Tests,	72	inns
4000	runs	in	57	Tests,	99	inns
5000	runs	in	68	Tests,	120	inns
6000	runs	in	80	Tests,	140	inns
7000	runs	in	91	Tests,	159	inns
8000	runs	in	105	Tests,	184	inns
8982	runs	in	120	Tests,	206	inns



PATRICK EAGAR



Against each country

Country	Test played	Runs scored
England	41	3115
Pakistan	22	1666
West Indies	21	1479
India	15	1292
Newzealand	17	1130
Sri Lanka	04	300
	120	8,982

1000 Test runs in a calendar year

Year	Test	Inns	N.O	Runs	Avg
1979	14	17	3	1073	44 70
1985	11	20	3	1099	64 64
1986	11	19	3	1000	62 50

Century in both innings
150* and 153 Vs Pakistan, Lahore 3rd Test 1980
140 and 114* Vs New Zealand, Christchurch, 2nd Test 1986

Highest individual innings
205 against New Zealand, Adelaide 1987

His centuries (23)
105, 162, 115, 150* 153, 124, 123* 106*, 126, 118 117*, 100*, 196 146* 152*, 163, 140, 114*, 106, 125, 100*, 205, 113*

Half centuries (51)
60*, 85, 66*, 50, 54, 61, 54, 63 58*, 56*, 57 63, 64, 84, 66, 53*, 78, 55*, 62* 89 83, 66, 64, 54, 98*, 98, 60*, 69, 58, 83, 71, 66*, 70, 88, 75, 75, 64, 66 60*, 80 65*, 76, 51* 50, 56, 85, 62*, 78* 62 78 83*

500 runs in a series
521 Vs India, 6 Tests, 1979
533 Vs England, 6 Tests, 1981
521 Vs West Indies, 5 Tests, 1984
597 Vs England, 6 Tests, 1985

300 runs in the three Tests series
395 Vs Pakistan, 1980
336 Vs West Indies, 81-82

Compiled by Hariprasad Chattopadhyay

INDIAN HOCKEY

Turning Back

After much politicking the Indian Balkishen Singh the coach of

WITH the resignation of Jhaman Lal Sharma, Indian hockey was orphaned again The search for a national coach was on in full swing Even a decade ago, this was a prized job And today Indian hockey is in such doldrums, that contenders were shying away from this coveted post

Jhaman Lal Sharma announced his resignation on the last day of the Indira Gandhi international tournament This bombshell stung the IHF bigwigs For a fortnight, the IHF made efforts to conciliate the Lucknow based Sharma A 1960 Olympian, Jhaman Lal remained adamant and refused to reconsider his decision He felt that the players were not motivated or talented enough to produce results in international hockey To the local dailies he stated that he had resigned as there was too much pressure to produce quick results He argued that Indian hockey needed a long-term plan, with lots of exposure against European teams at home and abroad, if standards are to improve He felt the federation was only interested in short-term measures which were hopelessly futile

With Jhaman refusing, the IHF was in a quandry The crisis was similar to that of last year's when national coach M P Ganesh resigned after India finished 10th in the Lahore World Cup History was repeating itself Similarly, factionalism and lobbying was rampant amongst the IHF officials to decide on the national coach

The favourite for the coveted post was the 1980 and 1984 Olympics coach Balkishen Singh Last year too Balkishen was considered the best man for the job However the erstwhile director of the Sports Authority of India (SAI), D K Chatterjee had refused to release Balkishen from his adminstrative post at the NSNTS Patiala

In 1990, the IHF indulged in their own politicking and manipulations Instead of insisting on Balkishen the IHF suggested the name of ex Olympian Udham Singh, for one good reason the IHF president R Prasad was too dependent on the Punjab lobby for his re-election in January 1990 So Rajkumar and the other Punjab officials wanted their own coach namely Udham Singh However, the director of the Teams Wings of the SAI Mr V K Verma, felt that Udham Singh was unfamiliar with the nuances of modern hockey and refused to consider the BSF veteran for the job

Cedric D'Souza of Bombay is back in favour again The IHF has already approached him to be the assistant national coach However, Cedric has



Balkishen Singh (first from left): back at the helm

The Clock

Hockey Federation names the national teams



made his terms clear During the Indira Gandhi tournament at Delhi he said I must be given clearly defined duties and reponsibilities and not vague roles like assisting in strategy Cedric has the reputation of a thinking coach and would like to work with a national coach receptive to his variety of ideas on defending and conversion of penalty corners Cedric has not stated but implied that he would accept the job only if he can develop a rapport with the national coach

The Udham Singh factor was still dominant even while Balkishen s name topped the list The Punjab lobby would have liked Udham to be the coach Rajkumar probably felt that if Udham was made the national coach his son Gundeep Kumar has a good chance of being captain of India With Pargat Singh out of favour and unlikely to be made skipper again Gundeep Jagbir Singh and R P Singh are the seniormost players and favoured for the post

A dark horse for the post of coach was Sukhbir Singh Grewal popularly known as Garry

If India fails to qualify for Barcelona it will be like the end of an era. The end of a rich legacy. It will be the first time since 1928 that no Indian team will be participating in the Olympics

Sukhbir a former India centre forward resigned from the Indian Airlines and has joined SAI as a hockey coach He has considerable experience in training junior players and has been in charge of the Nehru hockey tournament summer camps since 1988 Garry is considered well versed with modern hockey There is a faction in the IHF which favoured a total break from the past and the selection of a young national coach Sukhbir also had the SAI backing

Inam ur Rehman assistant coach at the 1990 Beijing Asiad BMW tournament and Indira Gandhi tournament was also being considered for national coach The Gulran e Azam faction in the IHF argued that continuity in coaching is essential As Inam has been with the current team for nearly a year it was felt he should have got the job till the Olympic qualifying tournament

Another candidate whose name was talked about was Harmeek Singh He has been highly praised for the excellent India junior team he prepared for the 1988 World Cup qualifying



With Jhaman Lal refusing, the IHF was in a quandry. The crisis was similar to that of last year's when national coach M.P. Ganesh resigned after India finished 10th in the Lahore World Cup. History was repeating itself

rounds Vivek Singh Shakeel Ahmed Mohammed Arif Jagdev Singh Sanjeev Kumar Mark Patterson and Ashish Ballal came into the limelight when playing for Harmeek's India junior team Harmeek had made the India juniors play with a twin centre half in a 2 4 4 formation and their approach play had been impressive Many of his juniors are now regulars with the senior team Harmeek also had many supporters for the post of national coach

But Balkishen was the man IHF wanted the most However there were two problems

Firstly Balkishen himself was not too keen on the post He wanted a long term contract while the IHF was think ng in terms of the Olympic qualifying tournament in October this year The main hitch was that Balkishen does not want any interference from the IHF when it comes to selecting and training of the team Balkishen required this assurance before he accepted the job

There was a move to make a complete break with the past and appoint the relatively young S S Grewal (in picture) as coach

Secondly like last year though the IHF wanted Balkishen it was upto the SAI to release him Last year Balkishen did not get the job due to factionalism between the SAI and the national sports federations about preparations for the Beijing Asiad However things seemed to have been sorted out now but it is still too early to speculate on what kind of compromise the IHF has made with both Balkishen and the SAI

Nevertheless it was about time the issue of the coach was sorted out There are only eight months left for Indian hockey to face the proverbial acid test If India fails to qualify for Barcelona it will be like the end of an era The end of a rich legacy It will be the first time since 1928 that no Indian hockey team will be participating in the Olympics That would surely be the death knell of Indian hockey

Over to you now Balkishen!

Novy Kapadia, Delhi

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1 This famous Indian chess player was illiterate and initially worked as a servant A foreigner on spotting his talents took him to Europe where he beat many grandmasters including world champions Emmanuel Lasker and Capablanca Name him

2 Which Australian Test cricketer represented his country at the Melbourne Olympics in hockey?

3 Which Indian cricketer later became the country's ambassador to Holland?

4 Only two Indians have won four medals at the Olympics One of them is Leslie Claudius Who is the other?

5 With which sport is the King George V Cup associated?

6 King Farokh of Egypt and King Shah of Iran have donated cups in the world championships of a particular sport Name the sport

7 Only three cyclists have won the famous Tour de France race five times Two of them are Edwin Merkx and Jaiques Anquitied Name the third

8 With which sport is the 'Bermuda Cup' associated?

9 Which sport is believed to have been invented by Ravana's wife, Mandodri?

10 Who is the only athlete to have crossed the 3mins 50 secs barrier in the mile more than a 100 times?

11 What is the trainer who teaches judo or karate addressed as?

12 Figure and hockey are two of the four types of skating What are the other two?

13 Which baseball competition held in the United States is popularly known as 'world series'?

14 What in horse racing betting terms is a quinella?

15 Who is the only other Wimbledon singles champion other than Fred Perry to have reached the finals of the World Table Tennis championships?

ANSWERS

1 Sultan Khan
2 Brian Booth
3 Yajuvendra Singh
4 Udham Singh
5 Tennis It is actually the Wimbledon men s singles trophy
6 Table tennis The cups are known as the Egypt Cup and the Iran Cup
7 Bernard Hinault
8 World championships of contract bridge
9 Chess
10 John Walker
11 Sensei
12 Speed and roller skating
13 A post-season series of games played between the winners of the National and American leagues for the championship of professional baseball It is a best of seven series
14 A bet in which punters pick the first and second place finishers of a race but need not designate the order of finish
15 Ann Haydon She was the Wimbledon women s single s champion in 1969 She reached the finals of the world table tennis championships in 1956 and 1957

RATING TEST

Above 14 Wish you were part of our quiz team
Between 11 and 14 You are not too bad
Below 11 *Sportsworld* reading recommended

THIS QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY:
MISS. SARWET PARVEEN,
QUARTER NO. C/12,
ROAD NO. 2,
WATERTOWER QUARTERS
PATNA-800 001
(BIHAR)

All answers sent in by the contributor

SPORTING TRIVIA

THE SIN-BIN

FIFA, the governing body of world soccer, has rejected the idea of introducing a ice hockey-style sin-bin system into professional football. As more players attract red cards, a number of European managers, including Terry Venables of Tottenham Hotspurs, are keen to try out this system.

But a FIFA spokesman said that the idea wouldn't work "It has been brought up before by the West Germans They suggested it two or three years ago -- but it was always turned down, "he said

CONNING FOR GOD

MIKE MASSEY, hailed as the pool-world's top trick shot exponent, is touring Europe and using the lure of the green baize to draw people closer to the word of God

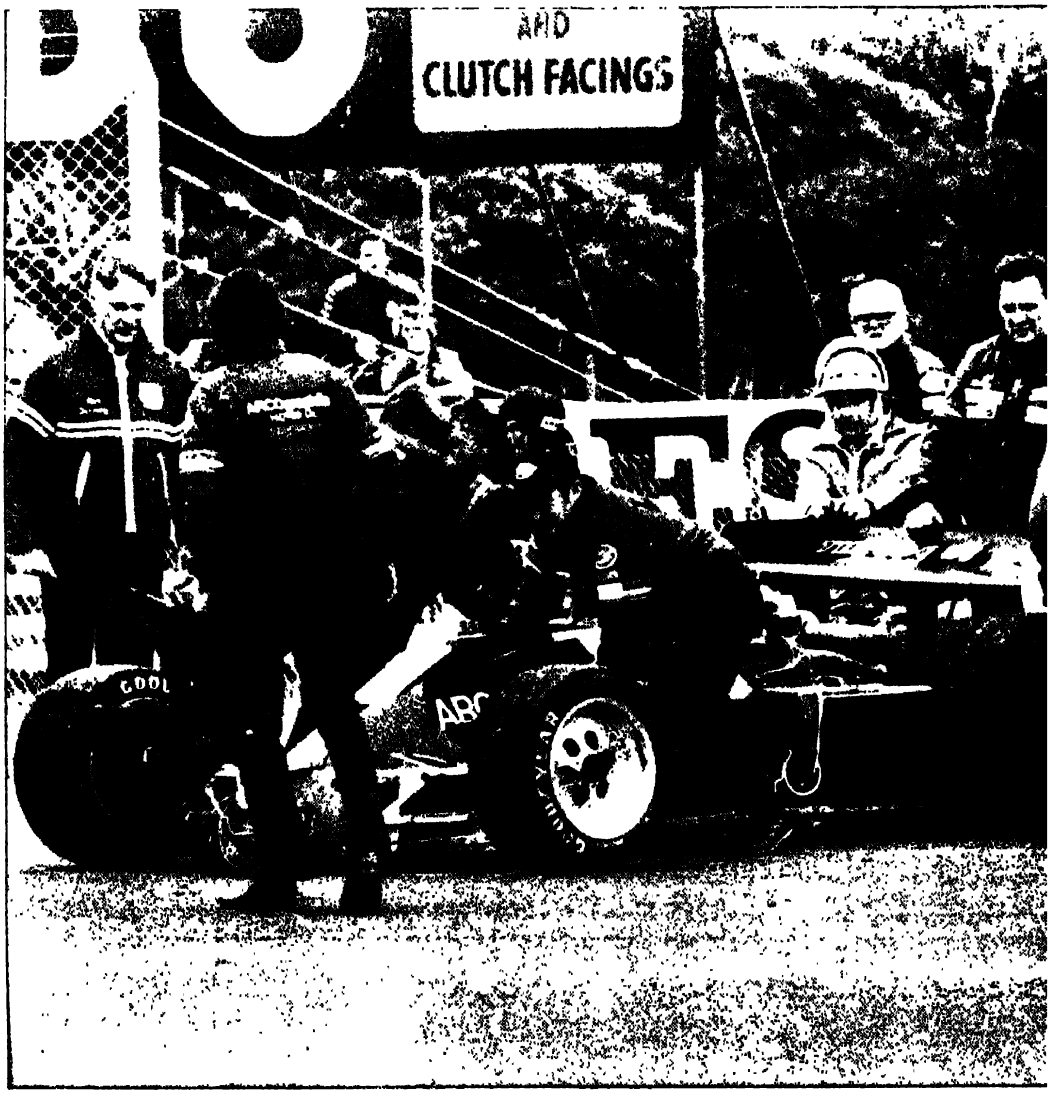
Before leaving on the tour the 43-year-old former American national nine-ball champion admitted that he was a reformed con-man who before conversion had been heavily into drugs, gambling and hard liquor.

He believes his recent decision to play pool in England must be God's wish for the result has been an evangelical pool tour, televised by Eurosport, with a potential audience of 60 million viewers.

During his first show, Steve Davis, the six-times world snooker champion was among a number of European stars who were held spell bound by Massey's wizardry on the table. Little is known about the effect he had on them with his 'Praise the lord' speech.

IMMORTALITY

MICHAEL JOHNSON, of the Chicago Bulls basketball team, soars even closer to immortality. The 'guard' for the Chicago Bulls hit



The new Silverstone circuit is a safer and more competitive track both for drivers and spectators

a new height by scoring his 15,000th point in a game against the Philadelphia 76ers. The 27-year-old National Basketball Association scoring leader reached the milestone in only 406 games

A NEW EQUATION

SILVERSTONE, home of British Grand Prix, has under gone a £1 6 million facelift designed to make motor racing safer and more entertaining at one of the world s fastest race tracks Derek Warwick, ex-Formula One driver said "The track is no longer boring but is safer, more challenging and will give value for money to spectators He added "In the past the best engines won you the race, but now these changes have brought the driver into the equation and that is good,'

WAR CASUALTY

THE Gulf war has not only taken its toll on the economics of the middle eastern countries, it has also effected sport Squash which was emerging as a popular sport in these countries is now facing a decline In the last Asian Junior Championship held in Calcutta—Iraq, Kuwait, Jordan, Bahrain, Lebanon and Palestine had participated and Kuwait had come fourth

Unfortunately, because of the Gulf war none of the teams participated in the championship at Colombo This resulted in the 12 nation competition being reduced to a six nation contest It is sad that the casualties of war are not only the soldiers but also sportsmen

Free-for-alls like this have spilled over from ice hockey onto the soccer pitches, but a suggestion of using a sin-bin like they have in ice hockey has been turned down

BUY NOW

TICKETS for the 1992 Summer Olympics are already being sold Oriol Serra of the Barcelona Olympic Organising Committee said at a news conference that 4 7 million tickets giving access to 504 sports events will be sold in Spain Another 1.2 million will be sold abroad through travel agencies designated by each national Olympic committee

Prices of tickets range from $10 to $95, with the men's basketball final being the most expensive event



Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke hopes to include South Africa for the World Cup cricket to be held in Australia and New Zealand next year



STRIKERS!

FRENCH football club Olympique Marseille s owner Bernard Tapie managed to persuade his players to call off a strike and instead play their match against Bordeaux The players also threatened to skip France s European Championship qualifier with Spain next month

They were striking in support of their owner Tapie, who was banned for a year for intimidating referees

"I appreciate their support, but I told them the best thing for the club and their own career was to go out and do what they are best at, "said Tapie "that's play football "

Tapie's immediate reaction to the ban was to quit, but after having spoken to France s national coach Michel Platini and others he has reconsidered his decision

ALL FOR A CAUSE

THE Australian Prime Minister, Bob Hawke, was in Perth for the final Test of the Ashes series During the course of his stay he called for a meeting of Commonwealth premiers to discuss the return of South Africa to world cricket in time for the World Cup in Australia and New Zealand next year

Although the Australian Cricket Board has welcomed the move, the chief executive, David Robert, said that it was premature to talk about South Africa and the World Cup

PHOTOGRAPHS AP

KEEP 'EM FI

CONTINUING from where we left off last week here are the last few tips to recharge your immune system circuits for growth, health and recuperation In short, to keep em fighting fit

PROTEINS:

Everybody knows about the role that proteins play in our body Proteins help in rebuilding cells and in repairing tissues The proteins also strengthen and support the immune system They form antibodies to combat invading bacteria and viruses, and also form an integral part of the enzyme and hormonal system Add to this the role played in moving oxygen through the body and also the part played in muscle activity

AMINO ACIDS:

Surprisingly few athletes realize the full potential of amino-acids Next to water they are the most abundant substance in the body Amino acids are needed for the synthesis of enzymes and structural proteins The amino acids have to be obtained from outside either from food or from supplements

EXERCISE:

Surprising how exercise is an antidote other than it s body and



Relaxation and fun. keeps the immune system charged

GHTING FIT



As long as you exercise and enjoy it, it's good for the system

performance enhancing values When we exercise we produce endorphins and also a hormone known as nonadrenaline This hormone is a mood enhancer The combination of these natural chemicals produce an elevated physical and emotional state Nonadrenalin is actually an antidepressant and it is because of the production of this ho mone that people become addicted to a regular exercise Overlooked side benefits of a regular exercise programme are better resting habits better appetite and eating patterns and a positive outlook towards life We need not elaborate on these do we? Just remember DON'T overdo it

ALTRUISM AND HUMOUR:

Don t get surprised over what we are going to tell you next In this age of interpreting everything in terms of logic it s defying to think of how altruism could possibly help the immune system

Actually it happens this way Whenever we perform an act of kindness we receive a feeling of warmth Researchers suggest that this pleasant feeling is a direct result of endorphins Doing a charitable act or even more amazing even thinking of it bolsters the immune system Tests have proved that Immunoglobin A an antibody that helps defend the body against respiratory infections, increases at this time Similarly laughter also produces bio chemical changes that enhance the immune system

So from now on for your own good don't only think of yourself Do yourself and the world some good, by at least sparing a thought for others

REST, RELAXATION AND RECREATION:

The greatest enemy of our immune system is stress Stress depletes the antibodies in our body at an alarming rate and leave us susceptible to illnesses Stress uses up the water soluble nutrients specially Vitamin C, the B-complex group and the minerals Once these protective nutrients are deficient we tend to get susceptible to high blood pressure, gastrointestinal upsets, headaches, chronic muscle tension and heart disease

Combating stress is an ongoing everyday affair Depression, overexertion, worry over finances and relationships, alcohol and tobacco addictions result in poor resting patterns, leaving the body open to diseases

Find some time exclusively for yourself This may be engaging in a hobby or merely taking a leisurely walk Once in a while allow your mind to float free and set aside all your problems Even if it's no more than lounging in a bath tub for 30 minutes, it is therapeutic

The actual activity is not important, just as long as you are doing something that allows you to relax

So folks, once in a while just ruffle your hair, buckle your shoes and GO FOR IT! ●

THE HEALTH COLUMN

OPINION

Is The One-Day Game

KILLING TE

PRIOR to 1963, time-limit and one-day cricket were virtually unknown at county level in England Now not a week —perhaps, crucially, not a Sunday --of the season passes without a one-day county match being played somewhere in the country These competitions flourish, and flourish is, indeed, the word they play a crucial part in financially sustaining the game here

Now, too, it is played all over the world. The great occasion befell in 1983 when eight



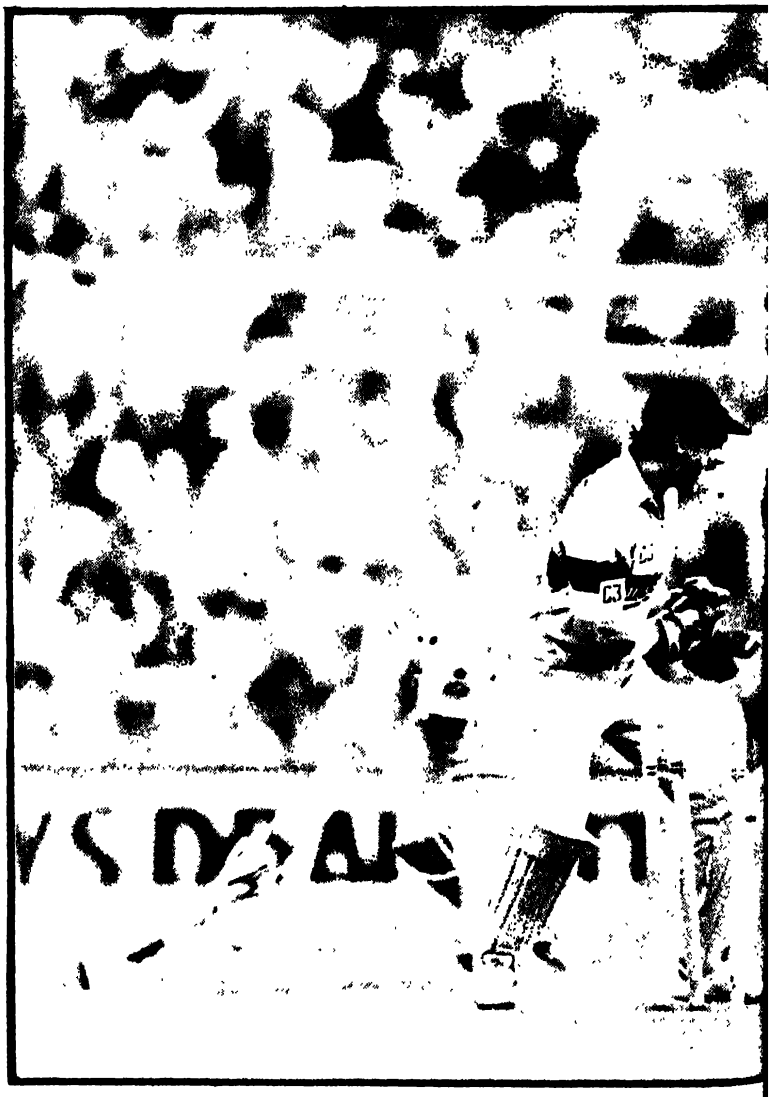
in its effect on play and on the finances, but also its general standing and in the fashioning of lesser technical and major legal adjustments to fit the demand. It began out of controversy, some of which still remains. The diehard or 'Yorkshire' attitude still maintains that the one-day game is not cricket played 'properly' Obviously, too, there is no technical space for a batsman to lay himself in for a big innings as in a there-four-or five-day match Perhaps, though, the heaviest criticism to be laid against this form of the game is that a bowler can, on many occasions, prove more

The one-day match was the greatest change in the shape of cricket, not only in its effect on play and on the finances, but also its general standing and in the fashioning of lesser technical and major legal adjustments to fit the demand

countries--Australia, England, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, West Indies and Zimbabwe--contested the third World Cup in England, with a final at Lord's in a series of one-day matches. That was the competition which was revamped specifically in order to produce an unquestionably valid result, yet failed to do so. In 1983, unfancied India upset mighty West Indies - winners of the two previous World Cups and overwhelming favourites again by 43 runs on a balmy June evening at Lord's

Other series of one-day matches at club and national level are now played all over the world One-day cricket at international level started almost by accident 20 years ago, when Australia and England played a 40-overs game at Melbourne instead of a rained-out Test match.

The one-day match was the greatest change in the shape of cricket in this century, not only



BY JOHN ARLOTT

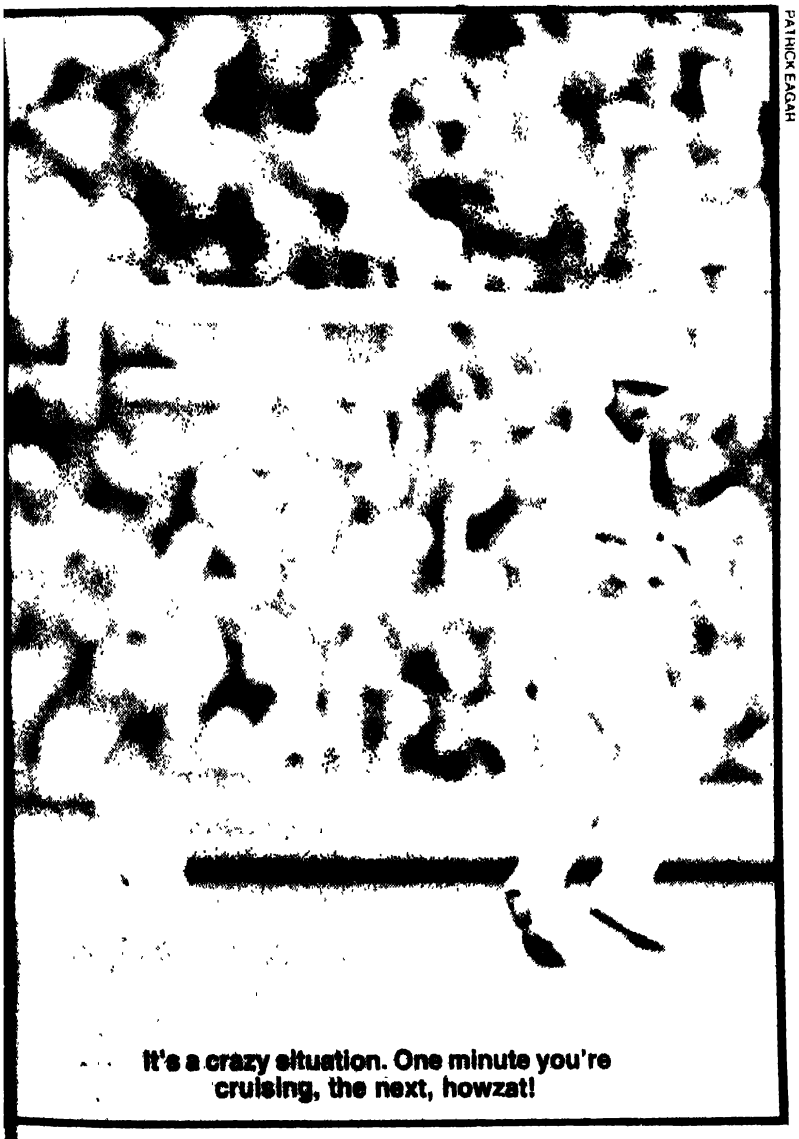
ST CRICKET?

effective by keeping down runs than by taking wickets: that undoubtedly is the strongest relevant criticism to be offered against it. On the credit side, quite apart from its effect on finances, it has led to an immense sharpening in the standard of fielding, far greater zest in batting—towards attack—with, of course, the resultant mounting of enthusiasm among spectators.

It has been argued that the one-day game attracts spectators of a lesser standard than the first-class game, on the other hand, given a good enough match between highranking or traditionally rival opponents, virtually every true enthusiast will be there and watching, and undoubtedly it has attracted many who would never otherwise have paid to watch a cricket match.

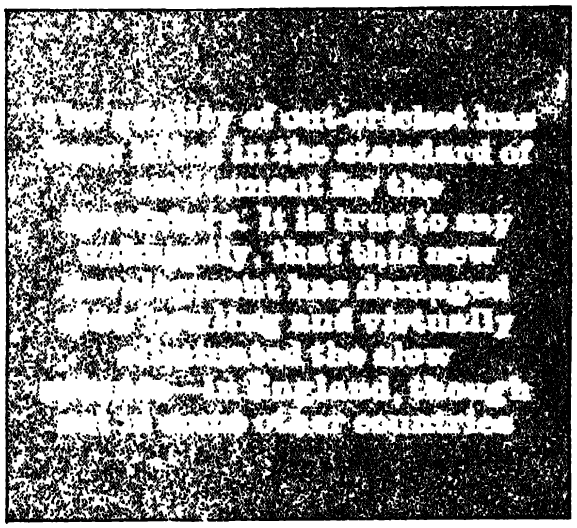


The quality of out-cricket has been lifted in the standard of excitement for spectators. It is true to say, unhappily, that this new development has damaged slow bowling and virtually eliminated the slow spinner – in England, though not in some other countries. It is difficult to see how that will be adjusted in England, with its frequent slow pitches. On a world basis, however, the game has shown a major profit against that single and, it must be admitted, tragic loss. Perhaps the loss will be made good by the development of slow-medium spinners of the type of Underwood, even Bill O'Reilly, but the slow, flighty bowler seems to have been eliminated from the game. That is a long-standing objection of the old school of disapprovers.



PATRICK EAGAR

It's a crazy situation. One minute you're cruising, the next, howzat!



In the first place, undoubtedly many of the conscientious objectors held their peace—or largely did so—because of the financial advantages to the game. Soon, however, it became apparent that the new form of the game had created for itself a fresh public many of whom had never, if only for lack of spare time, been able to watch cricket regularly before.

It is odd to realise that the Gillette Cup, now the Nat West Trophy but then known as the 'Knockout Competition', began only in 1963.



PATRICK EAGAR

Now it is a firmly established part of English cricket. It gained momentum in its first season. Ted Dexter was, in some ways, the symbol of its advance, and, either as a batsman, bowler or captain, was constantly doing something interesting. A crowd of 25,000 watched the 1963 final at Lord's many of them wearing favours or carrying banners in the fashion of football supporters. Sussex, where the captain's enthusiasm passed through his team, won the competition in its first two years, by which time the Gillette Cup was firmly established in the British sporting taste and calendar.

It was followed in 1972 by the Benson & Hedges Cup, in which the first-class counties (plus three other teams) are divided into four leagues, the leaders of which then play off the quarter-finals, semi-finals and final.

Sunday benefit matches, particularly those involving the Cavaliers 'all-star' XI, had long been popular and, for the beneficiary, profitable, before 1969 when the John Player Sunday League was begun. That, in its turn, created yet a further public All at once, one-day cricket had moved up from casual to popular entertainment.

The first ICC Trophy tournament, staged in the Midlands in 1979, brought together the non-Test playing countries. Bermuda, East Africa, Papua-New Guinea, Singapore, Argentina, Denmark, Canada, Bangladesh, Fiji, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, USA, Wales, Holland and Ireland in three groups, which then played off in semi-finals and a final. Sri Lanka were the winners, and were subsequently 'promoted' to Test status They had beaten finalists Canada then joined the Test countries in the Prudential World Cup. The competition of 1982 brought in Kenya, Hong Kong, Gibraltar, Israel, Bermuda, West Africa and eventual winners Zimbabwe.

Today, people not only pay to watch the cricket but also to let their hair down



If all this seems like heavy-going history, it is, in fact, a crucial part of the story of the controlled and organised growth of cricket as a world game. England was, as we know, the birthplace of cricket: it also proved ideal for the growth of the game at competitive 'county' level. Air travel, however, made possible that still impressive photograph of the eight international teams of the 1983 Prudential World Cup lined up in front of the Lord's pavilion. It was an impressive and significant moment of cricket history ●

LESTER PIGGOTT'S VISIT TO INDIA

RETURN OF A LEGEND

BY CYRUS MADAN

DONCASTER Race course,England, end October '85. A living legend, the greatest rider that the world has ever seen retires. "We'll never see another like him" is what the racing media said after Lester Piggott had ridden his last race as a professional jockey.

Mid October 1990: Lester Piggott just a few weeks away from his 55th birthday announces his come back to the saddle. The world gasps in disbelief. The sceptics shake their heads. But his fans in their "Never Say Die" adoration of Lester hail him yet again as the messian. Lester does not let them down and the Press who have always found it difficult to describe his skill in superlatives are running to dictionaries to find new adjectives for the one and only Lester Keith Piggott.

End December, 1968, Lester Piggott makes his second trip to Calcutta to ride Fair Haven in the Calcuta Derby. He stays a fortnight, rides 14 races and ends off with a 50 percent strike rate. When he walks into the paddock for the first time in Calcutta the crowd rises to applaud him and that is even before he actually rides the race. That's the sort of adulation this man enjoys all over the world.

I first met him on that visit to Calcutta. I was a little fellow in shorts and had the good fortune of being introduced to Lester when he paid a visit to trainer Mac Galstaun's residence. I remember sitting at his feet for over 45 minutes which was the time he spent there. Never opening my mouth (that's really surprising for me) I just looked at his face like he was a god.



Old stoneface...that's what they call Piggott



Piggott unfortunately didn't impress on Speedbird

And last week, almost 23 years later we met again in Bombay. For a little while he produced the same effect on me I was at a loss for words once again.

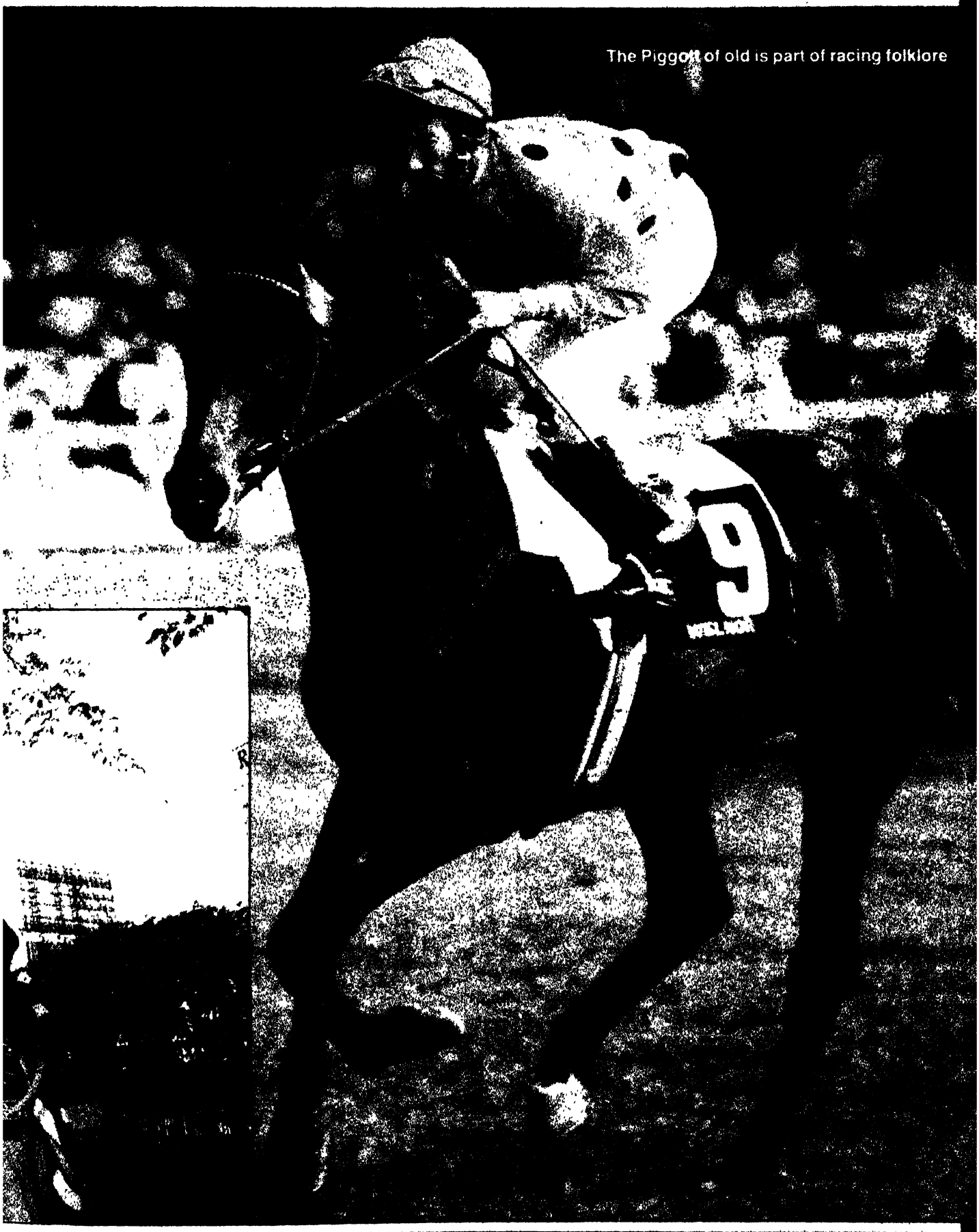
He had come to Bombay at the request of Mr Vijay Mallya to ride one of his horses in the McDowell Indian Derby. He had a choice of five mounts and had to decide which of them he was going to choose. "I like a horse which has a bit of early speed and the ability to quicken," says Lester. That was going to be what he was looking for. "That in fact is what makes a great horse," says Piggott.

In the course of the next few days that we were together I saw two sides to the man. The first when he was at home making pleasant conversation, smiling and going out of his way to answer the host of questions that were invariably thrown at him. The other when he was astride a horse. His entire demeanour would change. There was no expression They don't call him "Old Stoneface" for nothing, but he was only like that when he went out to ride. For him it was work, and work meant concentration. That was the reason you hardly saw even the flicker of a smile crease his lips when he rides anywhere in the world

They said he was media shy. They said he disliked making conversation. They said he hated meeting people Well that certainly wasn't what I saw in Bombay. He attended a Press conference for the Derby. He willingly allowed himself to be photographed and signed as many autographs for the fans whenever they requested him to do so. He expressed his opinion on the mike whenever we called and all in all he was one of the most congenial and friendly world wide celebrities that I have or will ever meet McDowell Indian Derby day at Mahalaxmi Race course Bombay, 3rd Feb 1991. Lester has just one race to ride before the Derby. He is slated to ride a horse named Scorpio. Because he is astride, the public are backing Scorpio. But does the horse

Evergreen. That's what they call this jockey





The Piggott of old is part of racing folklore





Piggott (left) gets his share of trackwork

PHOTOGRAPHS GAUTAM PATOLE

have it in him to win?

As Lester enters the paddock, the crowd gives him a good reception. When he mounts up on Scorpio the cheers from the crowd get even louder as they give him a good old fashioned Bombay welcome. The noise gets through to Scorpio but it is lost on Piggott. He is already formulating his game plan. All he knows about Scorpio is what he's seen on the video screen while watching replays of his last few runs. For the master that's enough.

With 400 to run Piggott brings Scorpio to challenge on the outside of the two front runners. That famous high whip action of his gets Scorpio to quicken and the crowd bursts into a thunderous roar as the commentator calls "and its Lester Piggott on Scorpio who takes up the running". He surges into the lead and looks home and dry when the favourite Belle Epoque comes with a devastating late run from behind. It looks all over for Scorpio but then he never had Lester Piggott on his back before. He gets just that little bit extra out of Scorpio and that little bit is the short head that puts him in front at the finish Pesi Shroff, India's top jockey says, "I have never seen Scorpio gallop like this before He's never done for me but my god, he galloped for Lester "

In the McDowell Indian Derby Piggott rides a filly named Speedbird. He's taken a gamble in opting to ride her because she's raced just once in her life before It would be like a fairly tale if she won. "Speedbird simply didn't get the trip", said Lester and she finished well behind the winner.

A little later we are sitting together over a cup of tea looking at a scrap-book which had been built up since 1952 by one of Piggott's most ardent fans in India. It contains a wealth of information. He pours over it avidly. Every now and then his features softening into a smile as the pages bring back some of the sweetest memories that the Legend has been. The scrap book ends with Lester's retirement in 1985. He closes it with a sigh and then with a twinkle ir his eye looks at us and says,"I guess you will have to start a new one now!" ●

THAT WINNIN

On the delta of the Mae Nam Chao Praya river, lies the city of Krung Thep The old-world name for Bangkok Here, taxi drivers smile like choir boys, drive like speed demons, and cheat you out of force of habit Here, raw frogs legs and pleasure are sold on the same street corner, that is if you can get to it through the incessant maddening traffic, Here, religion thrives well amidst the chaos, monasteries rub shoulders with svelte apartment blocks, shopkeepers bow low in seduction and if you refuse to bargain they think you're a fool Here, the heat at midday sucks your soul out with cruel slowness, it annoys, irritates, disorients And of everything that Bangkok offers, which is limitless, it was the heat of all things that the Indian Davis Cup team had most of

If they were not pleased, neither were the Thais, who found Leander Paes' aggression 'impolite', S Vasudevan's doggedness most confounding and a 5-0 defeat insulting It was a tough weekend for a people who live on a delta that is sinking



The Paes aggro didn't go down too well with the Thais...but the results were just what India wanted

"WHY don't you ask the captain?", was the tie's most interesting pre-match question It was asked rhetorically,

G FEELING!

FROM ROHIT BRIJNATH, BANGKOK

PHOTOGRAPHS: SHIRISH NADKARNI

perhaps with a hint of sarcasm, by Akhtar Ali when questioned by a pressman on his son Zeeshan's exclusion from the singles. So we asked captain Naresh Kumar, and he cited Ali's lack of match play owing to a back injury, and he was right. Using debutant Paes with a shaky Ali would have been bad strategy... safety required a solid player and Srinivasan Vasudevan personified that. Zeeshan himself was visibly displeased at the decision, but Davis Cup demands teamwork and through the next two days Zeeshan demonstrated that truth is not lost on him.

The Thais are reasonable players, no less, no more, and moreover one-pace players. Change the playing rhythm and they are lost for an answer. Leander Paes, however, was not required to do much more than keep the ball in play against Voraphol Thongkhamchu, a small smiling fellow who appeared more concerned with solving his identity problem, (for he is a strange mixture of player, policeman and student), than playing tennis. Paes won 6-3, 6-1, 6-4.

In fact, the only excitement that match generated was the





Narathorn Srichapan, the Michael Chang lookalike, gets a word of advice from his non-playing captain Paul Dale

Non-playing captain Naresh Kumar helps a withering Vasudevan through his gruelling five-setter against Narathorn

crowd's vocal disapproval of Paes. That is, however vocal 500 people can get. Paes is a demonstrative player, such is his style. It is a reflection of his intensity.

He was grunting most undistinguishedly (does anybody grunt distinguishedly?), screamed *vamos* (Spanish for 'come on') after a winner, remonstrated with the referee over sudden foot-faults and crucial line calls, stared his opponent down as is his manner, and was pumping arms and fists



in celebration The Thai's who are a remarkably undemonstrative lot did not quite know what to make of him, and the easiest alternative was to jeer 'Impolite hollered a spectator, go home, fool' encouraged another Double faults by him were cheered, but did it affect him? C'mon, do teenage victorious debutants care? No way Jose

For at 17 Leander Paes continues to demonstrate a match maturity that is much envied Despite weaknesses and a serve that needs remodelling he wins by harnessing whatever mental and physical gifts he has He is a consumate performer And he just keeps winning Three wins in this tie itself and the youngest team member at that He did not win his first singles in spectacular fashion, indeed his match was boring Yet this is exactly the lesson he must learn and he has Be brilliant when required so by an opponent Otherwise settle for a clinical, quiet win which takes the least out of you Efficiency and preciseness is what matters, flamboyance is merely exciting

Paes argues a line call. The all-consuming heat got to everyone



Team-spirit is what it's all about...Vasudevan rubs down an exhausted Paes an equally tired Ali gets some of the same treatment

Flamboyance, of course, is a word that has been deleted from Srinivasan Vasudevan's vocabulary and this rangy hulk speaks French, Tamil and English One of his teammates, anonymity guaranteed, said, "You play him, lose and then just wonder how he could have beaten you" It was a statement though, that can be

reversed into a compliment Vasudevan, approaches the net with the trepidation of a child going to the headmaster's office and he is an ugly player for some, for barring a mighty serve he has no weapons But he is a Davis Cup captain's delight He will slice backhand after backhand, topspin forehand after forehand till the cows come, go home, and come again , He may bore you, but he will exhaust you he may irritate you, but he will never give up He says, "I have more mileage than anybody else," and he is not speaking of his 29 years but of the miles he has run playing on clay courts (His first love) Like his 5 hour 20 minute match against South Korea in Seoul last year Yet his 3 hours 40 minutes against Narathorn Srichapan in Thailand was better- because he won, and because it was hard courts, a surface,that makes his footwork look like a dancer in trouble,since he cannot slide And it was hot, deathly hot, enough for Vasudevan to need ice water wash downs and a chance to show off his entire range of Lacoste shirts -he changed five

And, he was playing an opponent 11 years younger than him, who was up 3-6, 7 6, 6 4 and hitting forehands like Lendl and volleys like Becker, till Vasudevan got fed up, realising he was playing nothing else but a 18 year-old debutant called Narathorn

Barring the tactical changes Vasudevan employed after the third set timeout—read lobs and tougher returns—his experience allowed him to pace himself through five sets, something Narathorn, a junior used to three sets, could not do When Vasudevan eventually did his signature war dance on winning, a fresh chapter of courage in Indian Davis Cup history had been written in sweat His sweat

He went back to the dressing room collapsed next to Leander Paes who, woken up from sleep, asked "What happened?" "I won" gasped Vasudevan, and indeed so did Paes



Vasudevan exults—it was a victory that required much courage

NARESH KUMAR

Captain Courageous


ROHIT BRIJNATH

Captain Naresh Kumar (standing second from left) with his team

EVERYONE knows he is quiet, controlled and wholly decent A graceful, civilised man Yet, that is not a streak of grey in his hair, it is a streak of iron At 62-years-old, Naresh Kumar has never demanded, but gradually earned, respect from his team, not merely because of his firm authority, but for his growing tactical awareness and cerebral style of functioning

Harnessing a team's strengths, dealing with their individual ego's, subtly assisting a player during matchplay, adjusting their focus, enhancing their concentration, bringing the very best out of them, are roles a captain must play, and Naresh Kumar appears to be more competent and more successful with every tie

In 1989, when he took over as non-playing captain, two doubts surfaced One, his geniality, his softness, and the second, his possible ignorance of modern-day players, attitudes and styles The first was buried quickly, for Kumar swiftly emphasised his ability to be tough The second doubt is being suppressed a little slower, for despite Kumar's tactical sense, he still appears slightly uncomfortable with the explosive aggressive attitude that prevails in tennis today Hustling and gamesmanship was more subtle in his era theatrics and violent tempers almost unheard of Yet Kumar is an intelligent man and an adaptable one, and even though we have lost two of the four ties he has been involved in, there is clear evidence that the team, his team, is growing not only as a competent unit but as well motivated individuals For that he is solely responsible

He has been captain before, in the 1950s, when Ramanathan Krishnan and him were a two-man Davis Cup team, and would sit as advisors in the chair for each other's matches

In Thailand this month, he was always impressive If his inputs bore dividends and they did, it was his decision to play Vasudevan and Paes in the singles and leave out Ali, that was a masterpiece of selection No other combination would have worked as well, and that was vindicated by the 5-0 scoreline

It has been some time since we have had someone as committed to Indian tennis as him, and the sport can only gain from that in the long run

Rohit Brijnath

UP 2-0, the mood was buoyant enough to warrant the occasional bursts of eccentric conversation. Vasudevan, bedraggled and wiped out, tells Paes, "It's in the bag, man" (He's talking about the tie). Paes, distracted, counters, "What bag, Vasu", looking towards his kitbag. The room explodes.

The 2-0 situation also ignited the team into a raging collective unit, hell bent on victory. An American President once said, "If you tell someone to go to hell you better make sure you have the means to do so". The Indians finally did have the means---in sport they call it teamwork

Of the tie's lasting

The court which had an even bounce but an evil heat

ROHIT BRIJNATH



images, the most poignant came during the timeouts after the third set. Vasudevan lying almost comatose on the dressing room floor, head on Paes' kitbag, shirt off, legs being massaged by Dr. Vece Paes, torso being bathed by Leander. Down two sets to one then, he said after winning, "God, that

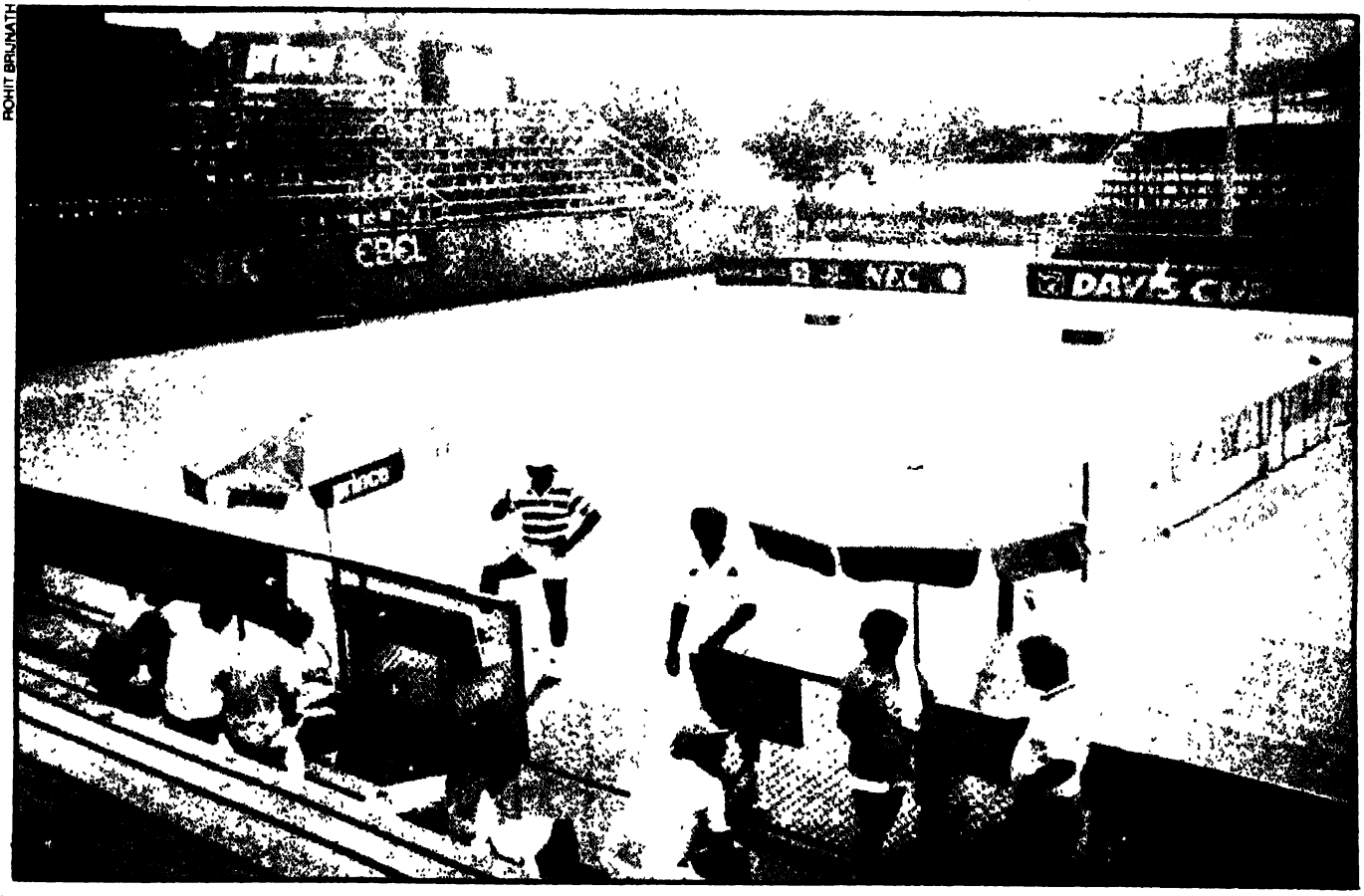
Vasudevan and Ismail watch television to relax at their hotel

helped, my legs were so much lighter" (talk about the need for a physio, huh?).

A day after, the same scenario was re-enacted during the doubles. Vasudevan carried Paes' kitbag to and fro the court, massaged his legs, while Asif Ismail took care of Ali. In the past five years, I have never witnessed such a scene in an Indian dressing room, and it is pleasing most definitely. Moreso, in a team that is still short on spectacular individual talent, the need to function as a cohesive unit becomes even more vital

Ali and Paes who beat Thanakorn Srichapan

ROHIT BRIJNATH



OUT OF COURT

There is a Davis Cup axiom that says, matches are won in the dressing-room Read, tactics and more But in the past two years, little about Indian tennis has conformed with reality and reason, and although the Indians beat Thailand 5-0 the dressing-room scenario is as stark as an example of how unprofessional Indian tennis can get

Fifty yards from Center Court at the Hua Mark stadium was the Indian dressing-room, air cooled against the venomous Thai heat, and supposedly a haven for a visiting team It was never, as it transpired, supposed to be a picnic party spot

Whether it was prior to a match, during timeout after the third set, or between matches, the room was buzzing with needless, aimless chatter of Indian guests, officials, families, journalists and hangers on The fact that a captain was trying to instruct tactics to a tired player was irrelevant The fact that a player lay on the ground being bathed with ice water, didn't hamper someone from munching lunch over him The fact that S Vasudevan, 10 minutes before his five set match against Narathorn Srichapan, was wondering whether he should give up his seat to a female guest, instead of being allowed to concentrate was overlooked In this context Indian tennis is refusing to grow up, and if we stay rooted in the zonal rounds, don't blame the players but the system

The present Davis Cup team—S Vasudevan, Zeeshan Ali, Leander Paes, Asif Ismail, Rohit Rajpal—is more young than old, more enthusiastic than brilliant, and is treated like a second class team perhaps because someone in authority believes they are exactly that The lack of a circuit superstar or aggressive presence in the team has meant a denial of respect What is conveniently forgotten, is that for better or for worse they are our best team What is also forgotten is that players must have an opinion in matters tennis, that if they represent the country they deserve the necessary back-up systems The Thai tie is just one case in point

1) Why was the team selection as always, a joke First seven players were selected, of which two were later dropped, and eventually a third Now the team consisted of Vasudevan, Paes, Ali, Ismail A week later Rajpal was re-drafted into the squad, and Ismail was demoted to No 5 An incredulous exercise

2) Why choose a team hotel 45 minutes from

and Wittaya Samrej 1-6 7 6 6 2 6 4 raised their Davis Cup doubles record to 2 1 (win/loss) yet as a team did not impress much Whether it is refusal or reluctance they do not play as a pair on the circuit (they should!) and spend too much time at Cup matches trying to find a rhythm and balance Simple things like balls down the middle should be hit by Leander s topspin forehand and not Ali s backhand took time to



ROHIT BRIJNATH

The Thai team (standing left to right) Thanakorn Srichapan, Narathorn Srichapan, Wittaya Samrej, Voraphol Thongkhamchu. (Kneeling) captain Paul Dale and assistant coach



ROHIT BRIJNATH

Ismail and Paes sleep on the long ride to the court

the courts. The players loose their freshness in the ride to the court before a match, and later, when exhausted get further tired in the ride back. The focus is lost.

3) In a city famed for its massages, why did the team lack a physiotherapist a vital factor in helping players unkink their bodies.

4) In desperately hot weather, where after-match recovery and during-match water intake can make the difference in winning or losing, why was there no doctor to advise.

5)Why are our Cup ties, and even the Nationals, being held in places that players are not comfortable in. Bharuch, Digboi, Chandigarh and now, against Indonesia in March, Jaipur. When I questioned the AITA secretary, R.K. Khanna over the communal situation in Jaipur he displayed astonishment of either a problem or the possibility of one.

Being successful in sport is no longer only about what happens on a field or on a court. The edge comes from the unseen factors. The preparedness. The organisation. The back-ups. And Indian tennis needs more than just player talent to break free into the World Group. They need help.

Rohit Brijnath

be sorted out Paes, superior at the net, should have dominated the match earlier than he did, but Ali's reluctance to be aggressive and their own lack of communication was perhaps a reason.

Once their momentum arrived, of course, they were marvellously fluid. Ali lobbed delightfully. Paes was thunderous at the net, and when they eventually won, it was difficult to tell who was more excited, them, Vasudevan, or indeed the various sets of parents that dotted the stadia.

Away-from-home-ties are never easy business

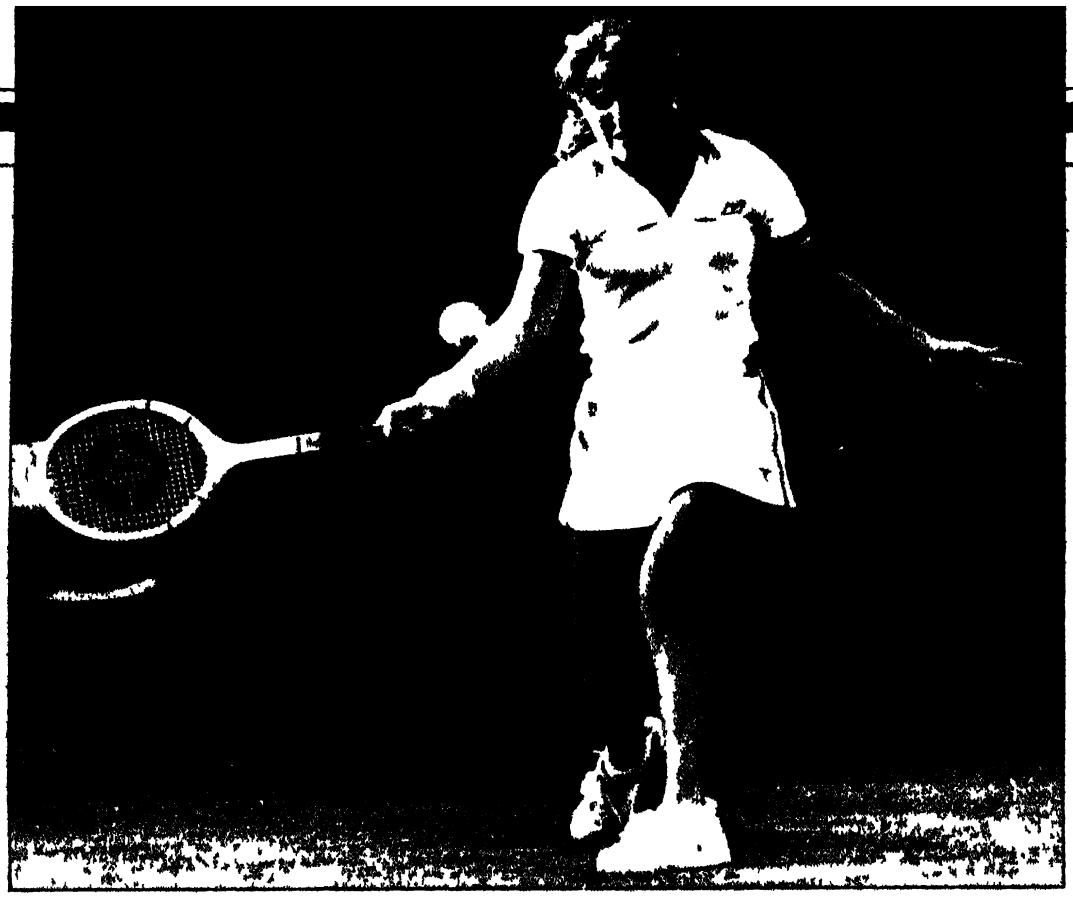


ROHIT BRIJNATH

Ali's lack of match sharpness lost him a singles spot

but this team provided answers to every problem posed, and displayed a potential for growth as a Davis Cup team of some value, which must be recognised.

Victories in the reverse singles meant a 5-0 win in keeping with our past record against Thailand....our score over six ties now stands at 30 matches played, 30 matches won. After the tie was over, a lady walked up to Leander Paes and gushed, "I love your dance", referring to his animated reaction to winning. Leander smiled and said something innocuous. Vasudevan nearby, just smiled. There just wasn't enough time to explain to the lady about Davis Cup and winning.



Austin's Dreams Don't Die

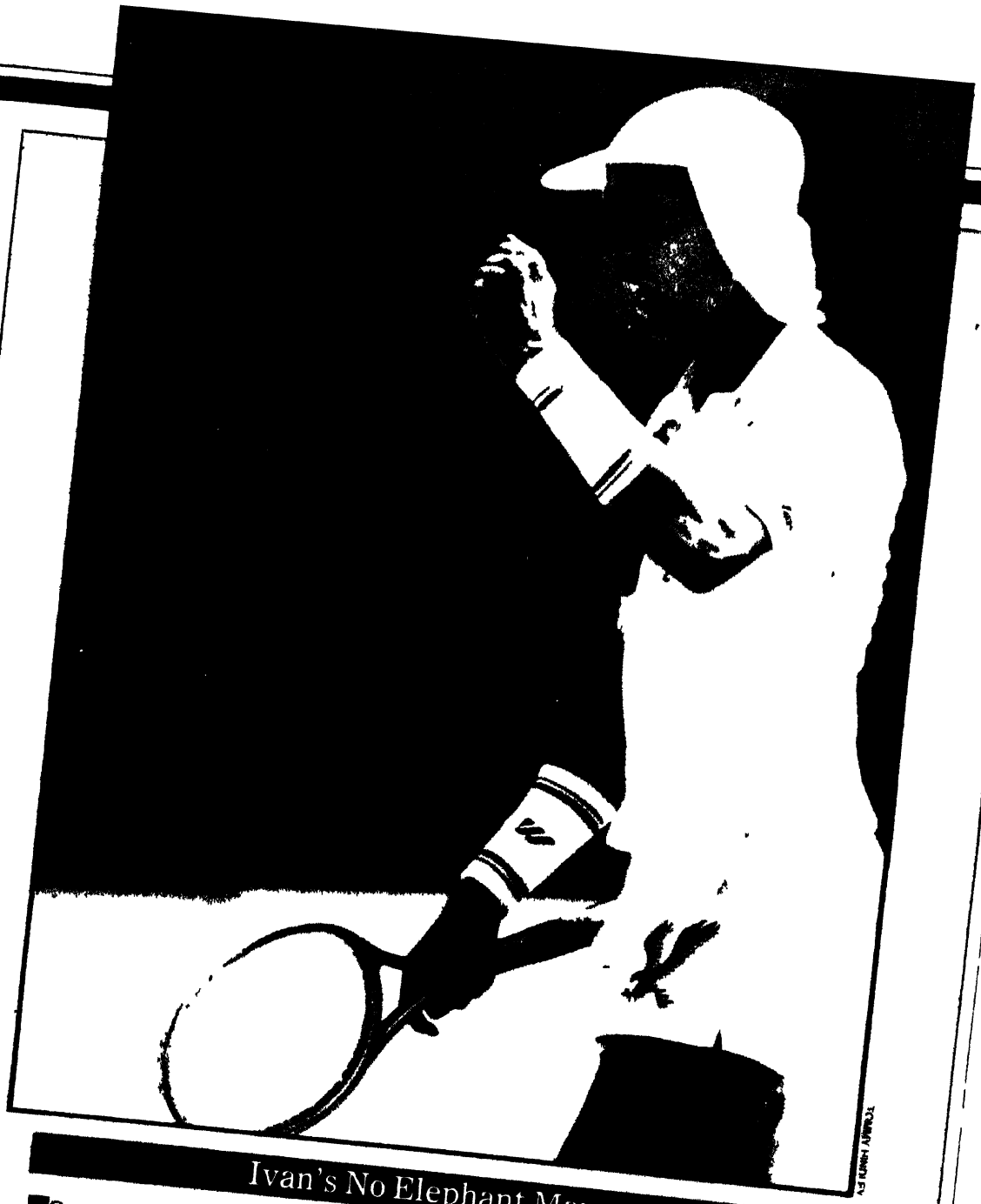
THE fire still burns for 28-year-old, former teen queen Tracy Austin, too After her surprising but brief 1989 comeback attempt was aborted by a car crash that seriously injured her leg, it was hard to imagine Austin ever playing competitively again

Since then Austin, who captivated sports fans by winning the U S Open at age 16, has been writing her autobiography, doing TV tennis commentary and decorating the house.

But that's not all "I work out daily with a trainer, doing things like running and swimming," she told *Sports Illustrated For Kids* "I'm hitting the tennis ball around, and I haven't given up dreaming of a pro career again "

TENNIS NOTES

Compiled by Paul Fein



TOMMY HINDLEY

Ivan's No Elephant Man

TO understand the complex Ivan Lendl, one must trace his driven personality back to his tough-willed, bullying mother Olga who reached No 2 in Czechoslovakia but blamed the birth of Ivan for never making No 1

"We never got along on the court," Lendl told Tony Schwartz of *New York* magazine "My father could always explain things to me With my mother, she would ask me to do something I wouldn't think was right, and I'd ask why, and she would get frustrated and just throw me off the court She would use force She didn't know how to make it fun "

Their contentious relationship continued at home where he refused to eat vegetables She insisted and would put a timer on the table, set it at 10 minutes and leave the room

"She'd say to me, 'If you don't eat, I'm going to call the zoo, and the elephant is going to come and get you,'" Lendl recalled "I was scared of the elephant So I always tried to push her as far as I could, but when it was a minute to go I would just swallow everything."



TOMMY HINDLEY

Connors' Fire Still Burns

BJORN BORG isn't the only Open era superstar making a comeback in 1991. Jimmy Connors, who lost the only three official matches he played last year and underwent successful wrist surgery in October, isn't ready or willing to retire at a young 38.

On the contrary, indestructible Jimbo proclaims: "My fire still burns. I love the game with a passion."

Connors insists he's not returning to his 20th year on the pro tour for the money or to win his 110th title. He is motivated though by the nostalgic prospect of re-igniting tennis enthusiasm in the U.S. as he did in the 1970s.

"Tennis is incredibly popular in Europe and Japan, but it's dropped off in the United States," he told Rick Weinberg of Sport magazine. "The public needs someone to grab on to, to take hold of them, like when me and (John) McEnroe were the best—and playing like it.

"Look at what happened at the U.S. Open. McEnroe *made* the Open. He made it what it was."

The Spirit Of Sport

FOR those of you who have lost faith in the gentility of our great sport or the younger generation or even human nature, I present heartening news from the Orange Bowl International Championships in Miami Beach, Florida.

Under the lights in nearly deserted Flamingo Park Hungary's Szabolcs Gelanyi and Peru's David Cardenas had tenaciously and skillfully battled to 2-all in the third set of their boys 18 first round match. Then with a stroke of bad luck Gelanyi broke the strings on his fourth and last racket.

After Gelanyi futilely searched his bag for a good racket he tried to leave the court. Chair umpire Joyce Siegel warned him that 'If you leave you're subject to default. The rules state that play must be continuous and 30 seconds are allowed between points.'

Gelanyi then asked two players who were spectating if he could borrow a racket but neither had one. His coach knowing the pro shop was closed said 'I just want him to finish the match.'

Siegel proceeded to give the frustrated Gelanyi a warning—"code violation, delay of game" and added, "You must play."

"Don't you understand I have no racket," pleaded Gelanyi.

"You must understand it is the rule," insisted Siegel.

At that point Cardenas unzipped his bag and sportingly gave the grateful Gelanyi his last racket.

"I wanted to win only by playing not by a walkover," Cardenas told me through an interpreter. "But the guy started playing much better with my racket. I thought why did I give it to him but I couldn't take it back then."

As fate would have it, the noble Cardenas finally prevailed 3-6 7-6 6-4.

Siegel a referee for 14 years, nominated Cardenas for the tournament sportsmanship award. 'It was one of the very best, if not the best displays of sportsmanship I've ever seen' she noted.

People Are Talking



HANA MANDLIKOVA, who retired from singles competition last June, predicting today's young stars will have much shorter careers than her generation. 'The girls are hitting the ball a lot harder and the level has improved so much, which makes it very difficult to stay on top these days. There is no much money and you get spoilt. I have never played for money. I played because I love the game and for the titles. The game has changed so much. It's frightening how well the young kids are hitting the ball. I don't think you will see much more of my style. Now, who hits the ball harder wins. There is no beauty anymore."

JACK KRAMER, on who really were the greatest players of all time. "Ellsworth Vines was the best. Nobody ever served better. He had really a great forehand. Who has the best forehand today? (Ivan) Lendl? I think Elly's forehand would make Lendl's become average. (Don) Budge and Vines were the best two players of their day and I don't think I've seen anyone who could beat them. Gonzales, Laver, Rosewall, Hoad, Borg, Connors, McEnroe, Lendl, Becker, Edberg. I think Vines—and Budge—would have cleaned up on anybody. Just take it from me, if Elly Vines and his game were playing this circuit, he would win more money than anybody else."

ITF JUNIOR TOURNAMENT, JAIPUR

Perpetuating A Farce

India hosts an international tournament but manages a single foreign entry

THE All India Tennis Association (AITA) should use its imagination before bidding for any international junior world ranking tournament in future The Grade V ITF world junior ranking tourney held at Jaipur managed to attract just one foreign entry

A Grade V world ranking tournament offers low ITF points and thus does not attract the best of junior talent One wondered if Leander Paes would have played here, had he not gone to Bangkok to play the Davis Cup tie, because this tournament offered just 30 ITF points to the singles winner

"The AITA should ensure what grade of tournament it is bidding for Countries like Sri Lanka, Phillipines, Thailand and South Korea hold higher grade tournaments and they attract good entries Good class of overseas participation provide good contests and experience for our youngsters Although we had confirmed entries from Poland and Malaysia, the Gulf war came as an obstacle and there were last minute withdrawals" said Mr Dilip Shivpuri, the tournament director of the Jaipur tournament

The rift between the AITA and BAT (Brittania Amritraj Tennis) also surfaced during this tournament and the BAT management after having confirmed their entries a month in advance, decided to stay away and instead sent a team to Colombo where a Grade IV ITF tournament was played "How could any national or international tournament do well when this is the attitude of the players" said Mr Surendra Golecha, president of Rajasthan Tennis Association in a complaining tone

Bombay s Vinod Ramachandran, who has an impressive ITF ranking of 164 also pulled out and the organisers were left with entertaining a German, Thomas Stephan Winkler, whose ITF ranking stood at 347 While the boys event required a qualifying round with good number of entries from neighbouring



Rohit Reddy showed fine tactical sense to win the boy's title

states, the girl's events required no qualifying round.

Rohit Reddy, who was given top billing proved his worth as he went on to clinch the title which earned him 30 ITF points. Reddy ended the giant-killing spree of Nitin Kirtane in the final with an easy straight set victory.

Divya Merchant, the tiny Bombay girl, who was seeded fourth, demolished Sulaxmi Jadhav of Pune, the conqueror of the top-seed and national champion Anuradha Reddy, in the final.

The tall and athletic built Winkler impressed with his booming serves in the preliminary rounds. The German made his maiden appearance on grass and was forced to adjust his game accordingly. He harassed Delhi's Ankush Parashar with his booming serves and powerful volleys in the first round, but T.S. Sathyanarayanan gave him a fright in the next round. But, it was Nitin Kirtane, who toppled the second seed German 6-0, 6-2 in only 45 minutes in the quarter-finals. Thus the German, who came with big hopes could return with just five ITF points.

Winkler's forte was his powerful service and once that was broken it became easy to dominate him. Kirtane just did that.

Rohit Reddy, who is a baseline specialist put out Anand Sukumar with an excellent serve and volley game to storm into the semi-finals. Nirupama Vaidyanathan, the seventh seed created an upset when she downed Janaki Krishnamurthy, the second seed in the quarter-finals. But, Nirupama's journey ended in the semi-finals when an inconsistent Divya beat her 7-6(7-4), 6-7 (3-7), 6-1 in a 115 minute epic battle.

Yet, it was Sulaxmi Jadhav of Pune, who set the Jai Club courts on fire in the second semi-finals upsetting top-seed Aradhana Reddy who after a hard-fought victory over talented Sahiba Chaddah in the quarter-finals succumbed to pressure against Sulaxmi.

The penultimate day saw one more head roll as eighth seed Nitin toppled fourth seed Sandeep Kirtane 6-3, 4-6, 6-3. The powerful left-hander served well and with his swift movements on the court outplayed his cousin.

However, the finals were an abject surrender in both boy's and the girl's singles

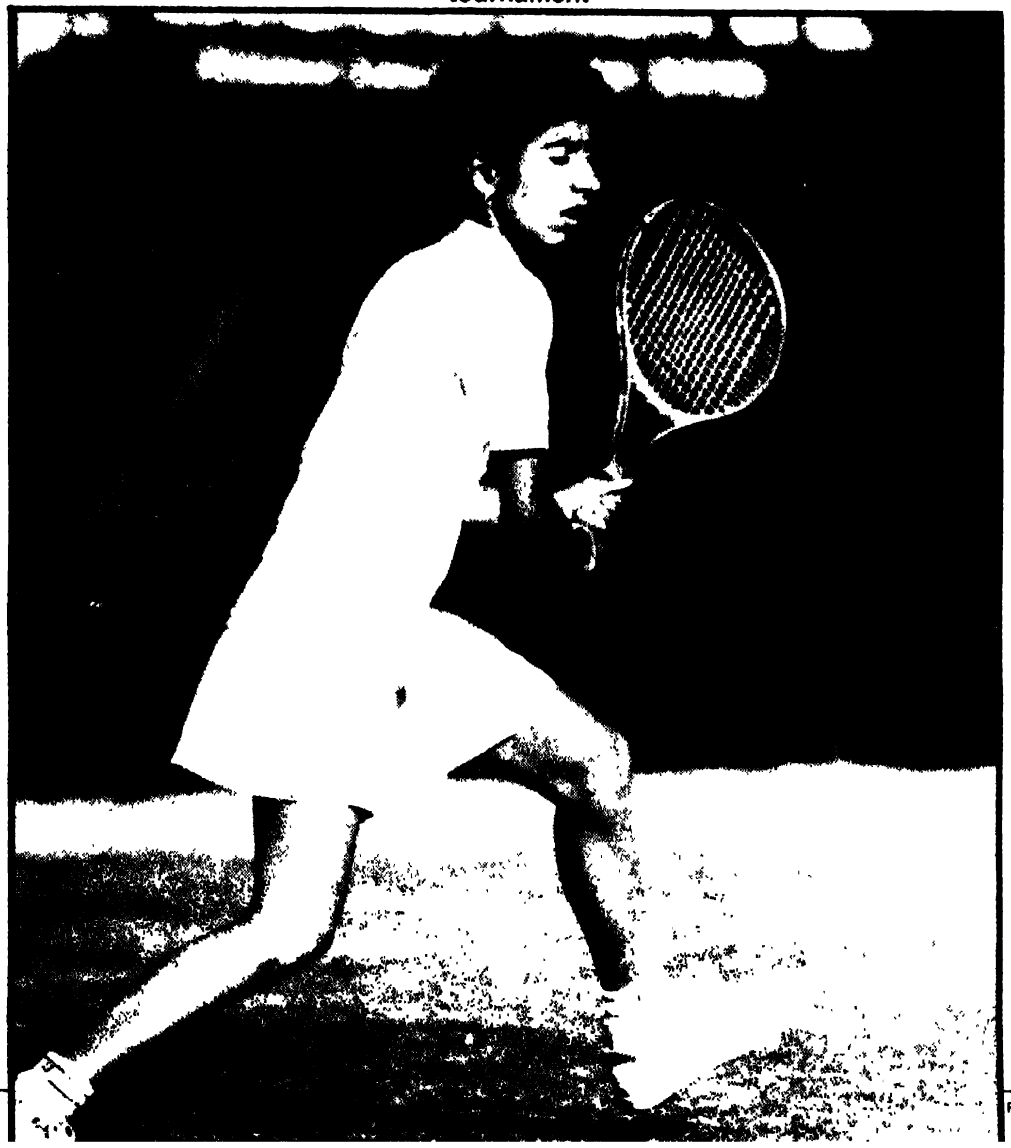
Nitin, who suffered stomach cramps during his semi-finals against Sandeep was not in his best form in the final. Dehydrated, he hardly posed any challenge to Reddy, who served and volleyed fluently to clinch the title in 55 minutes.

Reddy won another 20 ITF points after clinching the doubles title. Paired with Mahesh Bhoopathy, he registered a comfortable 6-2, 7-5 victory against the Kirtane duo of Sandeep and Nitin.

In the girls final, an erratic Sulaxmi committed too many errors against the tiny Divya in the final. Jadhav's usually effective backhand returns let her down. Divya served with patience and precision and waited for her chance which helped her win the crown.

P.B. Chandra

Divya Merchant, patient as always upset the seeding during the tournament



PHOTOGRAPHS KAMAL JULKA

KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND

COMING to the end of this *kata*, go into a left *kokutsu-dachi* while performing a *mawashi-uki* with the left hand. Then, stepping forward with the right leg placed at a 45° angle, perform another *mawashi-uki* with the right hand. Now, swivel around 135° going into right *kokutsu-dachi* and performing a *mawashi-uki* with the right hand. Then step forward with the left leg (remember the 45° angle twist of the leg) and perform another left hand. After all this, go into *mokso* and then finish of in *yoi*.

By Shivaji Ganguly
Kyokushinkaikan karate

PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA

Go into left kokutsu-dachi, performing left mawashi-uki



Step forward into right kokutsu-dachi, performing right mawashi-uki





Swivel 135° and go into right kokutsu-dachi, performing right mawashi-uki

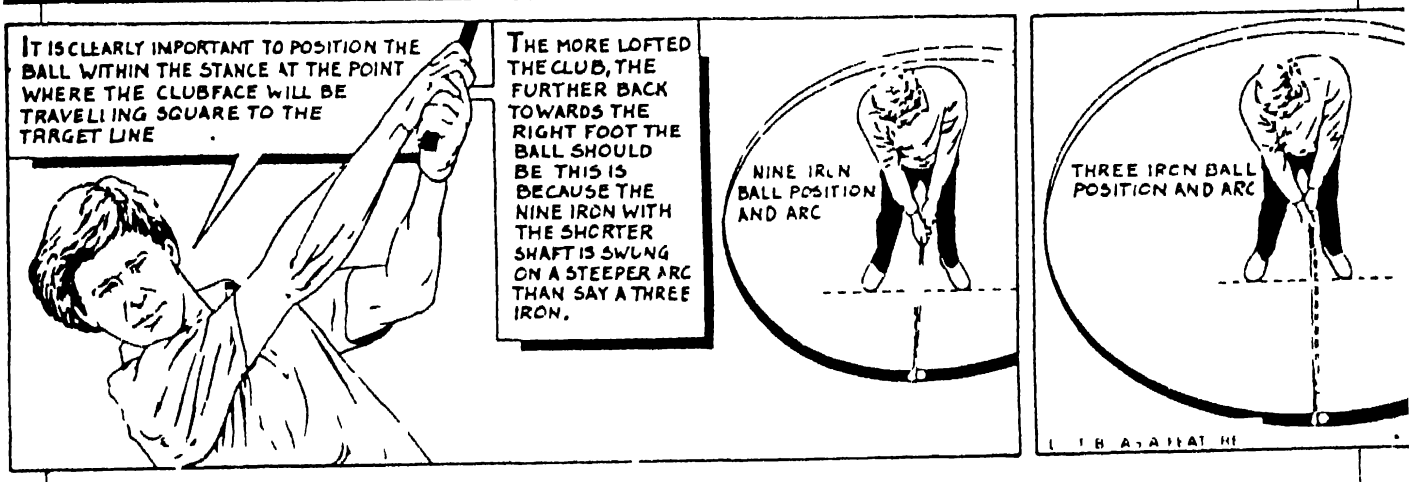


Step forward into left kokutsu-dachi, performing left mawashi-uki

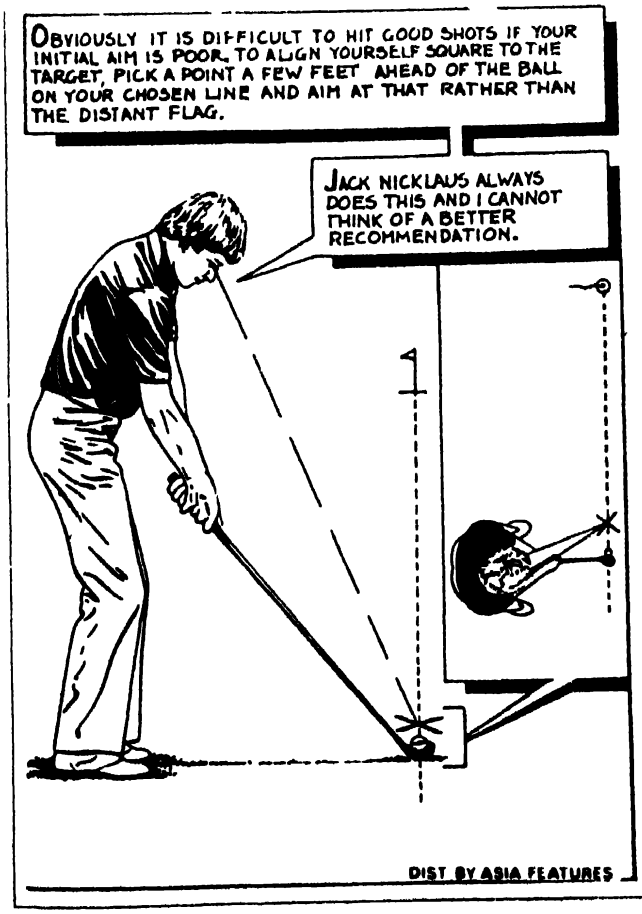
THE FALDO FORMULA

FROM TEE TO GREEN

The Ball Position



Line up Straight



Waggle the Club



SOCCER VIOLENCE

The Neopolitan Way

LIFE zips along at full clip. So do the hilarious moments in sport. Like, for instance, the incident that took place in the Italian football league.

A second division match between Pietraclina and Sant' Angelo Cupolo was in progress near Naples...venue of the most violent happenings that take place in Italian soccer. Sant' Angelo were leading 2-0 with 15 minutes left for the final whistle when the referee sent off one of the Pietraclina players. So incensed was this unfortunate individual by this incident that he attacked the guardian of the game. The referee fled, hotly pursued by the furious player. Their path taking them out of the stadium.

Then...disaster. The player, in his blind rage, ran straight into a motorbike. The total damage being a badly injured arm, an equally hurt leg and a stint in hospital.

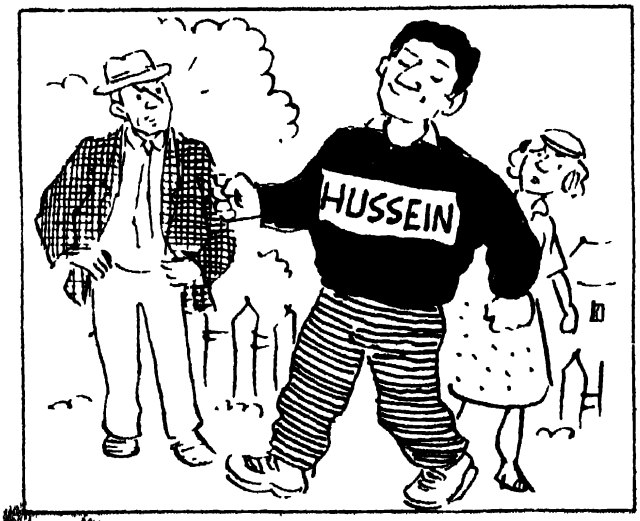
Just goes to prove that referees are God's chosen men. They get away with anything...well, almost.



WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Read And Find Out

DEARBORN, MICHIGAN is a town which serves as home for many children of Arab extraction. So—quite naturally—one would expect them to have Arab names. That is the general feeling, but in this day and age it is okay to have any Arab name, bar one...Hussein!



The complaints came in fast and furious when a high school wrestler paraded about in a tracksuit with 'Hussein' written on it. "She didn't think it was appropriate," said a spokesman for the *Detriot Times*, who was quoting a parent. "Well, that's the kid's name," he argued.

So, what's in a name?
With a name like Hussein in trouble-torn times like this, plenty. Even in the relatively peaceful world of sport.

WORLD CUP IN INDIA!

Maybe, Maybe Not

THIS might mean taking a slight deviation from the concept of patriotism but one cannot help but smirk at the thought of India bidding to host the 1998 World Cup soccer finals. The thought itself is taboo.

Eight countries, including India, have declared an interest in hosting the 1998 World Cup soccer tournament. India has even submitted an application Need we remind the applicants that though an event of such magnitude may floor us fellow countrymen, they must nevertheless exercise some caution.

True, the people of the country have a better knowledge of the game than, say, the Americans. But unlike the Americans, we lack the infrastructure as well as a talented soccer side. The Yanks even played in the last World Cup! We, on the other hand, are not talented enough to take part in Asian level competitions. Wouldn't a move like this be bordering on hypocrisy? Or is this the only way to see India in World Cup soccer competition?

Risky Business

FIFA's experiment to ask the USA to host the next World Cup does not make sense The USA is a country that does not understand the game of football Spectators there do not understand the game at all It is like holding a World Series Cricket in China or the Soviet Union Reasons like promotion of the game hold good only in a country where the people at least appreciate the game When the whole world put aside everything for Italia '90 only 9% of the US watched the proceedings, despite being represented in the tournament Soccer needs spectators who can identify themselves with the game It needs spectators who get involved in the game This cannot for sure be expected from the Americans If only FIFA could still do something
S SURESH,
Madurai

Surprising

IT was surprising to read the cover story on John McEnroe Though it was good reading it does not merit such coverage as there are upcoming, promising and more illustrious players who deserve some coverage These players also possess the charisma though they may not be super brats
ARTA MISHRA
Cuttack

Thanks!

THANKS a lot for the superb cover story on John McEnroe and Pat Cash (23 - 29th Jan '91) When I flipped through the pages I was really delighted Hope you will give us more stories like that and looking forward to some other interesting biographies
SANGEETA BARUAH,
Assam

A Clarification

I HAD the opportunity to read an article, namely, Shatranj Ki Khilari, by Robin Chatterjee, published in the year-end issue (*Sportsworld* 26 Dec-3 Jan). The writer was quoted as saying that, "Anand now aims to break into the top 10 in the world and then five "

The magazine *Desh*, an esteemed Bengali weekly that is also a part of the Ananda Bazar Patrika group had published an article by V Anand himself, wherein Anand claimed to be the seventh ranked player in the world showing supporting statistics released by Elo It shows that Robin Chatterjee was caught napping being unable to furnish details while restricting his views as if Anand would still be vying to break into the top 10

B ROY
Bombay

Robin Chatterjee replies:

Till the time our issue (Sportsworld 26 Dec—3 Jan) went to press Anand had still not managed to break into the top 10 in the chess world Till the time he met GM Alexey Dreev for the Candidates match Anand was ranked 14 and he reconfirmed this fact when our correspondent met him at Madras during the match I stand by my facts

Congratulations!

HEARTY congratulations to Dibyendu Barua on his becoming the second GM in India after V Anand He has done the world of sport proud by rising to the pinnacle of success by his endeavour and never-say-die attitude Had he got the right environment and the remuneration from the start, he would have got to the top much earlier We wish him all the best
BIJAN BANDYOPADHYAY,
Calcutta

Give him a break

WITH Mr Scindia as the BCCI president, team selections should be done on the basis of merit as he had said before he got elected If that is the criteria, then Saurav Ganguly should definitely be in the Indian team He can give some much needed variety to the batting line-up and if his recent performances are any indications, then he is sure to go far Sachin, Sanjay and Saurav are the guys to watch out for in Indian cricket
PRABAL GUHA,
Assam

Purposeful

THE victory chase by England in the third and, particularly, the fourth Test was amazing There was the glimmer of hope initially, but it was not surprising that the series ended the way it did Only Gooch batted with purpose and exhibited the necessary drive but it was sad that he could not bring about a victory for the English team
B S VISWANATH,
Bangalore

Dibyendu Barua: an example of exemplary endeavour


RAJESH KUMAR

CALCUTTA

MRF Inter-Club Meet

IT'S only in Calcutta that one will find these kind of events. People out here are so sports-crazy that no opportunity, either to participate or watch sport, is missed The recently concluded fourth MRF Inter-club Championships was just another case in point.

Over the last three years, the enthusiasm for this multi sport meet between the different social clubs of the city failed to gather as much momentum as the Inter-club carnival held at the Saturday Club every summer. But this year the MRF meet organised by the Calcutta Cricket and Football Club was different There were all indications that these championships have come of age The organisation was far more sleek and the general enthusiasm towards the entire meet was very encouraging sight.

After a week of active sports which saw as many as 600 participants from some 16 clubs participating, the Club Championship was won by the Saturday Club for the third year in a row. Second was the host club CC&FC, followed by Dalhousie Institute.

The disciplines included double wicket cricket, five-a-side hockey, golf, tennis, badminton, rowing, snooker, darts and bridge. Some very exciting matches were witnessed particularly in the hockey final where Rangers Club eventually prevailed over Dalhousie Institute and in the cricket which saw the CC&FC pair of Navendu Mathur and Ajay Rathod beat the Saturday Club team of Naresh Ojha and Joydeep Mukherjee

A Correspondent

MANGALORE

Varsity Basketball

KAVERY Women's College, Virajpet beat arch rivals Cauvery College, Gonikoppal 35-18 in the final of the Mangalore University inter-collegiate women's basketball tournament held here recently

Anita C (9) and Kavitha B.M (10) were the top scorers for the winning team, while Vimala Ganapathi (8) played well for the runners up

Michael R. Patrao



RASHEED KIDWAI

NEW DELHI

Chief Guest, Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi with the members of Shivaji house of Modern School. They won the 'best house award' on their annual sports day.

JUNAGADH

Girnar Climbing Contest

GIRNAR is the holiest —as well as the most famous—of all Gujarat's mountains. For tourists as well as pilgrims, there is nothing more exciting than climbing Girnar. Therefore, the scene was one of vigorous physical exercise as mountaineers—aged between 18 and 30—enthusiastically participated in the nonpareil Girnar ascending and descending contest held in early February.

The contest, sponsored by State Bank of Saurashtra and managed by Junagadh's Bahauddin Arts & Science College, started exactly at 7 a.m. The first batch of fourteen ran 77 metres from the starting line to reach the mountain steps for the climb and at an interval of five minutes 5 such teams followed

Hundreds of people thronged all through the route of 5500 steps) or 3666 feet high from the sea level, if you like) which cuts the distance to Ambaji one of the top peaks of Girnar—by over two miles Their constant cheers and encouragement spurring the sportsmen on. To help the climbers, several wireless sets and medical camps were set up throughout the route.

By completing the feat in 1 hour, 7 minutes and 13 seconds, 26-year-old Atul Joshi pocketed the first prize. Unfortunately, the ITI student and winner of Nehru and Gandhi awards in athletics could not surpass the record created by Devsi Ambalia, who clocked 56 minutes and 29 seconds way back in 1979.

Naran Chavda clocked 67 minutes and 38 seconds and won the second prize. He was followed by Sajan Dangar, who came down one minute and fourteen seconds behind. The others were also given consolation prizes. While one sustained a slight injury in a fall, three retired in the middle of the expedition itself.

Haresh Pandya

GUWAHATI

Football Academy

ASSAM has a new football academy. Located at the Monabarie Tea Estate and sponsored by Macneil and Magor, one of the largest tea-holding companies in the area, the academy is called the Macneil and Magor Football Academy. And it was inaugurated on Feb.3 by Bhaskar Barua, the additional chief secretary of the State.



RKVED

The Macneill and Magor football academy in Assam

Shyam Thapa, the noted former football player from Calcutta and the coach of Bengal, has been hired as the chief coach of the Academy. He will be guiding, to start off with, only the boys from amongst the staff and labour or their children employed by the 52 tea estates in and around Assam, Darjeeling and the Dooars.

Benoy Sen

GURGAON

National Women's Hockey

GLEAMING Marutis stacked up in hunky multi-tiered trailer-trucks, mustard fields in their yellow blooming best, and opulent red-brick farmhouses greeted the 23 teams that gathered in Gurgaon, Haryana, for the 44th National Women's Hockey Championship.



PANKAJ SHARMA

The jubilant Railway team: winners of the national women's hockey championships

The eight-day tourney saw the defending champions Railways finish head-and-shoulders above all others to extend their lease on the Lady Ratan Tata Cup for the 12th consecutive year.

Star-spangled Railways, fielding eight internationals, began their campaign with an emphatic 16 0 win over Vidharbha, ace centre-forward Madhu Yadav pumping in eight goals, including a double hat-trick. The champions then ran into problems, being held to a 1-1 draw by a tough Combined Universities squad. Railways notched up the quarter-final berth only by the skin of their teeth, beating the university girls on a better goal-difference.

Railways then pipped doughty Bihar 1-0, setting up a semi-final clash against Bombay. Madhu Yadav again starred in her side's convincing 4-1 win, with a sparkling hat-trick within the first 18 minutes of the match.

The final saw Railways and their challengers, Air India, matched at 1-1 at half time, thanks to goals from outside-left Anita and Air India inside-right Jamuna Belappa. However, the second session found the aggressive Railways forward line totally decimating the rival defence, which conceded the matchwinner to inside-right Angela D'sa.

The Railway's trump card Madhu Yadav topped the scorer's scroll, with a dozen goals to her credit, including three hat-tricks.

The third place in the championship went to Bombay, who outplayed Pepsu 3-0 in the play-off between the losing semi-finalists.

Two young squads that impressed during the tournament were those of the Combined Universities and the hosts, Haryana. Universities displayed superb fighting qualities in their 1-1 draw against Railways. Their goalkeeper B.N. Hemalatha and defender Sandeep Kaur kept the marauding Railways forward-line at bay for most part of the match, denying them space to manoeuvre. Hemlatha was later adjudged the best goalkeeper of the tournament.

Among the highlights of the tournament were the decision by the Indian Women's Hockey Federation to have an all-female cast of umpires for the first time. Another refreshing change was the accent on greater benefits and comforts to the players themselves. The members of the winning Railways side carried home a refrigerator each, while each member of the runner-up Air India squad was presented with a geyser.

Last,but certainly not the least was the encouraging presence of a large number of spectators, who thronged the Nehru Stadium to witness the matches -- a world of difference from the dreary emptiness of the concrete stands in Delhi's giant stadia.

A Correspondent

HYDERABAD

National Women's Festival

PUNJAB eves dominated the 15th national women's festival claiming the overall team championship by collecting 33 points Andhra Pradesh and Bengal followed the leaders with 21 and 17 points respectively.

The festival was a big boost to Karnataka's Lorraine Verghese who set two new meet records and carried home three gold medals in the swimming events Having missed the nationals at Bombay last year, Lorraine came back with a bang in the 200 metres freestyle clocking 2 minutes 24.22 secs to set a new meet mark. Her compatriot Meghana Narayana picked up silver Lorraine's second gold came in the 100 metres backstroke when she timed 1 min 17.25 secs

The Karnataka lass once again plunged into the pool to set another record in the 200 metres individual medley clocking 2.44.47 secs. Farnaz Engineer also from Karnataka took the second spot, while Urmila Chetri of Bengal got the third place with a time of 2.55.63 secs.

Another girl who showed her prowess in the meet was Amandeep Kaur of Punjab She bagged a golden double by firstly throwing the shot put to a distance of 13.21 metres. Earlier, the stocky Amandeep despatched the discus to 41.29 mtrs to pocket a gold. Chaya Karandikar of Madhya Pradesh (37.20 mtrs) and Rajwinder Kaur of Punjab (36.96 mtrs) stood second and third

Alphonso Ryan of Tamil Nadu emerged as the third force to bag a couple of gold medals on the track on the second day of the meet The upcoming girl set new records in 400 & 800 metres. In the 800m she led the bunch right from the start to claim the first gold with a time of 2 13.8 secs, thus erasing the old mark set by Hamida Banu in 1981. Suresh Bala (Delhi) and Mandeep Kaur (Punjab) romped home with a silver and bronze respectively.

Alphonso Ryan added one more gold to her kitty in the 400 mtrs outclassing Inderjit Kaur and Mandeep Kaur, both of Punjab in 57.5 secs.

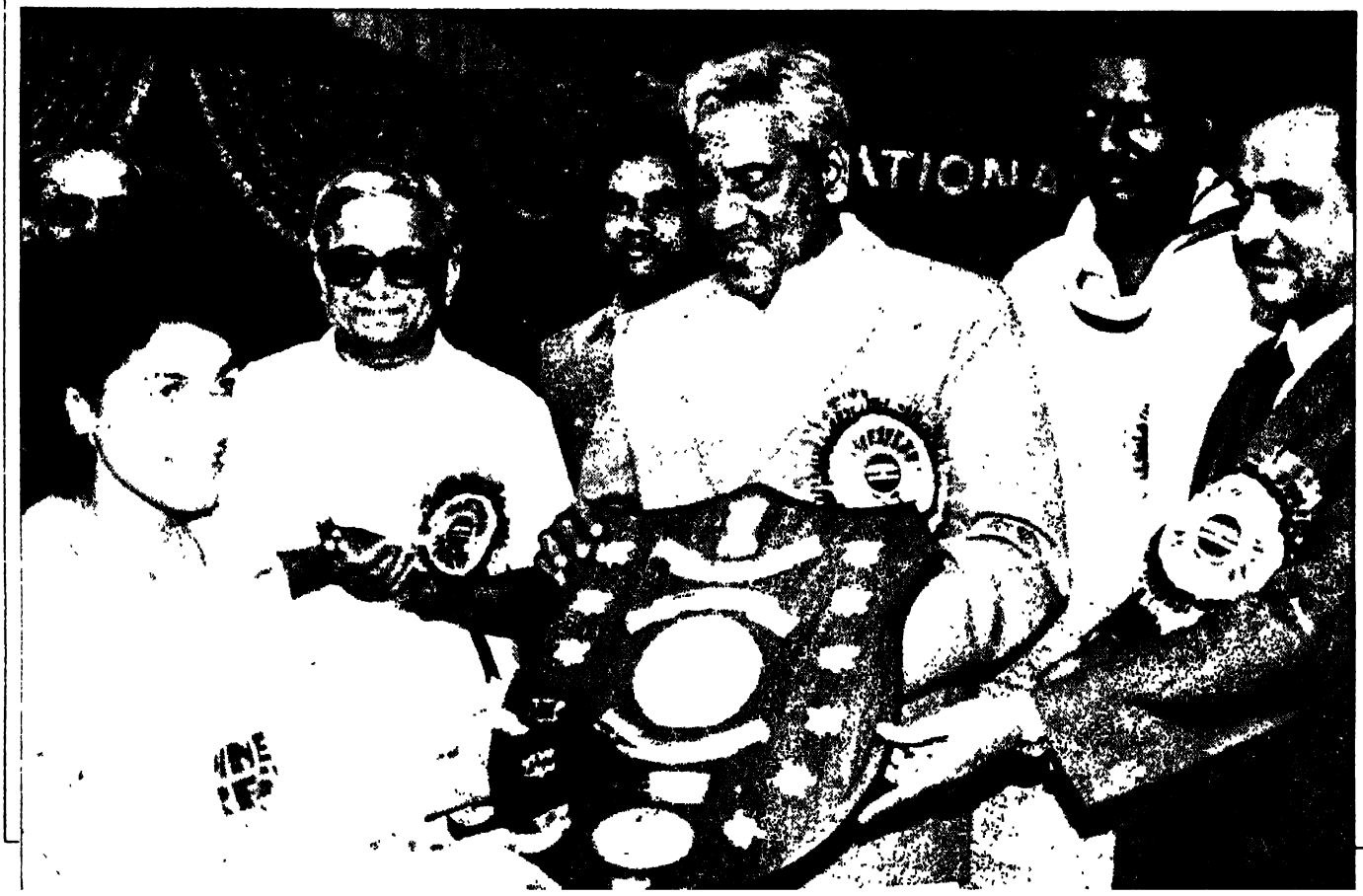
A fourth force in the form of Suresh Bala came to the fore when she bagged a grand double in the 3000 and 1500 mtrs.

National high jump record holder Angela Lincy soared to a height of 1.67 mtrs to win the gold. But she failed in her attempt to set a new mark at 1 72 mtrs. Pushpa Ekka (Bihar) won a gold in the javelin throw event by hurling the spear to 43 10 mtrs. Sushma Behera of Orissa (39.96) and B A Bhagirathi, Karnataka claimed the bronze.

In the other team events, Tamil Nadu with 80 points took the championship in athletics, while Bengal with 1238.55 points earned the trophy in gymnastics The tennis title went Andhra Pradesh's way when they beat Chandigarh 2-1 The host's also claimed the badminton crown.

A Correspondent

Lorraine Verghese collecting the trophy for swimming in the National Women's festival



AHMEDABAD

Women's Chess

SHE is a precocious girl She has an intellectual's penchant for the most brainy of all games At 11, Zeal Mehta, a student of Ahmedabad's Sharda Mandir, has virtually conquered everything in sight so far as women's chess in Gujarat is concerned Zeal lived up to her name on the board in the recently-concluded Gujarat State Women's Chess Championship, organised by the Gujarat Chess Association, at the Gujarat club

Winning all of her four matches and securing a great number of points in the process Zeal won the women's title She also pocketed the sub-junior girls' and the junior girls' titles It was one hell of a performance from one so tender in age, considering there were many seasoned campaigners in the fray

Besides Zeal, the other lasses to impress were Yesha Mehta Gopi Shah and Usha Shah

Haresh Pandya

BANGALORE

SBM Trophy

STATE Bank of India (SBI) made a hattrick by retaining the SBM trophy beating arch rivals Syndicate Bank by 19 runs in the 3rd State Bank of Mysore invitational cricket tournament held here recently under the auspices of the Karnataka State Cricket Association

SBI made 199 runs for 9 wickets in 42 overs The runs included a 107-run partnership of Arjun Raja (44) and B Raghunath (54), besides 42 runs from skipper Roger Binny Syndicate Bank scored 180 runs for 7 wickets in 42 overs, with Rajesh Kamath scoring 53 and Sudhakar Rao (31)

Earlier in the semi-finals of this 24-team meet, Syndicate Bank beat Indian Telephone Industries by 6 wickets and SBI beat Central Excise by 23 runs

Ralph F. Patrao



LALITKUMAR SHAH

PUNE

All India Gazukai

Vispy Kapadia (right), receives the 6th Dan Black Belt from Hanshi Goshi Yamaguchi, 8th Dan Black Belt during the All India Gazukai.

Roger Binny, skipper of the State Bank of India, receiving the SBM Trophy from Mrs. S. Ramesh, wife of the State Minister for Sports



BANGALORE

Bagpiper Gold Derby

A STAR Reborn! Star Contender dubbed suspect over a staying trip after being humiliated by Captain Eo in the South Indian Derby in early January redeemed himself with a stunning display of stamina and turn of foot to lift the prestigious 2400 metre Bagpiper Gold 1991 Bangalore Derby, the blue riband of the season run last month Star Contender easily had the measure of Delage, clocking a smart time of 2 min 32 8 secs

The fast pace till the final bend proved to be of no consequence, as the race actually began only after heads turned for home Though ten had faced the starter, it was virtually a two-horse affair between Star Contender and Delage The rest were outclassed

Vasant Shinde, just three short of a century of classic winners, desperately tried a one-two and smoothly drove Delage to the front passing the 400 But he had no answer to the onslaught of Star Contender who was put in to top gear by a cool and confident Robin Corner The outcome was clear and Shinde though driving out strongly failed to contain a challenger who was running well within himself

In fact, had Corner not been in danger of being hampered by the riderless Alberetto who dislodged his rider Mallesh Narredu passing the 2000 while he was making his challenge in the middle the length and a quarter verdict would surely have been much bigger

The sizzling display of Star Contender not only did his owner Dr M A M Ramaswamy Dr C S Poonawalla and Z S Poonawalla proud, but he also dispelled and cast aside all doubts regarding his staying abilities

The rejuvenated form of Star Contender speaks volumes of the capabilities of his schooler Jim Foley who brought him back into winning form after his Guindy debacle

Warner Williams



Star Contender with Robin Corner in the saddle in the winner's box flanked by (Right to Left): Jim Foley, Dr M.A. M. Ramaswamy (joint owner) Mr Z.S. Poonawalla and Mrs Behroze Poonawalla (joint owner) after the Bagpiper Gold Derby race.

BANGALORE

Public Sector basketball

ONGC Dehra Dun defeated an equally competent host team, Indian Telephone Industries (ITI) Sports Club, 66-44 in the final of the All India Public Sector basketball tournament held here recently

Ashokan (10), Ajit Pal (13) and Kushwinder (10) were the main scorers for ONGC, while Vasudevan (15) and Ramanathan (12) played well for ITI

Earlier in the semi-finals ONGC edged out a fighting Neyveli Lignite Corporation 58-54, while ITI trounced Bharat Electronics Ltd 67 36

Ralph F. Pêtro

MADRAS

Thums Up Trophy

SANTHOME Higher Secondary School were the best of 75 school teams when they finished on top in the popular annual Thumps Up Vinoo Mankad inter school competition conducted in the city last month

Santhome has so far won the tournament seven times in eight years, the last six in succession This year, in addition to the Trophy, Santhome also won Rs 10,000 prize money awarded by the sponsors Chennai Bottling Company

Runners up, St Michaels Matriculation HSS took Rs 7500 The third prize of Rs 5000 went to RKM (Main) HSS while PS Higher Secondary school finished fourth and won Rs 2500

This year, the tournament was conducted on a knock out cum round robin basis Up to the quarter finals, the tournament was conducted on a knock out basis From the semi-final, the competition was conducted on a round robin with the team finishing on top being declared the winner

Individual awards went to S Krishnan C P S Siva (who shared the best batsman award) and Raghuram Das who won the best bowler prize

Partab Ramchand

TRIVANDRUM

G. V. Raja Tennis

TOPSEEDED K Sankar of Kerala State Electricity Board emerged the champion in the 14th G V Raja Memorial All Kerala Tennis Tournament

In the men s finals played at the Trivandrum Tennis Club K Sankar beat A Ajayakumar 6 2 6 7 6 3 in a stiff battle Earlier in the semis Sankar blanked out Anil Mathew 6 1 6 2 and Ajayakumar defeated Vijayakumar 6 1 6 3

Arathi Sasidharan continued her supremacy in the women s section defeating C Indu 6 1 6 4 in the finals

Sankar also won the doubles title when he defeated the Ajayakumar Ramesh combination 6 2 6 3 in Partnership with K Vijayakumar

In the junior boys finals Hemanth Santhosh rallied to beat Jaykumar 3 6 6 1 6 0 While Hemanth went down to Binumani 6 7 6 0 6 4 in the boys (U 10) finals

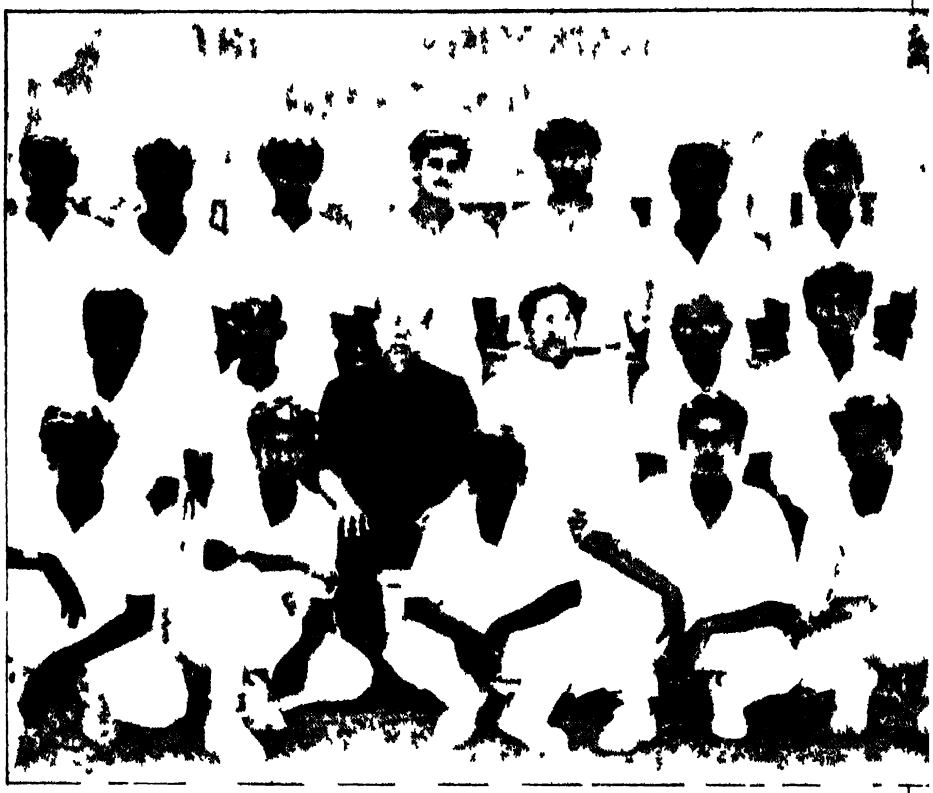
Sajeev Kumar T. K.

HYDERABAD

Limca Open Chess

VETERAN International Master Arun Bhasker Vaidya of Maharashtra annexed the coveted Limca Trophy with 9 points out of a possible 10 conceding just two draws to IM

International Master A. B. Vaidya receiving the Limca Open chess trophy from Mr. J. Seshagiri, MD, Hyderabad Bottling Company



San Thome Higher Secondary School were the winners of the Thums Up Inter-school cricket tournament

Ravi Sekhar and V B Adhikari (Mahal)

The second place went to IM Raja Ravi Sekhar who scored 8 10 losing only to M B Muralidharan (TN) who finished third with 7 5 points

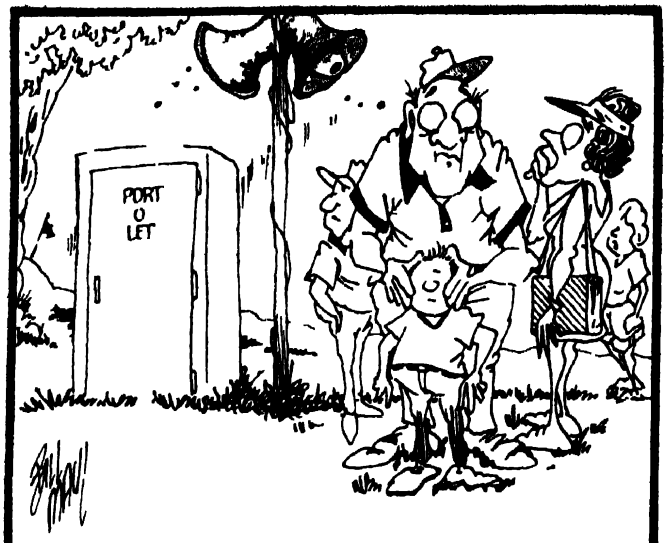
The local star and former National Junior Champion PDS Girinath who lost to Vaidya in the final round got fourth place on the tie breaker with 7 5 points

In a colourful function Mr J Seshagiri Rao MD Hyd Bottling Co gave away the cash awards

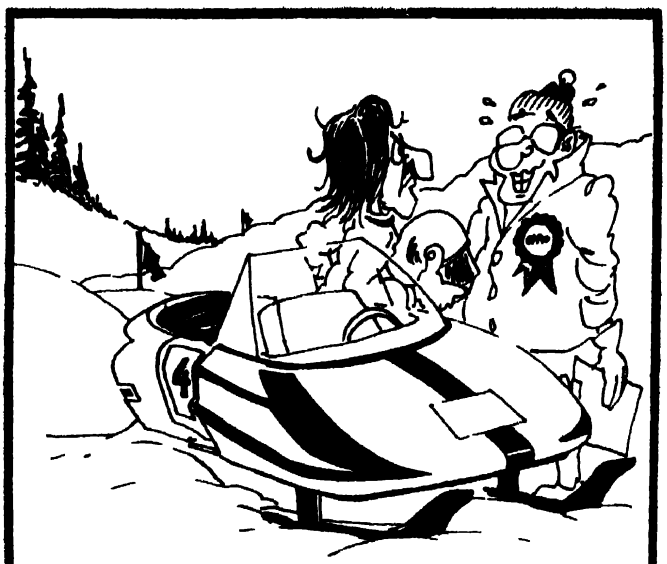
N. Ghalib



SPORTS HALL OF SHAME — BY NASH & ZULLO



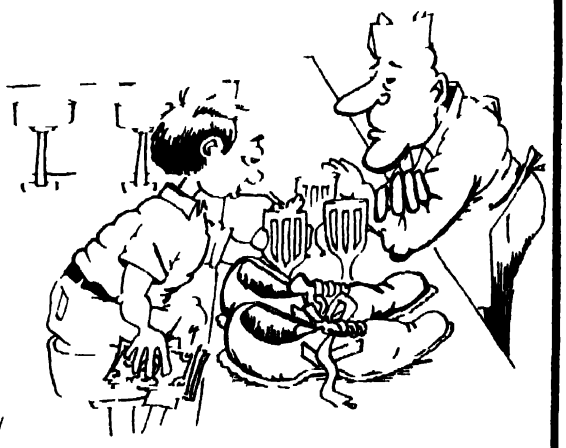
PRO FOOTBALL QUARTERBACK **JIM McMAHON** PROVIDED SOME UNPLANNED BATHROOM HUMOR WHEN HE WAS CAUGHT WITH HIS PANTS DOWN DURING A 1989 CELEBRITY GOLF TOURNAMENT! THE PARTICIPANTS WORE LIVE MICROPHONES AT THE PRO-CELEBRITY SKINS GAME IN SUBURBAN CHICAGO! THE GALLERY WAS TREATED TO STRANGE SOUNDS AND OFF-COLOR REMARKS WHEN THE MIKED McMAHON VISITED THE RESTROOM IN THE MIDDLE OF HIS GOLF GAME!



NO WOMEN WERE ALLOWED TO COMPETE IN A MEN'S 1969 SNOWMOBILE RACE AT SAULT STE. MARIE, MICH! SO WHEN **RACE OFFICIALS** SPOTTED WHAT THEY THOUGHT WAS A WOMAN RACER, THEY FLAGGED DOWN THE SNOWMOBILER! THE "SHE" TURNED OUT TO BE A HE! THE OFFICIALS WERE RED-FACED WHEN RACER TOM LEZOVICH REMOVED HIS HELMET AND SHOOK HIS LONG HAIR IN DISGUST!



IN 1983 THE SEATTLE BREAKERS TRADED THE WESTERN HOCKEY LEAGUE RIGHTS OF PLAYER **TOM MARTIN** TO VICTORIA - FOR A TEAM BUS! *I DIDN'T THINK THAT MUCH ABOUT IT AT THE TIME,* REMARKED MARTIN *BUT IT WAS A REAL NICE BUS*



AFTER ATLANTA HAWKS CENTER MOSES MALONE ARRIVED FOR A GAME WITH THE DETROIT PISTONS IN 1989 HE REALIZED HE HAD LEFT HIS SNEAKERS BACK AT THE HOTEL! MOSES PAID A BALL BOY $10 TO RUSH BACK TO HIS ROOM AND FETCH HIS PLAYING SHOES! BUT THE YOUNGSTER FAILED TO RETURN IN TIME AND MALONE WAS FORCED TO PLAY IN AN UNCOMFORTABLE PAIR OF SHOES HE HAD BORROWED FROM A TEAMMATE! MALONE LATER DISCOVERED THAT THE PISTONS' **SCOTT HASTINGS** HAD INTERCEPTED THE BALL BOY AND BRIBED HIM WITH $20 TO TAKE HIS TIME!

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1 For which football team did Ian Botham play?
2 What is common to Graeme Pollock, John Edrich and Allan Border?
3 What is common to Wally Hammond, Mike Procter and Zaheer Abbas?
4 What is common to George Headley Vinoo Mankad and Colin Cowdrey?
5 Henri is the middle name of an English post-War Test cricketer whose debut year is 1975 Guess who?
6 When did England get their first post-War Test victory against Australia?
7 Formerly, anybody scoring a Test century in — had a tree planted there in his honour Which was the centre?
8 Was any Australian batsman run out in the 1956 Test against England at Old Trafford when Jim Laker bagged 19 wickets?
9 Which is the favourite cricket ground of Sunil Gavaskar?
10 Who got his maiden Test century in his 52nd innings for Australia against England at Old Trafford in July 1964?

ANSWERS

1 Scunthorpe United
2 All of them are left-handed batsmen
3 They all played for Gloucestershire CCC
4 They are fathers of Test cricketers
5 Philippe HENRI Edmonds
6 In the Melbourne Test 1951
7 Durban
8 No (The 20th wicket was claimed by Tony Lock)
9 Queen s Park Oval (Trinidad) which he says is a beautiful ground with a lovely backdrop
10 Bobby Simpson (311)

MILESTONES

RELEASED Sir Richard Hadlee from Dunedin Hospital He was admitted after he collapsed during a New Zealand vs Sri Lanka one dayer because of irregular heartbeat

HONOURED Wing Commander P K Mahanand for his book Great Asian Athletes He has also been elected member of the International Track Association and Field Statisticians

APPOINTED Mr Justice Natarajan as one man executive council of the Indian Olympic Association He has been appointed to this post by the Madras High Court

NEW RECORD Set by Sergei Bubka Bubka the Olympic and world pole vault champion broke his own world indoor record when he cleared 6 08 metres

REINSTATED Nick Faldo as the world No 1 after losing the spot to Greg Norman

NEW RECORD Set by Wta Pippig of Germany in the women s indoor 5 000 metres at Stuttgart with a timing of 15 mins 13 72 secs

DEFEATED. Cameroon (2 0) in a friendly match by England at Wembley Arena Gary Lineker scored both the goals

RETIRES. Sugar Ray Leonard after being knocked out twice by Terry Norris at the fight at Madison Square Garden

REAPPOINTED. Viv Richards as the captain of the West Indies team to play against Australia

INVALIDATED By Madras High Court a proposed special general body meeting of the IOA by the V C Shukla faction



WON Ben Johnson the 60m dash at the Yomiuri Chitose International in Osaka defeating Andres Simon of Cuba

BAN SOUGHT By Napoli on Diego Maradona for inconsistent appearance Petition put to the Italian National Federation If passed then Napoli escapes the obligation of paying Maradona Il 1993 as per the contract

RETAINED Former Czech Davis Cupper Pavel Slozil as the coach of Steffi Graff even though she has not been winning on the circuit recently

ELECTED Simon O Donnell as the Australian cricketer of the year He has not played in a Test for five years and was not part of the Ashes victory He won over the much fancied David Boon and Bruce Reid

Looking Good On Fitness Avenue

THIS is it! No more push ups for some time after this And that s a promise If you're still not happy with that look you re flaunting, then we'll think of something else to get the heads turning, okay?

So far we've been cheating a bit But so what? If the end result is satisfying, then who's complaining? After all, it's our body we're working on, and we're entitled to deal with it as we deem fit Or, in some cases, unfit

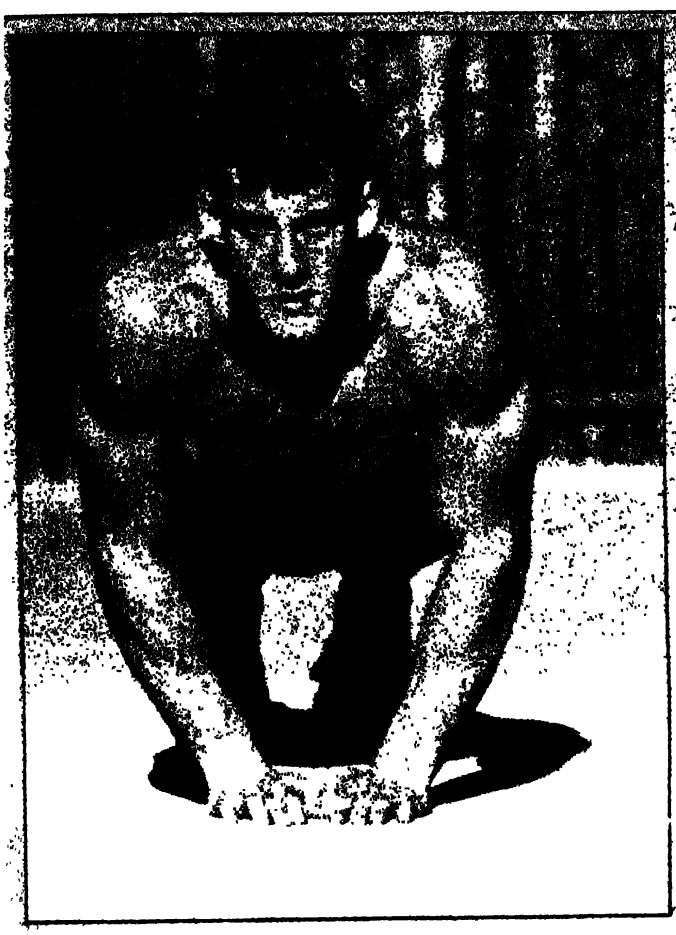


In the first push-up we're doing this time-Close-Grip Push-ups—it's the chest that gets the pressure Move the hands in close while assuming the same position as the Marine Push-up, and get going You'll find the pectoral muscles into the act with the shoulders and upper arms And the more you do of this, the more these pecs are going to develop

The last one in this series Wide-Grip Inside Push-ups— require you to place the palms at a wide distance This automatically makes the entire push-up much tougher And of course much more rewarding Do this one with regularity and you'll find the outer pecs and shoulders screaming for mercy But then, they'll also be growing to give you a highly enhanced V-shape

Remember if you don t have the time to put yourself through a real gruelling workout everyday, there s only one way out Con the world into thinking you re about the best built thing God created Work on your strong bodyparts and display them Got strong arms? Wear your sleeves short Or is it the legs that do you proud? Jump into shorts or if you're the modest type buy yourself a pair of stretch— the tighter the better —jeans

And, most important, dress right Don't wear skin-fitting clothes if you are losing the battle of the bulge You're just





CLOSE-GRIP PUSH-UPS

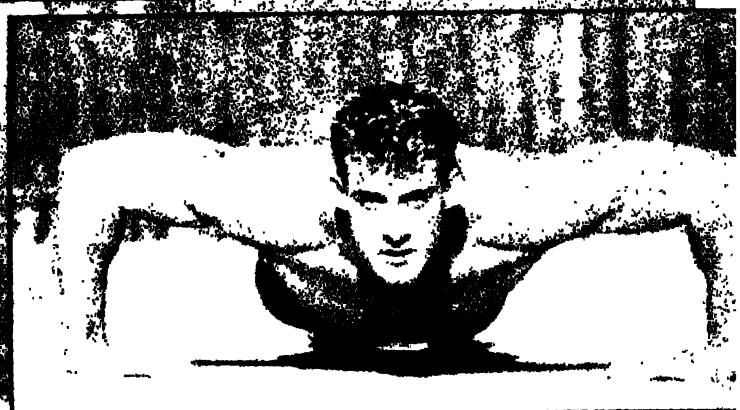
asking for trouble. Instead, shop around for gear that accentuates your fitness. A loose shirt worn over broad shoulder—told you these push-up would help you—will automatically camouflage the protrusion of your gut. Not to mention those ugly love handles that're popping out at the sides.

As for colours, run like hell from loud, flashy reds and yellows. That only makes you look larger than life. It's the blues, charcoal grey and black that'll distance you somewhat from the crowd and make you look slimmer.

As will fabrics that are somewhat lightweight. Buy thin-line corduroy, twill or gabardine the next time you're going shopping. They'll fall well, and never fluff up to bulk you up more.

But...but, never let it slip your mind that there's never really any substitute for a good, gasping lungfuls of oxygen and salty droplets of sweat—that there's no person alive who can deny you the body of your dreams. And once you're halfway down the fitness avenue, you can pick your wardrobe with both eyes closed. Cos, anything's gonna look good on you!





WIDE-GRIP INSIDE PUSH-UPS



COLORSPORT

CAN'T PLAY SOFTBALL

But playin ' the field

TOURING pro David Wheaton's no softie—ask Brad Gilbert about that. So what's he doing trying to swat a softball? After flailing at the softball, Wheaton gave it up as a bad joke and cribbed,"I don't really get it, if I can hit a tennis ball then I should be able to hit a softball,"

The subject of being a 'hit' or getting hit seems to have become a favourite pastime with Wheaton, otherwise known for his on-court gastronomical habits. Last year, he was nearly creamed by fellow player Brad Gilbert at the ITF sponsored Grand Slam Cup but this year the word has assumed a bit of a romantic nature. Enter Miss Mary Joe Fernandez.

The women's no. 4 sat courtside and watched Wheaton in a recent tournament. A favour—Wheaton, ever chivalrous, returned. Since then things have been looking up for both of them. "We're just good friends," they hastily defend themselves. But then, we've heard that one before, haven't we? Wheaton under pressure later admitted that, "we have become closer over the last year and a half."

Looks like he's quite a hit this time!

PRIVATE EYE



RUMOUR has it that Graham Taylor is a hard and unforgiving coach.

Apart from being a strict coach, he is an authoritarian, a puritan and a killjoy.

NOT TAYLOR-MADE

Suited for discipline

An autocrat who bans smoking, dancing and drinking before a game and fines his men 75% of their pay if they are sent off! Neither does Taylor tolerate fools or foolish teams. As his previous club Aston Villa, league runners up, and 0-2 down in the FA Cup against lowly rated Crewe found out. He didn't mince words at half time: "Gentlemen, you got us into this f.....g mess, you will get us out of it." Villa won 3-2.

What's worse he reportedly does not even tolerate any interference in his job. As he told some of yesterday's men of the Football Association (FA). "I'm my own man and I answer to nobody but myself," a warning he fired even before he took over Robson's mantle.

By the way he's going, he might turn out to be the right answer to England's soccer hooligans!



Tote with his lovely wife Rita and their daughter. The talent is there, the magic is missing

STIFLED STEFFI

Open to boys



Steffi: 21 and a relic already?

HOW'S STEFFI GRAF doing, now that she's 21? Not too hot. For Steffi, 21 is the blooming of youth. For the rest of the tennis circuit, she's a relic.

The Graf girl is quite lonely too, being bankrupt in the friendship department.

"I get along better with boys," says the lady.

Mentally she's going a bit bonkers too. "Oh come on," she barked at a reporter in Paris when asked about her personal life, "is it so serious?"

No, but then she's Steffi Graf and she herself stoked the fires when she gave that photo session to *Vogue* and remarked she was not just dating Alexander Mronz but also the lead singer Mick Hucknell, from the pop group Simply Red. But then, as Steffi herself admits. "Being famous isn't all that fun" especially when you're 21, and rarin' to go"

TOTO (LLY) OUT OF IT

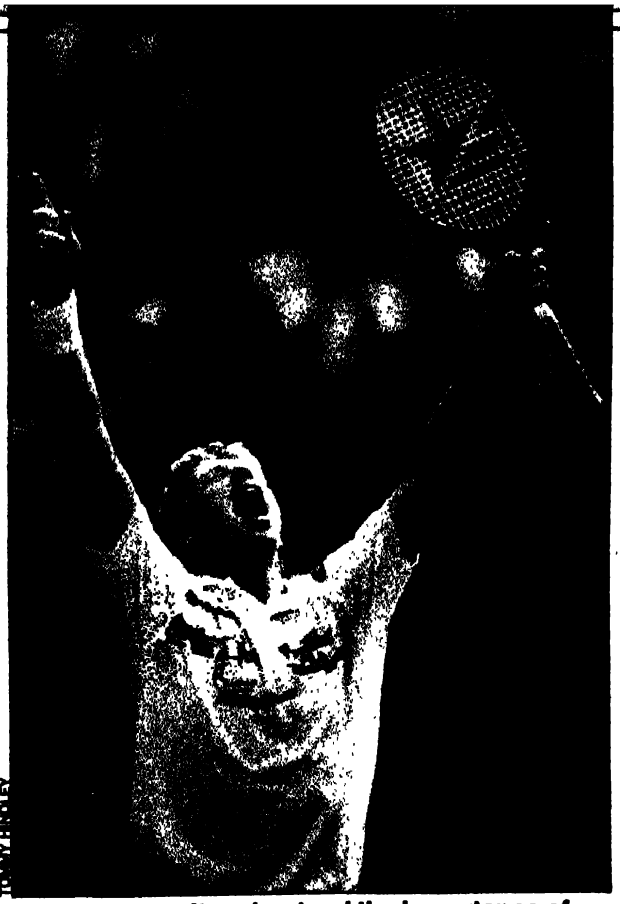
Schillaci's goal famine

SALVATORE 'TOTO' SCHILLACI almost defied Newton's principle. You know, what goes up-must-come-down. After the Italia 90 high, this striker stayed up in the charts. Toto has finally fallen right on his you-know what. The problem is simple Schillaci has not scored for Juventus in 9½ weeks, what's worse, he was also sent off the field during a game. He himself admits to the dark times he is facing. "Since Italy's match against England, nothing has gone right. I'm playing well but not scoring goals. I'm unlucky." Not a line of thought that the Juventus officials and fans share.

Apart from threatening to shoot a fellow player, he has been labelled as an 'exhibitionist and was even sent off during one of the recent games for 'exhibiting'.

"I hope to get off with a one match ban. It is a price I am playing with interest for my World Cup success," he said. Club officials later slapped him with a two match ban.

Toto's fans are getting to be a bit fed up.



Becker can't understand the importance of being No. 1

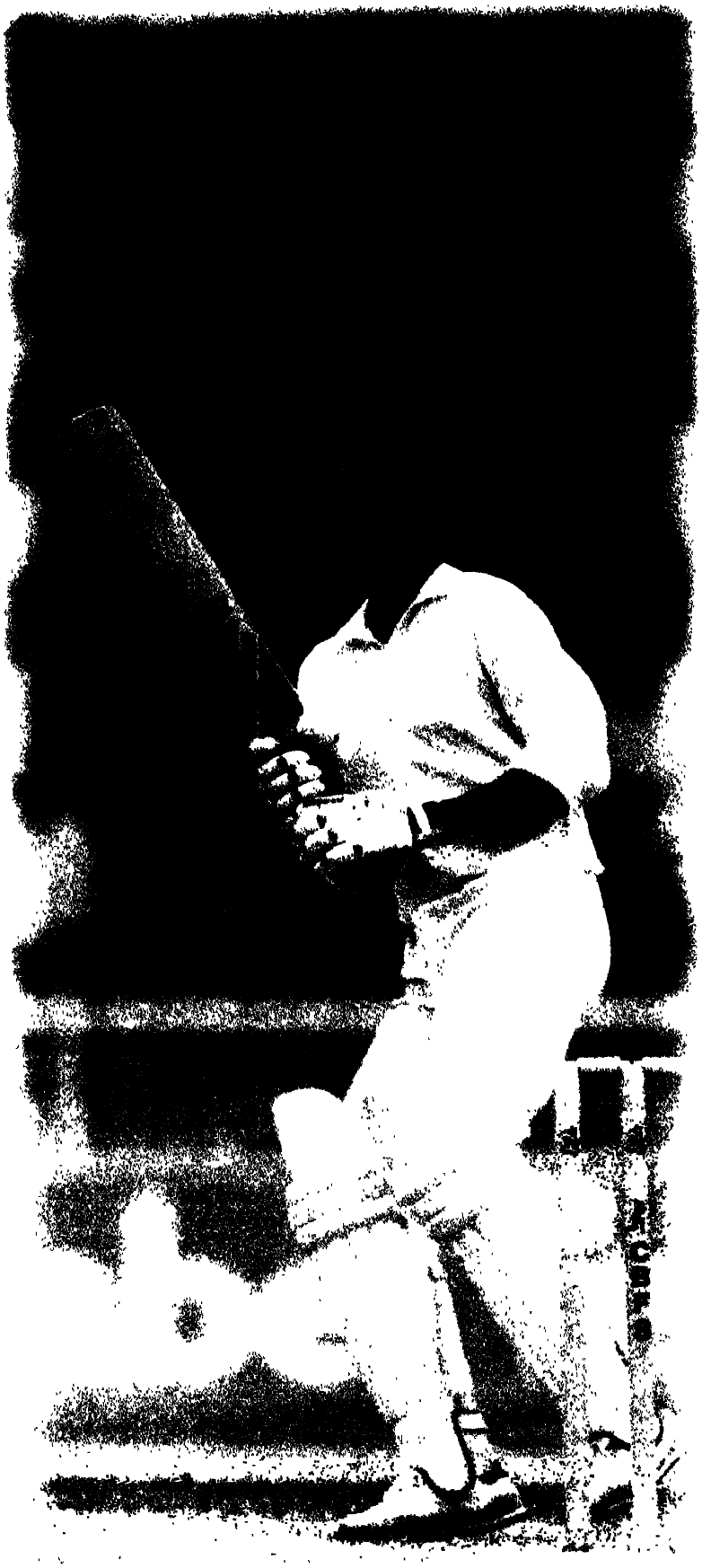
BECKER SAY

Confused philosophy

WITH his No. 1 ranking has come a new set of post-match rules for Boris Becker. As the world witnessed after his Aussie Open triumph. A brief show of courtside emotion later, Becker had the tournament officials doing a double take when he ran out of the stadium and into the park outside for a little jog. He had obviously forgotten about the prize distribution and was going back to the hotel when he was gently persuaded by security that he had a formality to fulfil towards the crowd.

He was (Hic!) so high on emotion that he muffed up his thank you speech. An hour later, though it was a very different Boris Becker. Assuming distinct shades of Plato, he felt that he might go the Wilander way. "I am like Mats. In that I am a person of extremes and I have a little fear that it won't go on anymore,"he philosophised. "I am not the type who wants to be No.1 for 4-5 years. I want to move on in life and do something else."

And this might mean having a family and kids: "I would like to have a quiet private life, with a wife and children and not be in the frontline anymore."Hey, Stefan, Ivan...better start lining up the prospective brides, guys!



Sometimes a single pair of Power shoes can bring 60,000 people to their feet.

When Kapil Dev created a world record by hitting four consecutive sixes at Lord's, he was wearing Power batting shoes.

According to Kapil Dev, "The most important part of my cricket gear are my shoes."

Ask him why he wears only Power cricket shoes and the reply is : "Comfort." Full stop.

What is it that makes a Power shoe comfortable?

Is it the light, soft, supple leather? (Not to mention the firm toe.) Or the multi-studded rubber sole, for a better grip? Perhaps it is the perforated 'upper' for added breathability and sweat absorption. Or the high cushioned collar to protect the Achilles' tendon.

To experience the magic of a Power cricket shoe, try and get yourself tickets to a Test match at Lord's.

Or for a better view, visit a Power dealer near you.



The professional cricket shoe.

Dibyendu Barua ...

'If Only Life Had Beer

For *DIBYENDU BARUA*, the long-awaited Grandmaster title meant deliverance from the despair that had almost overwhelmed him in his lone, impoverished, untutored quest for chess glory. And now as a whole new horizon opens up before him, the young Grandmaster is unsure and worried how he will face his fresh tryst with destiny...

In the beginning they could not quite explain the phenomenon of his untutored, premature success. Nor did they really care to, in fact. They simply called him a prodigy—a child prodigy—yet another freak of nature who managed to outpace time, his age, to do things he was not supposed to in his premature youth.

And then they kept him under watch, with keen, doubtful eyes, half expecting their theories to come true, half expecting his eventual ruin. For, they believed firmly and without a shred of doubt that child prodigies seldom blossom to their promised end. And Dibyendu Barua lent credence to that cynical belief when he faltered...faltered...and faltered ..so frustratingly—till at last his time came.

Dibyendu was five-year old or maybe six, when he entered competitive chess—a raw untutored home-made player, emerging slowly into the outer world from the stinking hellhole of his impoverished one-room home and moving solely on the steam of his own sparkling gift of wits, and the enthusiasm of a struggling father who had a harrowing time making ends meet.

And, despite his uncanny early success in chess, it all along looked like a futile quest. For the inescapable fact is that modern competitive chess is as much a game of the mind as it is of expensive professional training, studying and dependent on the unhurried undisturbed leisure of an easy lifestyle that enriches the brain

Sadly, Dibyendu could afford none of all this. In his father's one-room flat, he barely had one corner to himself for everything he ever wanted to pursue—his studies, his chess, his reading. In fact his very life.

And yet he excelled, moving down a seemingly unstoppable, preordained course of progress till he made his first breakthrough winning the International Master title in 1982. Dibyendu was then only 13 years of age.

But those theories, those cynical, but distressingly realistic theories seemed to shadow him again. The theories that predicted the inevitable early demise of his childhood talents. Even to pundits it seemed more like a fruitless exercise than a youngman's tireless quest, as Dibyendu still remained steeped in severe theoretical ignorance. And given the massive chasm that exists between the status of International Master and that of Grandmaster, Dibyendu Barua seemed destined to remain stagnated and then slowly slide down to oblivion.

Predictably enough, the only ray of hope that the title of International Master brought in the all-round desolation that surrounded him in his shanty room now began to fade as Dibyendu struggled in the much more difficult terrain of chess that lay before him.

Changes indeed had been taking place in Dibyendu's life as em-

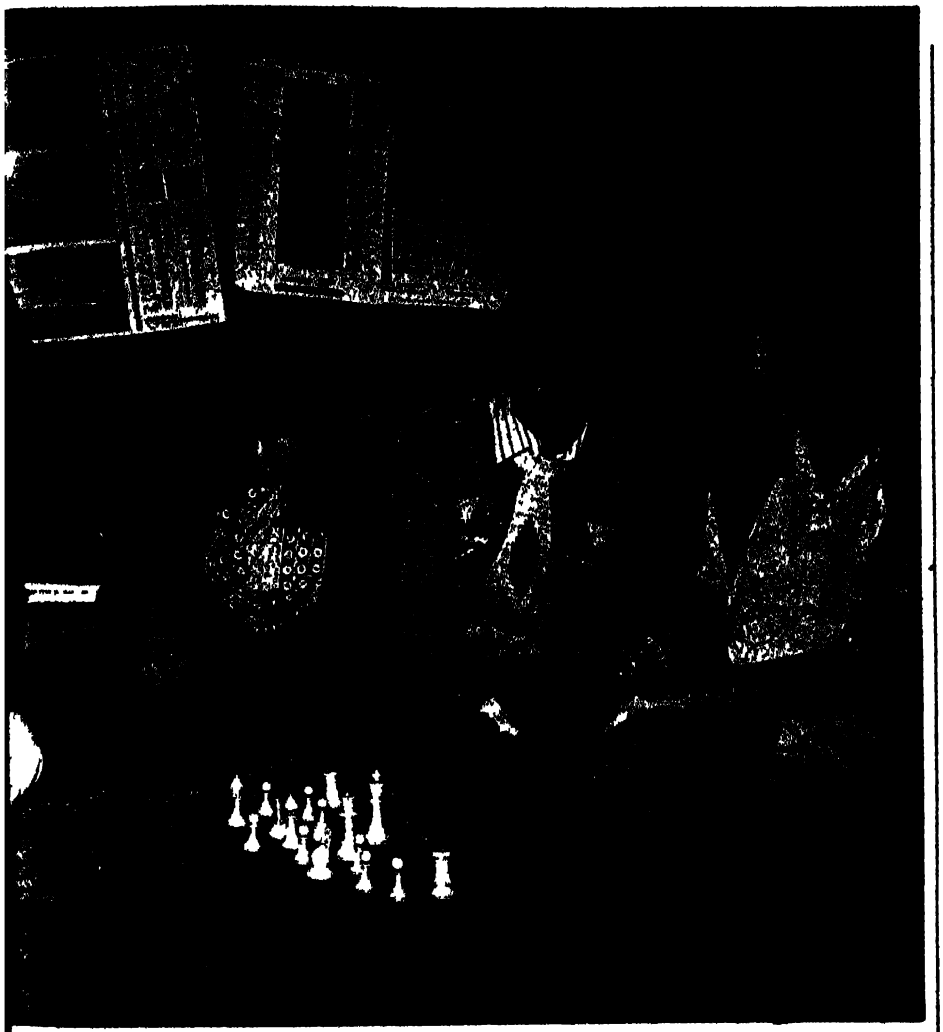


Dibyendu in his quarter-room flat



By SUPRAKASH GHOSHAL

Less Cruel To Me'



The Barua family at home

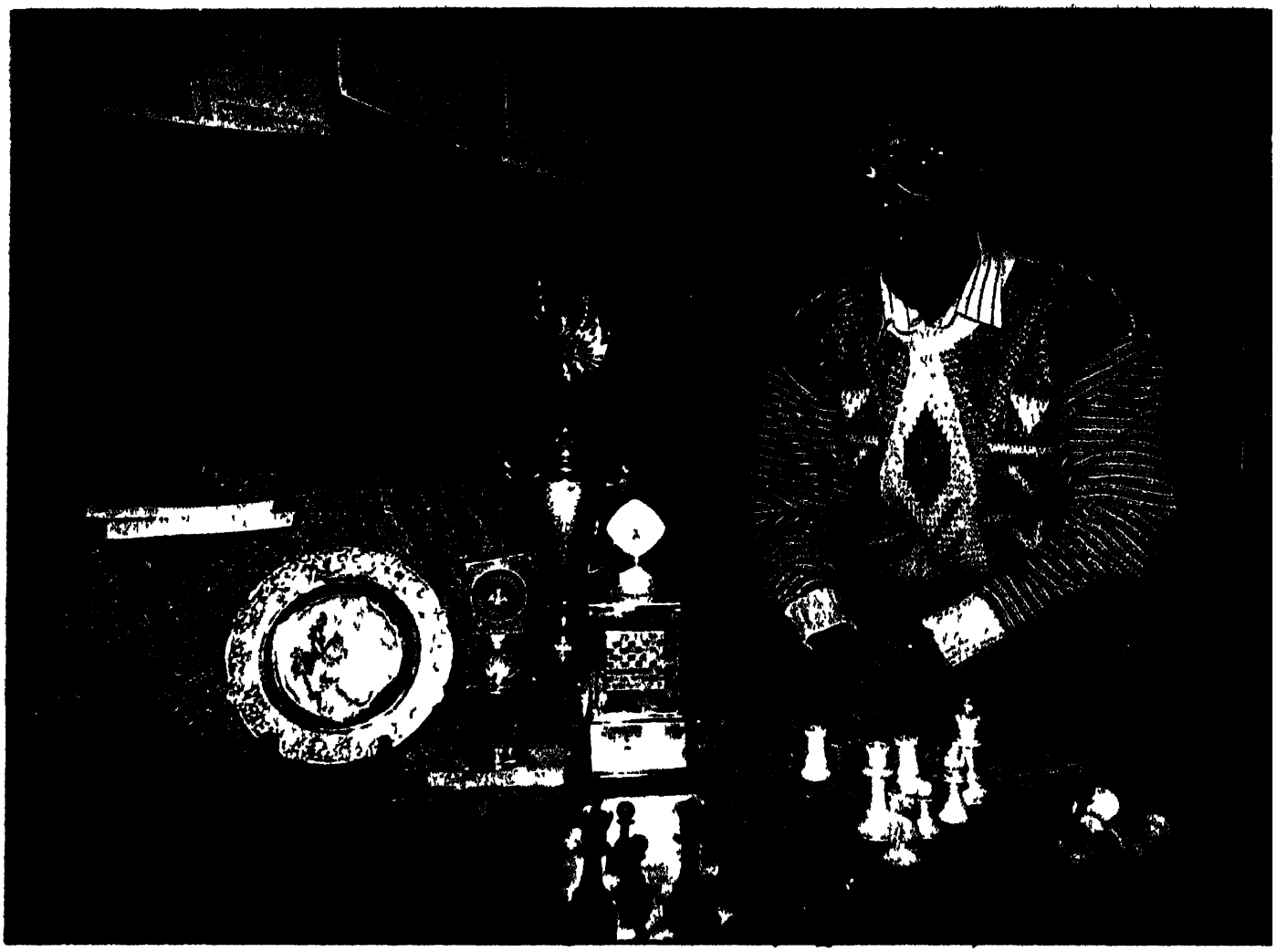
ployment came like a bliss, though the prospect of bigger recognition, especially the GM title, continued to loom in the distant horizon like a fading mirage.

And yet, today Dibyendu Barua is India's second chess GM. For him it has been a long-drawn torturing experience in the loneliness and agony of his crowded home, where five people are forced to live their lives in a mere one-quarter of a room, including the kitchen. Today, that pain has eased amid the joy of success, but the scars remain, as does his one room home.

SPORTSWORLD: Why do you think it took you so long to achieve your Grandmaster title?

DIBYENDU BARUA: Well, my development as a chess player has been such that I had to constantly change my game through continuous experiment simply because my self-taught chess was not viable to face the modern version of the complex game. Theoretical knowledge has become so important today, that the entire game of chess is now going through a process of change. And in a world like that I was fighting my lone battle with all my self-acquired skill which I mastered mainly through trial and error.

For Barua it has been a long-drawn torturing experience in the loneliness and agony of his crowded home, where five persons are forced to live their lives in a mere quarter of a room...Today, that pain has eased but the scars remain as does his one room home...



Dibyendu with the trophies

"It has been hell. I'm not a healthy person. On top of that I had to put up with all the problems about my strategy and gameplan. It's harrowing.. Barua

So, after becoming International Master in this method, I realised I could no longer carry on with this kind of 'personal chess.' So between '82 and '88, I sought to totally reorient my game, which in other words meant starting from scratch. And I promise you, that has been a most agonising experience of my life.

But you always attributed your lack of theoretical knowledge to financial constraints, your inability to get professional coaching, books and so on...But how did you suddenly start getting help in terms of books and other things...was it your job at TATA...

Oh yes. To be honest, the job in 1985 came to me like a godsend. I got the job and a whole new horizon opened up before me I could now buy the best books, and more important my participation in foreign tournaments was now almost guaranteed. Mind you, to be strong on the theoretical side, you don't need just books, you need experience and exposure also. Since '85 or rather I would say, end of '85, all this began to happen to usher in a tide of good luck for Indian chess.

Indian chess as a whole?

Yes, since '85, the Chess Federation has also become more determined to send Indian players abroad, this has helped the game in a big way.

You had a lot of weaknesses in the opening game, which in fact, delayed your progress for long, isn't it? How did you get around it?

I still haven't quite overcome that,to be honest. It still remains one of my main weaknesses. And after getting my GM title my main area of attention will be my opening game.

How did this problem affect your performance?

It almost regularly put me into serious time trouble, which players like Vishwanathan Anand very rarely face. But ironically enough, lately when I tried to do something about my opening game I realised I reached almost the edge of ruin. Because now it was too late to change one vital area like that, unless I got some expert guidance from someone really good. But I have not yet been fortunate enough to come across anyone like that.

But then that weakness will remain and eventually become your Achilles heel.

It has always been. And, to be honest, although I have plans to improve my opening, maybe, I will not really do anything about it. Because I have already got good results trying to shortcut the opening phase and go directly into the middle game.

The biggest advantage of this is that most of my opponents do not expect this kind of game; so they get shocked, and eventually find themselves in trouble. In fact, on certain occasions, it worked so well, that I became quite careless and freewheeling about the opening game. But I suppose that kind of an approach may not be good for me in the long run.

In that case you have to make up your mind about which area of your game needs overhauling. Don't you?

Yes of course. But I'm a little worried about trying to do something new at this stage. It is a little too late for any change in my game, I suppose. So, I'm in a bit of a fix at this moment.

Rather, I would say you are a very happy man at this moment?

Oh yes, (smiling). More than happy, I'd say I'm relieved, relaxed. Very, very much so. You know, the day Anand stole a march on all of us, and became a Grandmaster, a sort of complex started growing in me. He is so much younger than us, to be frank, I'd made such a good beginning in the early years, in my childhood. So, I was supposed to be far ahead of him. Instead he overtook us, so gallantly, while my performance over most part of the eighties had been indifferent. It was all rather depressing. So, for a long time I had been eagerly looking for this day. And now I'm relaxed. Oh my, God, if only I could express in words how relaxed I really am.

You must have suffered tremendous pressure waging your lone battle against the world without any help from anywhere.
You did not even have a second to assist you, and you are the number two player in the country.

It has been hell. I'm not a very healthy person. On top of that I had to put up with all the problems about my strategy and gameplan, all by myself. It's harrowing. If only life had been a little less cruel to me. In today's professional chess to have a second means hell of a lot of money, I can't think of it even; on top of that most players use computers, portable laptop ones, in which they have all the data stored. So, chess today is a hi-tech game, when I'm still the traditional Indian Shatranj ke khilari, trying to figure out my moves for hours on end. Sometimes, it seems for a man in my position, to be ambitious is almost a self-inflicted pain.

When I spoke to Dibyendu after he received his GM title, it was clear he had still not recovered from the joy of having his dream fulfilled. His thoughts and emotions were still in upheaval. And the first thought that flooded his mind on that momentous occasion was of his mother, whom he had lost when he was eight years old.

At eight, Dibyendu had already been a small-time competitive player. And today he is India's second GM. Only if Dibyendu could have his mother by his side.

Dibyendu: She perhaps realised before she died, that, maybe one day I would take up chess as my main passion in life, and my singular goal towards excellence. If there is life beyond death, maybe she is happy today in her unseen, ethereal world. I wish she is. For, it is to her that I dedicate my long-awaited success.

"Chess today is a hi-tech game, when I'm still the traditional Indian Shatranj ke khilari, trying to figure out my moves for hours on end...For a man in my position to be ambitious is almost a self-inflicted pain...Barua

Photographs: NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

DIFFERENT STROKES

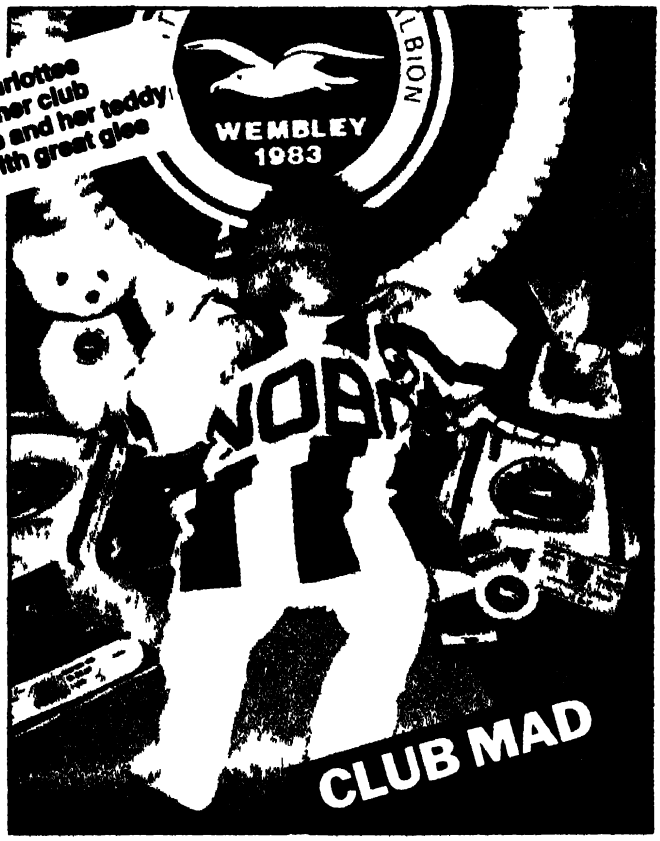
THERE'S very little money to be made through tennis, these days And just before you go telling us that we're wrong, you might as well know who feels this way None other than Ion Tiriac the surly, burly moustachioed has been tennis player Wonder why he feels this way, the fact is that he's doing quite well financially courtesy Boris Becker

Anyway, the shrewd chain-smoking Romanian is so well off that he's decided to open his own bank He prefers the headquarters to be in his motherland in Romania (how come no tax problems?), where he was born The bank is to have a starting capital of about 500 million lei (£ 12 million) The main aim, one supposes is to raise the economic status of the country but Tiriac is such a smooth operator, you can never tell Well, if Tiriac manages it as well as he does Boris Becker, he's got another No 1 on his hands

ION VAULTS



Ion Tiriac: 'banking' on his latest venture



Tiny Charlottee flaunts her club colours and her teddy bear with great glee

CLUB MAD

MEET the world's youngest soccer club member Charlottee Page Cuddly Charlottee shot to soccer stardom exactly two minutes after she was born Her father, David Page a soccer freak and an active member of Brighton, Football Club, Sussex watched his daughter being born and then rushed off to the telephone to register her as Brighton's youngest ever soccer fan His midnight call to club official Margaret Sanderson just about clinched the deal.

Until Charlottee came along, the previous youngest ever member of the seaside club—known as the seagulls—was 20 minutes old Charlottee beat that record by 18 minutes Just a week after the birth, David was sitting in his usual seat in the stands, when a message of congratulations was broadcast through the air over the club's loudspeakers The fans roared their approval " Charlottee is now the proud owner of her own membership cards, her own soccer strip—the club's blue and white colours and her favourite, the team's speciality teddy bear The only minus point is that she's unaware of the fact that she holds the record but then as her dad says, "I'm sure she'll love that too."

STEFAN ICEBERG

IF anyone of you ever happen to bump into Stefan Edberg one of these days (though, we suppose, the possibility is remote) take another road Along with his No 1 ranking Edberg also seems to have lost his cool

At a press conference in Melbourne, Edberg was asked by a comedienne, a series of banal and irritating questions In the midst of an on going press conference he was suddenly asked which member of ABBA—the Swedish pop group—he was and whether he felt the use of cat gut in tennis to be ecologically sound Add to that a defeat by Ivan Lendl and the loss of the number one ranking and the results could well have been disastrous

Edberg later admitted that he hadn't understood the questions posed to him by Pixie—Anne Wheatly, the comic "If I had, I would have answered them," said a serious looking Edberg Tournament officials later issued him an apology But there's a very mad Swede roaming the global tennis circuit these days



Stefan Edberg is highly avoidable these days

HOAD'S (OF) EXPERIENCE



IS LEW HOAD still around? Well, you can bet your last Aussie dollar, he is At least, he was in Sydney at the invitation of another tennis great, John Newcombe It has been said that Lew in his prime could go on court to play flawless tennis after a wild night out "That's probably true," quipped back Hoad, 56 "But there's a few other blokes who could do it too Newcombe for one "

Hoad was in Sydney recently to celebrate the centenary of the NSW Tennis Association So were his old partners Ken Rosewall, Newcombe, Tony Roche, Fred Stolle and a few others They all played a bit of tennis at the celebrations All, except Lew who acquired a slipped disc way back in 1978 Add to that the fact that the once-upon-a-time tennis freak doesn't enjoy the game anymore

Barrel chested and a grandfather five times over, Lew preferred to hang out with a cold beer embedded in his huge fist Alone he might have been, but the numerous admirers still ensured that he was the star of the show "I loved a beer," he said "I still do. But when it came down to the big, important matches, you just didn't do any of that " Then he says he did—once. Soon his eyes get that time tested faraway look and he goes into one of his numerous anecdotes,...just like Lew Hoad.

freewheeling

I am not a marathon runner. I am in love with one, though. Which means that I along with thousands of other spouses and significant others, am a member of that select group of people you see milling around at the start, standing at various points along the way and waiting on either side of the finish line.

We're out there, blending in with the rest of the marathon fans that line the course. But we're not just faces in the crowd. Our love and intimacy give us insights into the lives of these single-minded athletes that uninvolved marathon-watchers will never know.

We hang in there during their long months of self-absorbed training. We endure our own feelings of sloth and fatness while they grow stronger and leaner. We encourage, tease and mother them. We cook and consume several tons of pasta.

We spend countless evenings alone while they crisscross the city night after night in pursuit of those 70-mile weeks. When they walk through the door, depending on how the run went, we listen to them either complain, brag, rationalise or groan.

Many of us travel with our mates to romantic places for marathons, but we've learned not to expect conversations about the colour of our eyes or the depth of love. Instead, we discuss PRs, oxygen debt, the race course, possible checkpoints, projected pace, course records, and the elite athletes.

The night before, we listen to them speculate endlessly about the weather and fret over food, clothes, feet and bowel movements. And after they go to bed at the judicious hour of 10 p.m. to insure plenty or sleep for the big day (so much for romance), we listen to them toss restlessly most of the night.

The morning of the race we arise at 4:30 a.m. so they can eat two pieces of dry toast and then sit in the bathroom for 2 hours. We say nothing when they ask the big question: *Why am I doing this?*

When cheering for the runners, spare a thought for the people who stand and wait at the finish line



TOMMY HINDLEY

We walk quietly to the starting line with them, largely shut out of their mental preparations, accept their sweats and absent-minded kisses before they dash off into the throng. If possible, we greet them along the way to shout words of encouragement, to snap a few pictures, to collect cast-off clothing or give fluids. Or just to be there, for like men in the delivery room, we are outcasts, pleasant to have around perhaps, but in actual fact, extraneous.

We hustle to the finish line, juggling their dry clothes and camera and car keys. We study the clock, calculating and waiting, sweating out those final minutes. At last our marathoners appear, and we watch their machine like bodies work through ridiculous pain, and we struggle not to pity them.

When it's over, we hug them, sweat and stink and all. That's when we're needed, and, charged as we are with our mission, we scurry about for food and drink and finishers' T-shirts. We smile apologetically to onlookers while our sweethearts throw up in the bushes. We massage their knotted calves and help them into fresh clothes. We hold them up as they limp back to the hotel, and we grin wisely when they swear, *I'm never doing this again.*

And while driving them home, we fulfill our last duty. We listen to: The Marathon Story.

We don't run thousands of training miles, and we don't run the 26-mile race. But we are there through it all, and, hey, we deserve a round of applause, too.

Deana Whitehead



Hey! I am also a policyholder.

Yes. I am insured. My papa has bought me LIC's Jeevan Kishor Policy. It's a new plan specially made for little children like me So, when I grow up, I'll get a lot of money and become a big man like my papa

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Because a man's skin needs a moisturiser that can do a man's job.
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Sportsworld



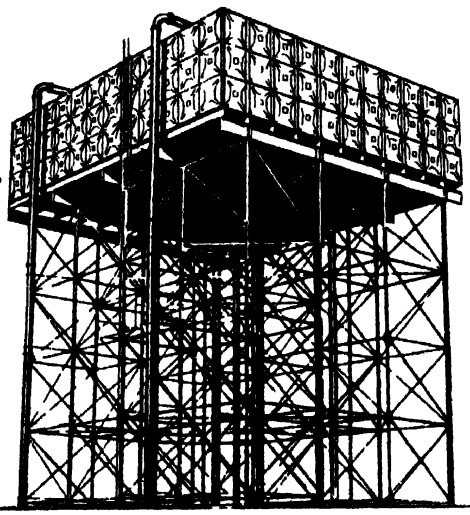


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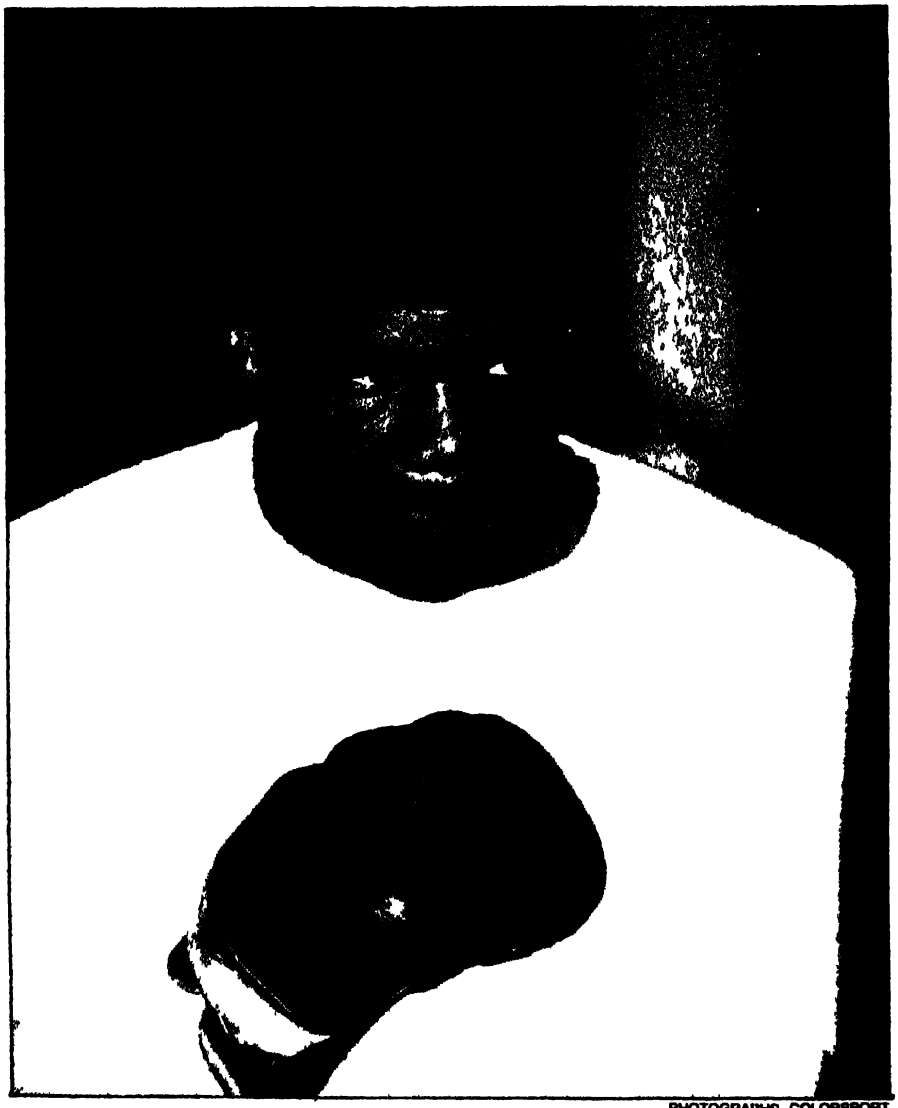
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VOICES

"We have been following developments carefully all these years. Now that we see important changes can come in South Africa in the near future we expect the final solution can happen very soon."
JUAN ANTONIO SAMARANCH president of the IOC on South Africa s readmission to the Olympics

"First of all I'm going to host the biggest party in the history of Atlantic City. There won't be enough space in all the hotels for the buffet tables. Then I'm going to buy a franchise and retire "
GEORGE FOREMAN on what he would do after defeating Evander Holyfield





PHOTOGRAPHS COLORSPORT

"Anytime, anywhere. Carl Lewis should know that I'm not afraid to run against him. I'm not taking anything away from the great runners but when I'm ready, I can do better than anyone in the world."
BEN JOHNSON, renews his challenge to the world and to Carl Lewis in particular

"My goal this year is to remain where I'm on the rankings."
PETE SAMPRAS, after his first win of the year against Czechoslovakian, Milan Srejber

"Freedom. A totally new world opened to me. I had a lot of possibilities after the Olympics, but I wasn't able to do them. It was like being in a box, knocking on the walls, screaming 'Please let me out'. Now I have so many possibilities. It's all so new, so wonderful. People come to me and ask me what I want to do."
KATARINA WITT during a vacation in the Caribbean The star skater of erstwhile East Germany had always to stay within the limits of protocol and that did not permit her to embark on a holiday It was only after the unification of Germany that she could 'get out of the box

"It's a sad victory. He's my idol and I beat him badly. I didn't want it to be that way. He's still my idol."
TERRY NORRIS after he knocked down Sugar Ray Leonard twice in their fight at Madison Square Garden

"Football is 90 per cent a problem, 10 per cent a pleasure. I don't want to see the club die after my departure. That's why I'm going to take some time to find my successor. Someone who will be able to put a lot of money and energy into the club as I've done. I cannot stay in this kind of world. You can't run a club by remote control."
BERNARD TAPIE, the flamboyant President of the French club Olympique Marseille, after he was banned for a year for allegedly abusing and intimidating referees and for showing 'a serious lack of sporting spirit

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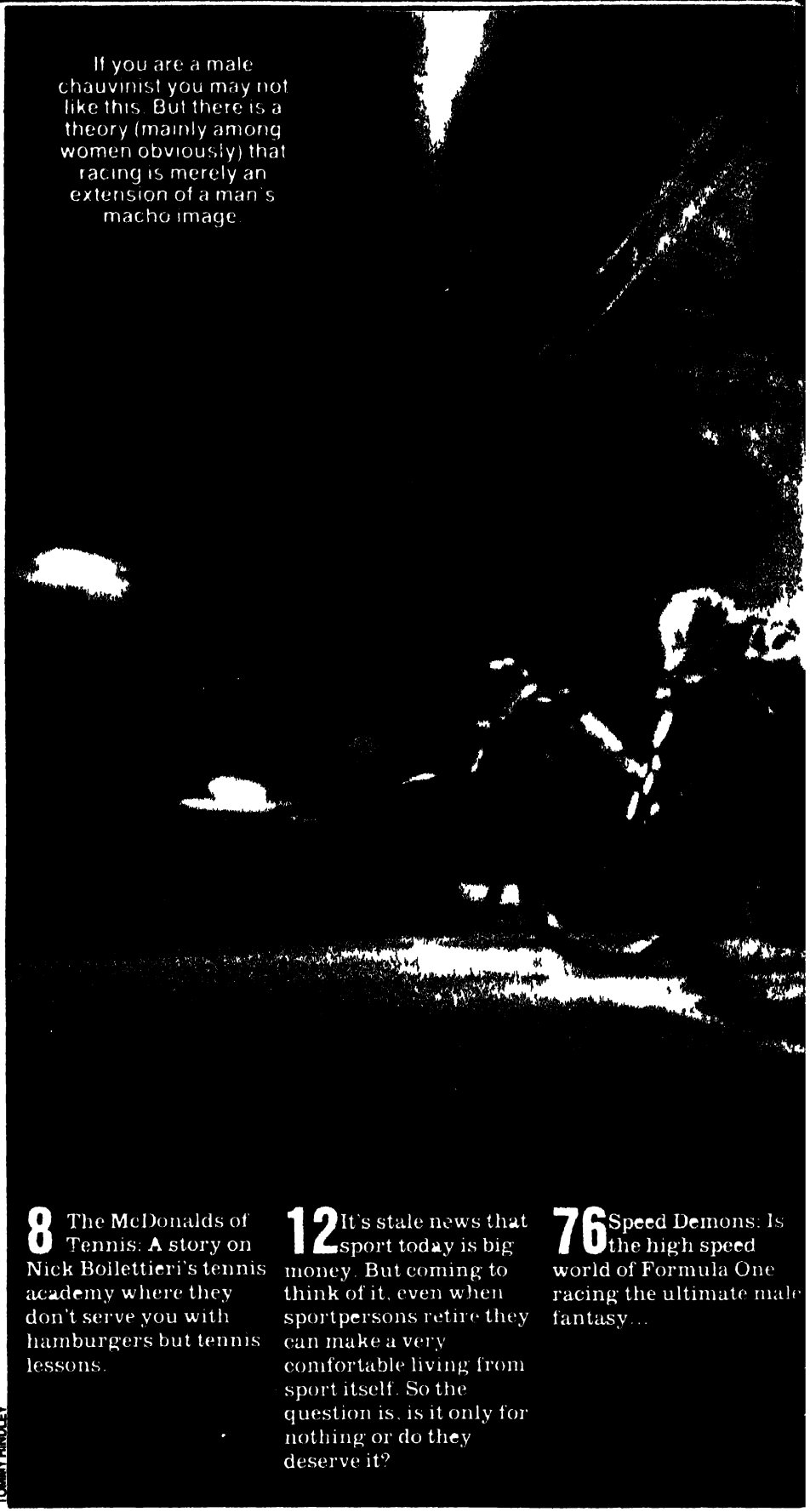
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If you are a male chauvinist you may not like this. But there is a theory (mainly among women obviously) that racing is merely an extension of a man's macho image.



TOMMY HINDLEY

8 The McDonalds of Tennis: A story on Nick Bollettieri's tennis academy where they don't serve you with hamburgers but tennis lessons.

12 It's stale news that sport today is big money. But coming to think of it, even when sportpersons retire they can make a very comfortable living from sport itself. So the question is, is it only for nothing or do they deserve it?

76 Speed Demons: Is the high speed world of Formula One racing the ultimate male fantasy...



WHO'S FOR DINNER?

A matter of choice

IF you could go out to dinner with anyone, who would it be? *Inside Tennis* magazine asked tennis celebrities, and here's how some of them answered this provocative question.

CHRIS EVERT: "President Bush I've had dinner with him before. As a person, I found him so entertaining, witty and knowledgeable. We just laughed a lot. He has a dry sense of humor and is very quick and personable."

STEFFI GRAF: "He's dead. Salvador Dali. He was weird. But I loved what he did with his paintings. I always wonder what he was thinking before he painted his pictures And I'm fascinated by the little hints he gives about his pictures."

ARTHUR ASHE: "Nelson Mandela. I'd want to know how a man who spent 27 years in prison could come out and be so rational and free of any bitterness."

JENNIFER CAPRIATI: "Jack Nicholson because he's such a cool guy."

PHILLIPE CHATRIER: "Steffi Graf She's a nice girl, very unspoiled. I hope it will last."

IVAN LENDL: "Mikhail Gorbachev. I was skeptical when he started I didn't trust him and I'm still not 100 percent sure I remember what happened to Hungary in 1956 and to my country in 1968. But I'd like to sit down with him and see what he's thinking. What's happening now is like a dream come true."



Capriati's not spaced out by these space men. For her, Jack Nicholson is the real thing

AL(I) OF THE NEEDLE

Injecting life

WE always thought that Muhammad Ali was stacked with large doses of courage. Wait! everybody thought that. But recently a little bit of info on the Greatest left us slightly shocked. That is, when we got to know about the man's pet peeve· injections! That's the only thing, Ali would say laughingly that scared him. What's more, an injection scares him even today. But he has to have those big needles stuck inside him in order to live. Even when he was thundering in the ring a doctor would have to chase him to give him a shot.

Now diffused and spent he is forced to go through this routine of plasmapheresis. After that he is okay for a couple of months. That's when he meets his old pals, preaches the tenets of Islam and makes a sundry appearance here and there. Like he did recently, when he zipped across to Asia and even visited Calcutta. But after he returns home exhausted, he locks himself for days in his house. Mostly all he does is sit at home looking blankly at the six-foot handcarved tiger given to him by Deng Hsiao-Ping, or the glittering robe presented to him by another king: Elvis Presley. It's a sad way to live but Ali quips: "Everybody git lost in life. I just git lost, that's all."



ASHOK MAJUMDAR

Ali can't see eye to eye with a syringe and a needle

OUT OF AFRICA

Taxing problems

ONCE upon a time there came to Calcutta a young man from Nigeria. Said he came to play soccer and he did. In the process winning over the hearts of millions of Calcuttans. 'Calcutta's own son', they called him. The young man was Cheema Okerie and he sure fitted into the local soccer scene...with aplomb.

Then came the low, and the man who won over millions of hearts is now trying to *patao* the Income Tax authorities. Yes, Cheema has run into major income tax problems and the men from Bamboo Villa (ironic name for an office location) aren't letting him off so easy.

The 'goal machine' had for long been on their hit list and when he encashed a time deposit receipt of Rs. 65,000 from a bank, they raided his South Calcutta residence Cheema reportedly is paid three lakhs by East Bengal, as he confessed under night long interrogation. The IT men, however could not find the huge amounts of cash he is reported to have stashed away They, however, managed to extract confessions that have put both him and his club in a tight spot.

Not exactly the kind of situation East Bengal are used to finding themselves in ...under Cheema No wonder there are rumours that the Nigerian wants to go back to where he belongs!

Cheema at home. The IT authorities laughed all the way into his bank account



UTPAL SONKAR



Cash with his wife Emily Bandit. It's fun to reminisce when you're out

TOO MANY WOMEN

Too little tennis

MOST tennis players seem to get married when their careers are at an ebb. And marriage mellows their tennis further—read Pat Cash. Cash, now well entrenched within the laws of holy matrimony to Emily Bandit, reminisces.

"After I won Wimbledon, I was portrayed as a world beater. I knew it was no fluke, but deep down, I knew also that I was playing no differently. I wanted so badly backup that win," he reflected. In the end, he lost the title; so another excuse, "Losing the title lifted a great weight off my shoulders. I realised then, the mistake I made of trying to please everyone. I was a sweet boy for the grandmothers, a tough pro for the sportswriters and a pin-up for the teeny-boppers. I wasn't me."

And then his former girlfriend Anne-Brit. "I'd love to deny that personal stuff affects me, but it does. And the really strange thing is that the worst period in my relationship with Anne-Brit coincided with the time I played my best tennis, when I won Wimbledon. I guess things were so bad that the only way to deal with them was to throw myself into tennis like a maniac.

"Later when I sat back and tried to sort out the problems, I realised how neglectful I'd become. But by that time it was a lost cause. Anne-Brit and I were alienated for good." he reflected.

The point now is when are you gonna play some good tennis, Pat. Or will that be when your marriage is on the rocks?

PRIVATE EYE



WE LOOK WHERE WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO!

THE NICK BOLLETTIERI TENNIS ACADEMY



The McDonalds of Tennis

Here they don't serve burgers but tennis lessons. Yet, writes Simon Barnes, Bollettieri likes to compare his set up to the big fast food chain

BRADENTON, Florida.

THE Nick Bollettieri Tennis Academy.

Vignette One: A small girl, a little under 4ft, with a 200-buck racket. Long fair hair, a baseball cap, and a T-shirt that reads, "Just do it!" She is running up and down the baseline belting double-fisted backhands. Every time she hits the ball, she gives a little pink grunt "Uh!" she says "Uh!"

Vignette Two A British girl, Jo Moore, aged 14, and studying at the Academy. Why don't I ask her how her lessons are going? The thought produces, like a rabbit from a hat, that frightful thing, a tennis parent: in this case, with Clint Eastwood haircut and Birmingham accent. "Jo's contracted with IMG, you see, and we like to control the press, well, not exactly control..."

Vignette three Nick Bollettieri himself Dressed in his usual working clothes: stripped to the waist, eyes hidden behind racing-biker shades with hot-lava frames. He is teaching a couple of black Californians, Venus and Serena Williams, aged ten and eight. Bollettieri's voice is as hoarse as a professional wrestler's from constant roaring: "No, that's your old grip you're going back to! That's it, I love it!" After the eight-year-old plays 50 successive volleys, Bollettieri roars with laughter and says: "Get out ta here! That's terrific! Terrific!"

There is a huge kindness in the voice, a surprising gentleness What is more, Bollettieri is having a whale of a time. This, then, is the heart and soul of the operation: in the huge and dominant on-court personality of Nick Bollettieri.

And what an operation it is. "It's just like McDonald's," Bollettieri said, seriously. From September till May there are 225 full-time students at the Academy. They are aged, mostly, between eight and 18. They eat, sleep and have their being at the Academy, though they go to school elsewhere in the mornings.

It costs $17,000 (about £8,600) a year, not counting school fees. A good many of the students get help, from the Academy itself and from elsewhere. The help depends on the financial strength of the parent, and on the ability of the child. Rest assured that a truly

promising child never needs to worry about financial competence: coaches and agents fall over themselves to sign them up. These kids are meal-tickets.

So much hope, so much inevitable disappointment. It is like turtles and the sea.

Bollettieri has certainly produced some good players in his time. Andre Agassi is the star pupil. Monica Seles was with him for four years, until it ended in tears and financial acrimony last year. There have been others in Bollettieri's 34 years as a tennis coach, though of lesser eminence: Krickstein, Arias, Bassett. He has attracted a huge amount of criticism, as you would expect.

When people over-stress a point to you, it is often a clear sign that the opposite is true. Bollettieri is inclined to stress that his method encourages individual style and development of the whole person. Naturally, one is left with the conclusion that this is a tennis hot-house producing tennis clones.

The place has been called the No Serve Academy, from a perceived weakness in



Agassi's shirt (inset) says it all. He's still with Bolletieri

Tommy Hindley

The place has been called the No Serve Academy, from a perceived weakness in Bollettieri's technical coaching skills. People like John McEnroe have been scathing about Bollettieri's methodical approach

Bollettieri's technical coaching skills. People like John McEnroe have been scathing about Bollettieri's methodological approach. He has been criticised, too, for driving children too hard: to the brink of despair and to even thoughts of suicide.

It is true, however, that nobody goes through

adolescence without traumas You cannot blame tennis for puberty People despair at Eton. Musical prodigies despair at the intensity of their own specialised education and the hopes invested in them You are always on dangerous ground when talent shows early

The Academy is as weird to British eyes as Eton would be to Bollettieri's (well, perhaps not quite that weird) The sight of the 2000-odd students, all in their hot-lava shorts and "Just do it!" T-shirts, whacking balls on the 74 courts, is deeply disturbing Bollettieri may or may not produce tennis clones; he certainly produces coaching clones They all work stripped to the waist in black shorts and hot-lava shades They yell things like: "I love it!" They blow whistles a lot and are forever shouting. "OK, let's go!"

"The philosophy is working with people and having fun and not forcing on them any one style of play," Bollettieri said Once the hot-lava shades are off he is a surprisingly wary man "I get a big kick out of kids who get out there and develop some of their talent, become happy. The main emphasis is on developing yourself as a person. Be sure to get an education, hopefully a partial scholarship to college Because very few of these kids are going to make it as a professional "

Bolletteri says the Academy is just like McDonald's and that includes the chain's

Bolletieri's former pupil Monica Seles with Jana Novotna just before their Australian Open final



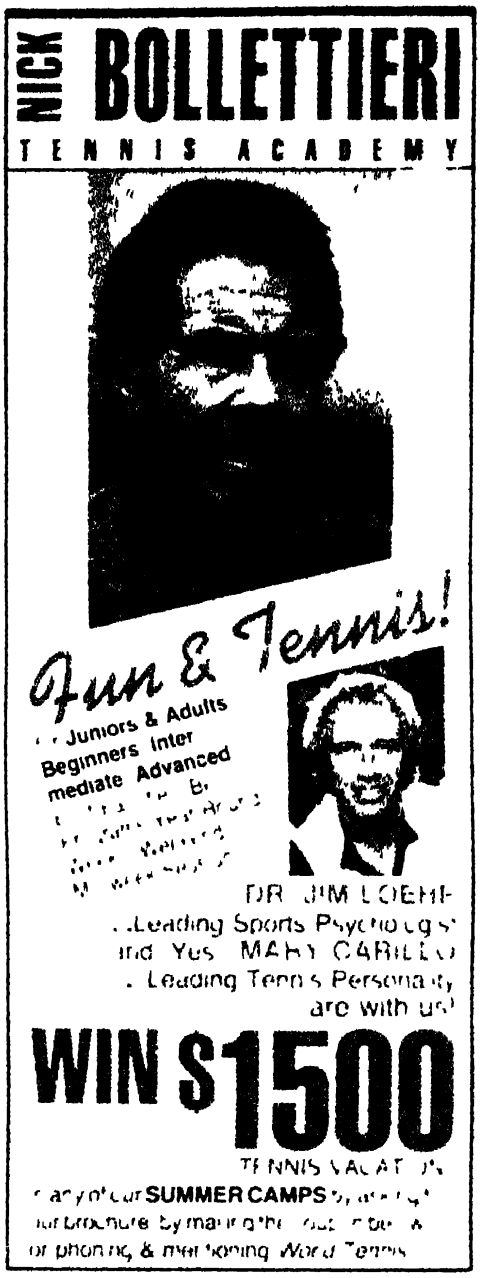
Tommy Hindley

pan-galactic ambition. Bollettieri sold out to IMG, Mark McCormack's International Management Group, a few years ago. Now, the company is into expansion. Fifteen new tennis centres around the world are planned for 1992.

There is something very surreal about the Academy. This is tennis coaching by George Orwell, though you will not hear Agassi or Seles complaining. Perhaps the argument for such places is the same as the one for the theatrical profession: do not let your child go anywhere near it, unless it is clear he or she would be actively unhappy not doing it. Then give all the support you can.

Bollettieri is purring about an intense 12-year-old German called Tommy Haas, and a





An old advertisement for the academy

tall 13-year-old Yugoslav called Jua Majoli But one does not envy these children their burden of precocious talent One does not envy children who carry the huge hopes of parents and, God help us, agents

Especially, one does not envy them their talents in an area when hopes can dry up forever at the age of 16, and where do you go from there? It is not that the Nick Bollettieri Tennis Academy is cruel. It is sport It is any area in which talent comes and goes so capriciously, and so young. ●

HOW SPORTSPERSONS ARE NOW USING STATUS, GOOD-LOOKS, IMAGE AND THEIR SPORT ITSELF TO MAKE A SUCCESS OF LIFE AFTER RETIREMENT

THE BUCKS NEVER STOP

There's a further group of athletes who shun both a passive retirement and the possibility of comebacks, and yet use their status to conduct high profile existences





TOMMY HINDLEY

Flo Jo: One successful Olympics and the cash is just 'flowing' in

SPORT is so vast, such an enormous soup of energy and talent, money and entertainment, that often an athlete lives in a blur of tenses From being the future to becoming the past is a swift business. A common belief is that athletes, once their career has flagged, happily ensconse themselves in $500,000 villas by the Mediterranean and luxuriate in the sun. It is a fallacy, for athletes are restless high energy, people, uncomfortable with a static existence. Many, more evident now than before, are eager to resurrect themselves which leads to that painful phenomenon called comebacks But there is a further group of athletes, who shun both a passive retirement and the possibility of combacks, and yet use sport and their

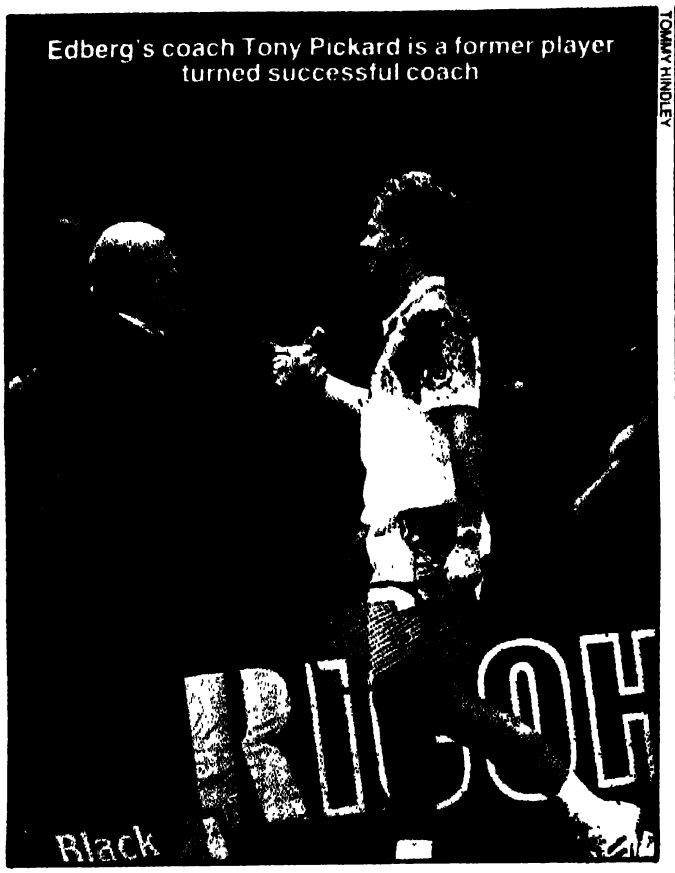
"With a body like hers she'd be a smash hit in the films. As it was she was the Bo Derek of the track": Al Joyner about his wife Florence Griffith

status to conduct high profile existences—useful existences perhaps, but no-one signs on the dotted line unless the contracts include the requisite dollar and publicity clauses *That*, never changes

THIS trend, was not set, but most acutely developed by Florence Griffith Joyner - who sped into record and fashion books with equal facility Flo Jo was not merely fast, she was sexy, and as so happened, smart too

Winning, is often not enough Agents need a personality to sell, sponsors require an image to endorse Flo Jo, with her 'athletic negligees' (her description of those seductive one legged body suits) village art painted nails and amazing talent was perfect Not only did she win gold medals and athletic awards she also secured worldwide offers for television and movie roles, not to mention commercial endorsements

Flo Jo retired saying, "My body is happy It didn't know what it was not to be woken up at five in the morning and keep training all day" Yet even so there is a high premium on her time She's doing a Hollywood film, writing and marketing children's books designing outfits for athletes and manufacturing her Flo Jo dolls Her heart, like all



Edberg's coach Tony Pickard is a former player turned successful coach

TOMMY HINDLEY

Coaching is another well used alternative, though like commentating it requires communications and an incisive thought process, something not all sportspersons can be credited with. Tennis is full of them...

good athletes, is clearly with films. "She has a great talent to be a famous actress", says manager Gordon Baskin. Currently working in a still untitled film—she plays a female James Bond—it was husband Al Joyner who put things in a sharper perspective when he said, "With a body like her's



PATRICK EAGAN

she'd be a smash hit in films. As it is she was the Bo Derek of the track". No-one, as expected, is talking about the money involved, (funny!) considering the amounts are enormous. Like $7.5 million for yet another film on her life!

Life in the glitz-lane is often unreal, yet Flo Jo's plans to open an orphanage on a 20 acre farmland is indicative that she is willing to accept responsibilities that so many athletes have shunned

THE film bug has also bitten stunning Katarina Witt, the ice maiden with two gold medals and the figure of a Goddess. The three times world champion and the Olympic winner from the 1984 games in Sarajevo, Witt was called 'Socialism's most beautiful face' by the Britishers and the 'Brooke Shields from Karl Marx Stadt,' by the American press

At the 1988 Calgary Olympics, Witt enhanced her reputation as the darling of the crowd, skating with a maddening charm and flirting teasingly with competitors from other countries Italian skier Alberto Tomba was so smitten by her (igniting rumours of a budding romance) that he came up to congratulate



Tony Greig is probably better known for his Channel Nine pre-match tantrums than anything he did during his own career

Witt was called 'Socialism's most beautiful face' and the 'Brooke Shields from Karl Marx Stadt'

her after her win bearing his gold medal around his neck It wasn't much of a conversation though according to Katarina He doesn't speak English or German I don't speak Italian So we smiled at each other she said

After her retirement Katarina enrolled herself in an acting school with an eye on a film career at the same time undertaking a





Nadia desperately trying to make it in the US

NOT all sportpeople have the ability to take advantage of their celebrity status after retirement Nadia Comaneci and Bjorn Borg being prime examples Life for them has been tough

Nadia Comaneci got lost in life after she bade goodbye to gymnastics in 1981 Despite numerous offers to coach youngsters abroad Nadia's application was turned down by the Romanian authorities repeatedly There were rumours that the slain president Ceausescu's son, Nicu was pursuing her relentlessly but she rebuffed him and in frustration decided to defect

On November 28, 1989 she along with six friends crossed the border without passports near the southeast Hungarian village of Mezogyan Nadia had left behind a 'neatly furnished flat a car and financial security for the sake of freedom On arrival in Hungary Nadia told reporters she was going to America and leaving her country forever as she had been denied permission to work or coach or even travel abroad despite numerous offers and invitations

Upon reaching America she discovered that life was not going to be as wonderful, once the initial euphoria was over "In Romania I have a house a big house," she told reporters, "but I wanted to be free, to do what I want to do " And what did she want to do? "I intend to make a movie about my story " She also wanted to be a model But the advertising

FOR SOME THE MARKET CRASHES

world felt that there was very little resemblance between the bloated Comaneci and the 14-year-old that America had come to love And her much publicised affair with another Romanian exile Constantive Pancit also destroyed her image of innocence, as he was already married

Steven Speilberg who had approached her to do a movie on her life, in fact abandoned his plans when he came to know that she had become a reckless alcoholic and was pursuing married lovers

After a short stint as a co-host of a Miami rock music radio station, she did a 1990 calendar for an American publication But when more work was not forthcoming she went away to Canada and now flits between the two countries doing whatever assignments she can lay hands upon *Playboy* magazine has reportedly offered her $200,000 to star as a nude model, an offer she earlier declined but is now seriously reconsidering

Similarly, Bjorn Borg too has made a mess of his life after retiring from active tennis in 1983 Almost eight years later, today, Borg the model of gentlemanly decorum with a laser-sharp tennis concentration has emerged as a kind of a self indulgent ogre He divorced his first wife Mariana Simonescu, then had a son by a 16-year-old girl, Jannike Bjorling, whom he never married and then came on alleged suicide attempt followed by another marriage to Italian pop star Loredana Berte whose only claim to fame was a nude frame in *Playboy* and her showy use of leather, whips and chains on-stage

With the kind of reckless lifestyle he was leading no one was surprised that his once money-spinning Bjorn Borg Design Group collapsed and the tennis great became a confused pathetic man

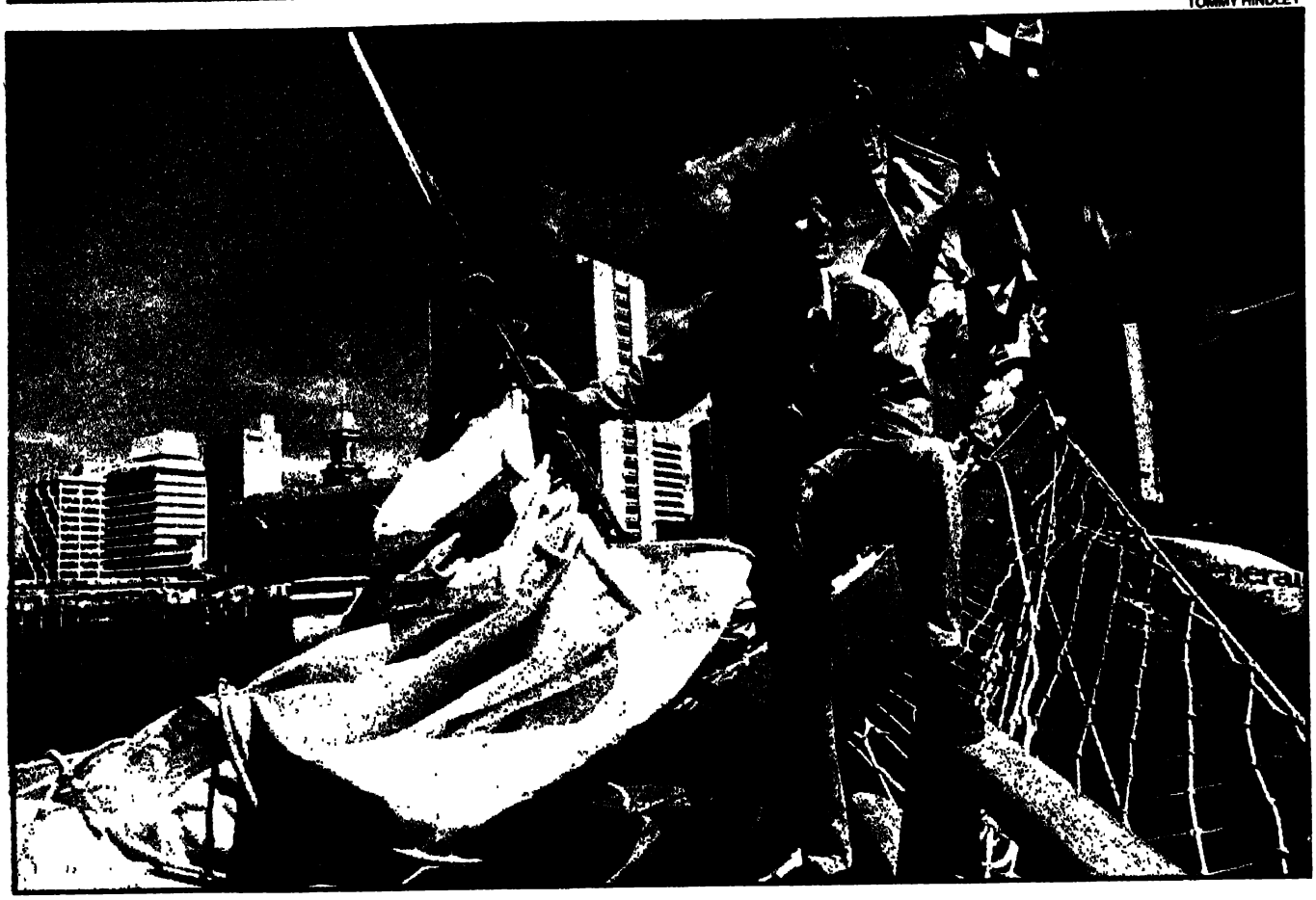
His recent comeback announcement most observers feel is an attempt to regain his monetary status after suffering a court defeat over his bankrupt fashion empire He was ordered in April 1990 to pay around two million dollars to his creditors The surprise announcement that he was getting ready to play professional tennis coincided with his losing the court cases

C. Marcus Rose

Borg and his new wife Lorendana Berte



TOMMY HINDLEY



Seb Coe by the Thames: Gunning for the post of British Sport's Minister

Although he is still coy about the fact that he has his eye on the job of British sports minister, the Tories feel that if his intelligent agression on the track is anything to go by then he may well be eminently suited for the job

coaching assignment in East Germany. After the Berlin Wall came crashing down she became a professional coach and is making a financial killing with the never-ending queue of students aspiring to be ice skating champions

Although she has just completed a TV series on her life for the Sky Channel, she insists that her film career will have to go side by side with her coaching. "I will keep training the kids," she says. And what about marriage and kids of her own? "Marriage is a distant



Spitz: You can't just wait for the phone to ring." Go and get it



From cricket hero to helicopter pilot (inset), Ian Botham has sure come a long way. Now he even gets paid to speak

dream and kids are out she says I have much more to achieve in life And in any case I m yet to find Mr Right What about Alberto? Or Boris Becker?

MARK SPITZ has already made a foray into the celluloid world But his stint as they say didn t go swimmingly Although he promised to work hard to become a good actor when he started out now he says he never seriously considered acting

After winning seven gold medals at the 1972 Munich Olympics Spitz was relegated to playing the role of a dentist in a Bob Hope movie and did commercials for Schick razors and milk It s such a ridiculous atmosphere he says If you have the mentality to sit around and wait for phone calls But that s not where I wanted to go

Instead Spitz went into business developing commercial real estate and started a company called Beach Kids that manufactures children s clothes He and his wife Suzy have a 9 year old son and in his spare time works as a commentator for ABC

But it seems the 11 times swimming gold medallist is tiring of all this as well and is working on a comeback In 1992 Spitz will attempt to rewrite Olympic history in Barcelona when he will put on his trunks and step onto the starting blocks at the age of 42 And if he wins which is a possibility it will be the comeback of the century

THERE are no comebacks though for the former British middle distance runner Sebastian Coe who has changed tracks since his retirement in 1989 Now he is raising his voice against sporting politics and officialdom in England and says he has the right kind of ideas to rejuvenate British athletics

Although Coe is still coy about the fact that he has his eye on the job of British sports minister the Tories feel that if his intelligent aggression on the track is anything to go by then he may be eminently suited for the job

As a Tory spokesman recently said He has an experienced mind an assertive personality and a dislike of fudging things He takes situations head on and is used to getting things done Being Sports Minister could be just a mile away

COUNTRYMAN Ian Botham is on a different trip altogether



TARAPADA BANERJEE

Vijay Amritraj has been player, businessman, actor and goodwill ambassador for the game. Now he is the ATP's Player Council president

The maverick cricketer has a lot to do ever since he virtually walked out of the game And his lavish ways need ample money Botham s lifestyle is dependent upon diverse activities ranging from a newspaper column to publi speaking to endor ing commercial products His colu mn in the juicy British tabloid *The Sun* fetches £40 000 annually For that money an employer wants controversy and Botham willingly provides that

His autobiography *Cricket My Way* is going into its third editions bringing in another £65 000 annually and his busy public speaking schedule earns him a tidy £30 000 annually Not bad going for a man who has long since been written off by active cricketing quarters In fact on a bright sunny day he takes to the skies as he is a qualified helicopter pilot

WHAT happens if you are not enamoured by helicopters and have neither the face for the camera or the celebrity status to be paid to talk? What happens if you have neither the skills nor opportunities to have a rich successful varied life

out of sport? No worries, mate, the boundaries of sport have been stretched so wide, that sport itself takes care of its performers Sport is now a career, not merely in the competitive sense, offering options to even those who have finished playing The athlete now, is not required, out of necessity, to look beyond his sport to survive He can exist inside it

The most fashionable (and interesting) option is of course television commentating Having played 60 Test matches or winning Wimbledon twice do not necessarily guarantee a good commentator though that was difficult to decipher in the last decade, when television networks absurdly stuffed their booths with anyone whose name rang a bell

It remains an unpredictable situation for while Channel 9 in Australia have being letting go some cricketers-turned commentators after much criticism, the American TV networks are less circumspect, unabashedly signing up Jimmy Connors and Chris Evert almost before they retired, Yet, Tony Lewis and Richie Benaud in cricket, Fred Stolle, Arthur Ashe and Cliff Drysdale in tennis, James Hunt in motor racing and Steve Ovett in athletics, have proved to be extremely adept at the mike And there are a million more, though not so gifted

Politics and power, though the genteel word for it is 'administration', is equally seductive in sport In India, most sporting associations are run by actual politicans Elsewhere, sportspeople do it Having being actively involved in a sport, means experiencing the (inept) way sport is conducted, and the (disorganised) manner in which administrators work—translated, that means that former sportspeople believe they are qualified to do a better job The lack of administrative capabilities is compensated for by their better understanding of player attitudes and wants Or so goes the myth It may never be easy as Ted Dexter, chairman of England's selection committee could tell you, yet it is rewarding as Vijay Amritraj, player's council president of the Association of Tennis Professionals, will vouch for

Amritraj explored another option that sport offers, that of goodwill ambassador Contracted by Nabisco former sponsors of the tennis tour Amritraj was required to travel widely selling the game as it were, through clinics smiles and charitable appearances



Apart from advertising for various products, Beckenbauer has become a highly successful football coach

COACHING is another well used alternative, though like commentating it requires communication and an incisive thought process, something not all sportspeople can be credited with Tennis is full of them--Tony Roche for Lendl, Tony Pickard for Edberg, Dennis Ralston for Yannick Noah but other sports are not far behind Australian hockey player Terry Walsh coaches the Malaysian team, Franz Beckenbauer and Michel Platini assist their respective national squads, Keith Fletcher is in line to coach the English cricket team, while Qamar Zaman takes care of Pakistan's squash interests as a whole

Most of these professions are highly paid Beckenbauer, for example in millions—and they also provide the high voltage, London today, Las-Vegas tomorrow-lifestyle that some crave and most are used to Most of all they retain their respect and influence which for a cynic could mean publicity, or still being recognised in your neighbourhood bar Whatever being the past as opposed to the present is not as lonely and unrewarding as it once was If sports is ceaselessly indicted for its sellout to big bucks and its rapid, ruthless commercialisation, then, at least in the modern world, sport must be credited with looking after its own To have status, an interesting job and a villa in the Mediterranean when you're 65 years old is quite a compensation

So next time your mom says it doesn't pay to play sport

By Rohit Brijnath and Marcus C. Rose

SPEED TRAP

That's the name of coach CHARLIE FRANCIS' newly released sensational book on drugs in athletics in general and the Ben Johnson scandal in particular



Charlie Francis: The coach who got caught in the speed trap

ON September 24, 1988, Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson won the Seoul Olympic 100 metres gold medal in a world record 9.79 seconds. It was an unbelievable time. In the sort of race where fractions of a second mark the difference between the leading runners, Johnson left his American rival Carl Lewis a good four feet behind. As it quickly turned out, that time truly was unbelievable. A drugs test proved that Johnson had used illegal means to achieve his astonishing result, and he was stripped of his medal and his world record.

Two and a half years later, the man who engineered Johnson's victory has decided to reveal all about the disaster in Seoul, and the involvement of top athletes with drugs. Canadian coach Charlie Francis has written a book which lays bare the scandal of steroid abuse, including detailed information on which of his own stable of stars took drugs and how they fooled the test system. Francis alleges that drug taking is so widespread that athletes have to indulge if they want a chance of winning. They face an impossible choice, he says: "They can break the rules and go to the top or obey the rules and lose." *Speed Trap* has been written to put the record straight in the light of allegations that were made about him.

He says: "We had a situation with a positive test and Ben's line of defence was, 'I have the intelligence of a pomegranate and these guys gave me stuff'. That put me in a position where I could be guilty of criminal assault and it no longer became an option to tell half the story."

But he isn't bitter about the way in which his top runner apparently betrayed him. In fact, he rather understands Johnson's motives.

"It's sort of like the Mafia, they shoot you in the kneecaps and say 'nothing personal'. Ben wants to run again so he has to toe the party line."

Which means, of course, being seen to disassociate himself completely from a coach who has been discovered breaking the rules. In admitting the extent of his athlete's drug use, Francis takes the view that someone has to speak out, if only to focus attention on finding a solution. Personally, he has been banned for life from coaching and says: "I have nothing to lose, I can say what I want."

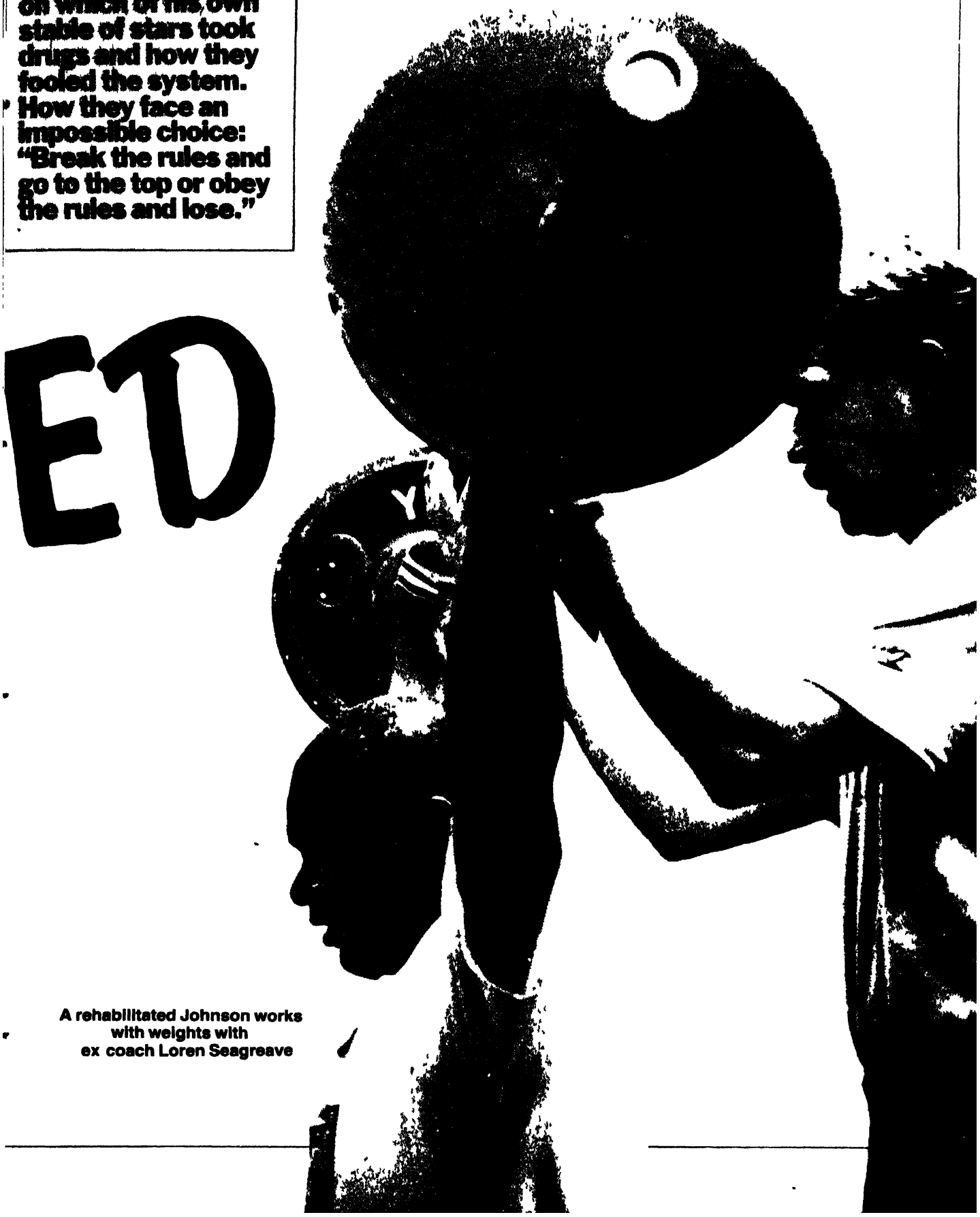
He is promoting the suggestion that athletes should be granted amnesty so they can tell their stories. His theory is that if the sporting bodies know exactly what is going on, they will have a better chance of dealing with it.

"I don't know what the solution is. First you have to find out how everyone has been getting by. But the fact is that if you don't grant amnesty you can't expect athletes to come forward."

This sounds like promising stuff from a

the extent of steroid abuse, including detailed information on which of his own stable of stars took drugs and how they fooled the system. How they face an impossible choice: "Break the rules and go to the top or obey the rules and lose."

ED



A rehabilitated Johnson works with weights with ex coach Loren Seagreave

disgraced coach, but Francis is far from repentant. In fact, it is clear he does not accept that an athlete who wins because of steroid use has cheated.

He says: "Drugs aren't unethical in themselves, they become unethical if you ban them, and when they were banned it forced everyone to become pathological liars These are prescription drugs, not illegal street drugs, and they have a long track record of safety."

Of course they can be abused, he says. "Shot putters and weightlifters can take 100 times as much, and there you have a health consideration."

But his athletes took low doses in specific cycles, to help them train harder, stopping the drug a certain number of days before an event so no trace would show up in a drugs test. In any case, steroids taken before a race would actually hinder performance, as they cause fluid retention which can stiffen the muscles. Why traces were found in Johnson's body in Seoul is still a mystery to Francis. Surprisingly, he finds it difficult to draw the line between natural training aids like liver and iron extracts or vitamin supplements, and artificial ones like

Francis' athletes took low doses in specific cycles to help them train harder stopping the drug a certain number of days before the event...In any case steroids taken before a race would actually hinder performance. Why traces were found in Johnson's body in Seoul is still a mystery to Francis

The new Johnson: A leaner look



"We had a situation with a positive test and Ben's line of defence was, 'I have the intelligence of a pomegranate and these guys gave me the stuff'... It's sort of like the Mafia, they shoot you in the kneecaps and say 'nothing personal'. Ben wants to run again so he has to toe the party line"



COLORSPORT

steroids Their effect is similar, but better, he claims

"Steroids enable athletes to achieve incredible results You can do vastly more work Fairness is a different issue and it only comes in once the ban is made People talk about ethics and values, but to me that's not productive "

Athletes choose to take drugs because of their urge to win, he says "Money is being bandied around as the reason for this, but drug abuse is greatest in sports where there is the least money, like shot putting

"Athletes are driven to succeed They love the sport, they want to be as good as they can get, they don't want to be left behind "

The fact that other top athletes were benefiting from the unfair advantage of steroid use put Francis in a difficult position, he says "I'm a coach, my athletes are looking to me to succeed, and to see if they can better their lives

"I said this is what's out there, this is what your opponents are doing you have to make the decision "

Personally, it appears Francis had already made his decision He reveals "I took drugs myself as an athlete back in 1973 and found them effective over a short period"

"Later I took them again to do weight training, and in a few weeks I was back to my best of all those years before " He adds 'I wasn t prepared to give the athletes anything I wouldn't take myself "

Although he has been banned for life, Francis is maintaining links with the sport He has done some commentating, specifically at the event where Ben Johnson returned to the track and has written various articles He is also working on a training manual for coaches, asserting ' With or without drugs the training concepts are the same, there is just a different curve of response and recovery "

According to the rules, he has a chance to appeal against his ban after seven years but Francis is adamant that he will not do so My ban was a PR gesture I was already on record as saying that I would never coach again The only way I could appeal is if I repent and change my story Then I could be clean like everyone else, with a nod and a wink "

It sounds odd, but he has no regrets about the circumstances which overtook him

"Did I do the best job I could under the circumstances and make a reasonable decision based on information I had? Yes I did I put my athletes' interests first, I did my best to make sure they didn't test positive, I worked as hard as I could and I did the job in the way I knew it could be done "

AP NEWS FEATURES

Speed Trap by Charlie Francis is published by Grafton, price £14 99

MADRAS MUSINGS

Can Srikkanth Ever Make It Back?

TILL a little over a year ago, he was the "Monarch" of Indian cricket He led the undefeated Indian team in a four match Test series in Pakistan. It was a noteworthy feat but was unfortunately not hailed as such. On the contrary, because of his woeful showing with the bat (97 runs in seven innings) Krishnamachari Srikkanth was given the boot. Not only was he sacked from the captaincy but he was not even in the team that toured New Zealand almost immediately afterwards.

It was generally thought that the dismissal of the dashing opening batsman from Tamil Nadu would only prove to be a temporary one. And sure enough he was brought back to play, under Azharuddin, at Sharjah in April. But when the team to tour England was announced, Srikkanth was again not considered. He was not recalled for the matches against Sri Lanka and did not even get the nod for the Asia Cup despite having, arguably, the best one-day record among Indian batsmen.

With a hectic schedule ahead, including visits from the West Indies and Pakistan, Srikkanth probably reckoned that he still had a chance of staging a comeback. Unfortunately for him neither the West Indians nor the Pakistanis could make it. So Srikkanth now has to wait until the 1991-92 season to try and make a comeback.

He certainly has not given up hope of playing for India again. Being impulsive by nature—very much like his batting—it was thought by some that Srikkanth

"Look," he told this correspondent when questioned about his batting style. "People know me, they know what to expect of me. That is my batting style. If they expect me to bat for eight hours and score 200, well that is not my type of game. I can score a quick 50, a quick 100 in an hour or two. They have to accept that as my batting style."



The message is clear. Why is one of the most charismatic and entertaining cricketers around not being given a chance?



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

Srikkanth at home with his father (left), wife (centre)and son (right). He must be missing the team lunches and dinners



He certainly has not given up hope of playing for India again. Being impulsive by nature—very much like his batting—it was thought by some that Srikkanth would hastily announce his retirement. In fact, possibly hurt by repeated rejections by the selectors, Srikkanth's attitude during the 1990-91 domestic season became increasingly casual

would hastily announce his retirement In fact, possibly hurt by repeated rejections by the selectors, Srikkanth's attitude during the 1990-91 domestic season became increasingly casual His leadership of the Tamil Nadu team—on paper the strongest side in the South Zone—came in for criticism The state team did not qualify, against all expectations, for the knock out stage

A lot of the blame was attached to Srikkanth for this critics said that he lacked the inspiring leadership qualities and the fighting spirit that someone like Venkataraghavan infused in the side when things looked bleak They also blamed his casual outlook with regard to net practice and strategy on the field Some teammates also openly spoke out against their skipper

Fortunately Srikkanth has it in him to take criticism like water rolling off a duck's back He is not insensitive but has the ability to take the argument into the enemy's camps, so to say One criticism was that to get back to the Indian team he should acquire valuable runs He did have a lean season with the bat in the Ranji trophy but came good with a valuable half century for South Zone against West Zone in the Duleep Trophy Semi-final His knock, however, was drowned in the avalanche of centuries scored in the competition

Srikkanth, however, is not bothered, by this criticism "Look," he told this correspondent when questioned about it "People know me, they know what to expect of me That is my batting style If they expect me to bat for eight hours and score 200, well that is not my type of game I can score a quick fifty, a quick hundred in an hour or or two They have to accept that as my batting style I cannot change and I don't intend to alter my natural style"

Does he hope to make a comeback for the tour to Australia and the World Cup? "I *shall* make a comeback" Srikkanth vows with a determination in his voice and an emphasis on the word "shall" Past records in Australia are in his favour too During both the World Championship of cricket in early 1985 and the full tour in 1985-86, he had an impressive record On the latter tour he shared the Man of the Series award with Kapil Dev

At 31, Srikkanth is still fit and rarin' to go He plays regularly for his team Alwarpet in the local league In the meantime, he has spent most of the past year or so expanding his business interests for he knows that his cricketing career cannot last much longer and he has to build a sound base for the future Away from the game, life for him centres around his lovely home in Neelankarai on the outskirts of Madras, his wife Vidya and his two sons Aditya and Anirudh

Partab Ramchand

FITNESS

OKAY it s time again to break away from the regular mode and answer some of the queries that've been coming in And we're happy to note that more and more of you people are getting fitness conscious It's a tough world out there and you've gotta be in peak shape to tackle it right?

The first letter we're dealing with this week is from 22-year-old Rajesh Mishra of Cuttack A member of his State s table tennis team, Rajesh also plays tennis and cricket but a motorcycling accident has him out of action with a ligament injury in his knee While the injury itself isn t crippling, he s been advised a six-month layoff from sport and is horrified to see the fat accumulating around his gut!

Well, Rajesh, the first thing to accept about knee injuries is that they take time to mend And the less pressure you put on them during that healing period the better So if your doc's said six months stick to it

But that doesn't mean you get podgy while you're out of action Since you obviously can't do any running or skipping—that's murder on the knees, as you know—it's in the cardio-vascular department that you're suffering Which means you aren't burning up enough oxygen and, therefore, calories All the sit-ups in the world won't keep your waist as trim as it was before Oh sure, it'll build rippled muscle but it'll all be hidden under an ugly layer of fat

So the only thing to do is cut your calorie intake for this six-month period if you're really desperate to stay in shape. Since you obviously aren't leading as active a life as you were before the accident, you don't need as much food either But if that's going to be tough to do, then let yourself go for this six-month period and then work extra hard after you've fully recovered

As for your problem with backaches, you haven't clarified whether it is an overall ache or just something that affects the spinal region of the lower back. While an overall ache could mean just that the body is reacting to the relatively sedentary lifestyle, a more localised pain in the lower back might mean you've hurt your spine too Keeping that in mind, it would be wiser to stay away from weight training exercises that place pressure on the spine.

Do curls and light-weight squats or calf raises But avoid the



Question Time

presses from a standing position as they compress the spine However, there shouldn't be anything wrong with the bench press Make sure you're very secure on the bench and localise the effort to the upper back, chest and shoulders That way you don't put the back muscles under stress

And finally, don't get too desperate to stay as fit as you were All of us undergo setbacks in our lives, so it's just something you'll have to see through Your primary concern should be to get that knee back to top gear, the rest will come automatically

The next letter is from R Surendran of Madras And he's a little confused about this "new-fangled cardio-vascular stuff" Have things changed so much in the world of fitness that old exercises like push-ups and sit-ups aren't enough, he asks

It's all very relative, Surendran If you're happy to sport a V-shape with bulging biceps and rippling triceps, then you don't really need to bother about all this cardio-whatever stuff But if you're concerned about an overall level of fitness—which is something that comes on with age—then just push-ups and sit-ups aren't going to do the trick

You see, cardio-vascular fitness is all about oxygen And how much of it you use A marathoner might not look like the fittest person on earth, but in cardio-vascular terms, he or she is about the best specimen we can find Their lung capacity is amazing, allowing them to use oxygen to keep them going and fight fatigue On the other hand, a champion bodybuilder like Arnold Schwarzenegger might hog the covers of all the fitness mags, but ask him to run even a few kilometres and he's history Oh sure, he'll cover the distance, but never at the pace the pencil-thin marathoners will

So it's really up to you If you're keen on being fit for a better life, then it's cardio-vascular workouts you should opt for But if you're just happy with looking good and flexing the odd muscle or two to attract the girls, then stick with the basic exercises Of course, you'd do well to remember that it's only cardio-vascular stuff that'll burn the fat and make your muscles really stand out!

And finally, we have one letter from New Delhi where J.S. Singh is very eager to trim his 'love handles' Good for you, J S , because that's about the toughest bodypart to tackle ..and the fact that you're talking about it means you're a perfectionist And there aren't too many of those around

Side bends and trunk twists are just what the doctor ordered for you All the iron-pumping or sit-ups in the world won't take off that irritating bulge of fat on the sides of your waistline But if you're playing some sport which involves a lot of stretching—not billiards, please—and vigorous twisting like basketball, then you're doing fine. Otherwise it's the side bends and trunk twists that you should attack with. Do them with correct form and you'll feel the effect in the sides And that's what will eventually attack the love handles

Go for it, guys. Hope the tips we've given you help out; and do write in to let us know how they worked.

Readers are welcome to send in their fitness queries to the Fitness Column. All questions will be answered to the best of our abilities

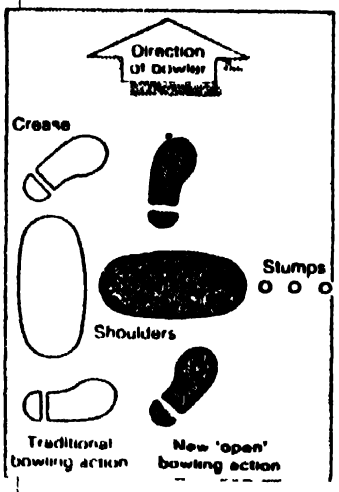


SPORTING TRIVIA

PACE ATTACK!

AS England limp away from their defeat in the Ashes series and New Zealand, a leading athletics coach Wilf Paish, is teaching a revolutionary method to Yorkshire fast bowlers, which eventually could help bring greater (wonder why the use of the comparative superlative) success to English cricket

There are three particular objections to the present day method of fast bowling First, there is a belief that cricket is always a side-on game It is accepted wisdom that, when bowling fast, the back foot should be parallel to the crease, with the front foot at about 35 degrees to the line of the pitch However, cricketers are not flexible enough to



achieve this position satisfactorily in the direction which they want to run Paish has recommended a more open bowling action, with more of the body facing the batsman

Secondly, the front foot should not be raised so high in the air in the delivery stride "You want to get the front foot on the ground as soon as possible and rotate the body,' Paish said Cricketers traditionally believe that speed in fast bowling comes from a cartwheel action

Third, Paish says that fast bowlers take too long run-ups Steve Backley, the world record holder in javelin takes only nine strides and Paish thinks that bowlers need only 11 strides at the most Javelin throwing and fast bowling, did he say" Time to bring back Roger Binny!

COMPROMISE

DRIVERS in this season's Formula One motor racing World Championship will earn 10 points for a win instead of nine, FISA announced FISA said its F-1 commission also agreed at a meeting held in Paris that each driver's 14 best results of the season will count towards the championship. Until now, only the top 11 results from the 16 race series were counted. The decision to increase the figure to 14 appears to be a compromise after an earlier proposal to let all results be included in the final standings was rejected

KING TO THE RESCUE

SPORTS PROMOTER Don King may offer bank regulators a way out of a po'itical mess involving Freedom National Bank, the Harlem institution that failed last year. Under a proposal deal to revive





Don King solving financial problems. And this time not his own

the bank, King would recapitalise the institution and assume its remaining assets, with additional funds to be provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. The deal would allow restitution to uninsured depositors—many of them charities like the United Negro College fund—who lost half their money when the bank failed. But banking with Don King could be even more dicey.



FISA's new proposal seems to be a compromise

STEROIDS BILL

MENZIES CAMPBELL Liberal Democrat spokesman and a former athlete, introduced a bill in the British House of Commons for the governmental ban of the use of anabolic steroids as a drug He said that there is hardly any sport that did not have cheats trying to out wit nature The drugs were damaging to health and life threatening Most people think that this bill has little chance of making further progress

OLYMPICS 2000

BIDS by London or Manchester to host the turn-of-the-century Olympics are seen as nothing short of a total irrelevance in German eyes, because nobody in Germany doubts for a moment that they will be held anywhere else other than the united Berlin

Even in the days before the wall came down, the mayors of the two halves of the city were talking about a joint application As the drive to unification gathered pace no less a person than US President George Bush suggested Berlin would be a good venue for the 2000 Olympics And what Bush wants Bush gets Or does he?



President George Bush recommends that Berlin gets the turn-of-the-century Olympics

MATCHPOINT

SPORTS chairmen seem to be the order of the day on the little screen. After Sunil Gavaskar's swivelling chair and Prakash Padukone's sit-in come Vijay Amritraj with *Matchpoint*, a series on golden moments of tennis at Wimbledon from 1971 onwards. The serial, produced by Radiant Sports Management, goes on the air soon.

And it's quite flashy, in keeping with tennis ace's *Hollywood* image. The credit titles appear with catchy thriller-music, probably anticipating a Bond around-the-court and love-alls of a different kind

What is interesting about the serial, which Amritraj anchors with panache, are shots of the social aspects of Wimbledon peaches'n cream, English lasses eating strawberries and cream, Rolls Royces disgorging the nobility and, in case you forgot, great moment of tennis.



A TV serial on Wimbledon anchored by Vijay Amritraj

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Who is the first sportsman from the Eastern Bloc to appear in a western commercial?

2. He wanted to be a pilot, but changed his mind after seeing a bloody crash and became a shoe shine boy instead Today he's a legend in his sport Who is he?

3. Which sport, originally named 'Pune' was invented in India?

4. All race horses have the same official birthday What is it?

5. A toxin is a poison and a philtre is a love potion What is a toxophiltre?

6. He was famous for his cool temperament and steely nerves But as a youngster he was very nasty and was even suspended by his National Tennis Association Who is he?

7. Born in a poor family he used to sell watermelon seeds for a living

Once when he failed in an exam he said, "What I will not get through the pen, I will get through my legs " Who is he?

8. "I am for tennis because my son will earn much more if he plays tennis " Who said this?

9. Two of the greatest tennis players of all time made their debut at the US Open (1973) on the same day, in the same match, one of them as a player and the other as a ball boy Name them

10. What is the most famous prayer in cricket?

11. What is the Frank Rene trophy awarded for ?

12. What was the shape of a tennis court in the early days?

13. Who won the Athlete of the Year' award for 1990?

14. Vijaypat Singhania holds the world record for the shortest flight duration of 22 days, from England to India in a single-seater aircraft What was the name of the aircraft?

15. Who won this year's Indian Derby and Indian Oaks?

RATING TEST

Above 14: Wish you were part of our quiz team
Between 11 and 14: You are not too bad
Below 11: *Sportsworld* reading recommended

ANSWERS

1 Gary Kasparov
2 Pele
3 Badminton
4 1st January
5 Student of archery
6 Bjorn Borg
7 Said Aouita
8 Sunil Gavaskar
9 Borg (the player), John McEnroe (the ballboy)
10 "Oh God, please let Victor Trumper score a century in Australia s total of 127 " Written by Neville Cardus
11 Fair play in hockey World Cup
12 Hour glass
13 Steve Backley
14 The Indian Post
15 Starfire Girl ridden by jockey Pesi Shroff

THIS QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY:
BAHADUR SINGH BHAMBANI
SHANTI JEEVAN NIWAS
C-9 GROUND FLOOR
KALINA
SANTA CRUZ(E)
BOMBAY 400 098
All answers sent in by contributor

England Launches New Weapon

4 million soccer fans

POLITICAL satirists are having a field day, courtesy Saddam Hussein. Luckily for them, world happenings are so favourable to their brand of writing that their humour has taken on a new dimension and more often than not, the subject seems to be with unerring regularity, Iraq and its ruler

One such satirist (British, no doubt) seems to have the answer on how to tackle Saddam Hussein's much acclaimed and battle hardened land forces In his analysis he feels that among all the countries that have come together to form the Allied forces, England seems to have



the edge when it comes to the much awaited land war This strength lies not in the British forces who are doing duty in the hot sands of the Middle East but in the followers of a certain sport in Britain who would make excellent ground soldiers

You guessed it, he's talking about the football fans! Says satirist Argus Hamilton in his essay on Britain's role in the war "Thank God Mother England is with us in this venture She may not have a very large army, but she's got four million soccer fans no nation wants to face."

Maybe he has got a point, even though this plan may not find favour with the drafters of the Geneva Convention.

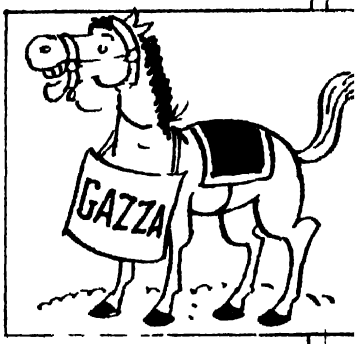
A horse called Gazza

Better than his namesake

PAUL GASCOIGNE is falling in the British popularity charts a bit Either that, or he's got horsesense Let's tell you why

There is, in the English horseracing circles, a horse called Gazza He is not a bad horse apparently and will soon be making his debut in the National Hunt From thence on, he will be transferred onto the hurdles and subsequently to chasing

Under a jockey club ruling permission must be sought if a horse is called after a



living (or recently dead) person Gazza when asked said yes (surprise surprise), so long as a quarter of any prize money goes to charity for teenaged cancer victims Is Gazza going soft?

Told you he's got horsesense

Lessons in bad behaviour

For Mike Gatting

MR MIKE GATTING we sure hope you read this and we wonder why you never thought of this before A Venezuelan baseball manager was fined for attempting to bite an umpire in the neck A baseball match was in progress between Cardenales de Lara and the Leones (lions) de Caracas A rather important match because it was going to decide the winner of a championship Therefore, the atmosphere was rather tense, and soon there was chaos

Domingo Carrasequel of the Cardenales, was upset when a Lion called Jesus Alfaro was given not out There was the championship at stake and he approached the umpire protesting furiously, jumped upon him, seized his neck and prepared to sink his fangs into the poor man's neck

The umpire was saved when the Lions dragged Domingo off and went on to win 4-3 Domingo was later fined by the chairman of the baseball association so that "Baseball rules and sporting behaviour in Venezuela be maintained "

Maybe next time Mr Gatting should try this out Pointing fingers doesn't help!

COLD WAR!

Whatever be the decision on the Delhi-Punjab Ranji Trophy controversy, it seems the issue has ended the existing detente between the two factions within the Board

THE Delhi-Punjab cricket dispute has become India's "War of the Roses" The dispute has historical origins, mingled with personal rivalry and BCCI politicking Renowned television commentator Ravi Chaturvedi summed up the entire controversy very nicely saying, "repercussions of the BCCI elections in September 1990 were evident in the Delhi-Punjab dispute " The issue of contention is really the proverbial case of making 'a mountain out of a molehill The comedy of errors started on the morning of the Delhi vs Punjab North Zone Ranji Trophy match B Nagaraja Rao, the Karnataka umpire posted for the match, failed to turn up Ironically Nagaraja Rao was a last minute replacement for A V Jayaprakash, also of Karnataka, who was unavailable due to a family bereavement

DDCA general secretary Dr S S Sareen says, "there was no second umpire till 10 p m (on the eve of the match) We were in a fix Then we appointed Mr Pritam Sood, one of the five Delhi umpires on the Ranji panel, as a stand-bye umpire There is no provision in the Board's regulations on how to act in such a situation It is surprising that umpires have not been reporting for Ranji matches Since the 1990 BCCI elections, many umpires have played truant The lack of co-ordination is surprising and there is more than meets the eye In the Delhi vs Haryana North Zone match the appointed umpire did not turn up and we played with a local stand bye umpire



Demonstrating against the incompetence of DDCA's officials. The anti-establishment feeling is on a high

It is believed that the concerned umpire got such a garbled message that he reached Goregaon instead of Gurgaon for the Delhi vs Haryana match DDCA officials are now wondering if the message was deliberately garbled They feel there is a sinister campaign to discredit Delhi, a fallout of the BCCI election last year

The DDCA sports secretary Mr Manmohan Sood added, "appointing Mr Pritam Sood was correct After all he is on the All-India panel of umpires Moreover our president K K Mehra is a member of the umpire's sub-committee of the Board, so he is entitled to take such emergency decisions "

On the morning of the match, Bishen Bedi, manager of the Punjab cricket team, objected to the presence of Pritam Sood His contention was, "I don't doubt umpire Sood's intentions but I have reservations regarding his capacity " DDCA officials maintain that umpire Pritam Sood made some blunders in the recent Steel Trophy conducted by Bedi's organisation Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL) This was brought to Bedi's notice and hence he was wary of Sood's ability

It was here that many neutral observers in Delhi feel that the DDCA erred Delhi University cricket manager, Mr Lakhmir Singh says "on the morning of the match not a single DDCA official was present There was no decision taking authority and thus Bedi got his way ' On Bedi s insistence



IT is believed that the concerned umpire got such a garbled message that he reached Goregaon instead of Gurgaon for the Delhi-Haryana match. Delhi officials feel there is a sinister campaign to discredit Delhi, a fall out of the BCCI elections last year



THE PUNJAB ATTACK

For the turbulent Bishen Bedi, the DDCA evokes unpleasant memories The distrust has a long history which commenced a decade ago in 1980-81 In those days, Bedi was the Delhi skipper in dispute with the DDCA officials, particularly the Mehra clan who controlled cricket in Delhi

When Bedi became involved in the DDCA administration he did not last long Within a year, factionalism in the DDCA emerged and Bedi was out of office An embittered Bedi left for Punjab Since then he has nurtured Punjab cricket and has naturally harboured rancour towards the DDCA So Bedi's distrust of DDCA's motivations has historical origins

Whilst Bedi nurtured cricket in Punjab, the suave bureaucrat Inderjit Singh Bindra controlled the Punjab Cricket Association Punjab's cricket got added importance when I S Bindra became an influential vice-president of the BCCI Punjab now vied with Delhi to assume the mantle of a cricket power in the North The 1990 BCCI elections exacerbated the ego problems between Bindra and the DDCA Bindra felt the DDCA had left his faction in the lurch and supported Scindia for the post of president Earlier, DDCA president K K Mehra was a member of the BBCI of which Bindra was a vice-president A piqued Bindra thus sought to avenge earlier slights and omissions by the DDCA So there were numerous causes which aggravated the Delhi Punjab Ranji cricket dispute No wonder Bindra accepted to have a rematch, provided all the DDCA officials resigned their posts After all, all's fair in politics

Pritam Sood was replaced by an available umpire Mr Anil Chowdhury who is not on the national Ranji panel Anil Chowdhury functioned only as a square leg umpire or dummy umpire

Delhi skipper K P Bhaskar initially protested at the choice of Anil Chowdhury as a square leg umpire He explains "I protested verbally against the appointment of Anil Chowdhury as a square leg umpire as he is not on the Ranji panel After all even as a square leg umpire he gives decisions on stumpings and photofinish run outs However as Bedi was insisting on it we accepted the change sportingly

DDCA s general secretary Dr S S Sareen took a similar stance when explaining the situation to the technical committee He said There is no such thing as a d ummy umpire Even from square leg he gives decisions about stumpings and run outs So we were right to replace Mr Chowdhury with Mr Sood after lunch on the first day '

Some critics maintain that though DDCA's intentions of replacement of an umpire were good they erred on a point of law and unwittingly played into the hands of the Punjab Cricket Association Punjab protested when Sood replaced Chowdhury Bedi said DDCA officials acted as if they were a law unto themselves

General Secretary Sareen stresses that the replacement of the umpire was no lapse 'We wanted the game to run smoothly It was no lapse on our part In fact we covered up the lapse of the BCCI and particularly that of the umpires' committee

The technical committee docked the points Delhi got in their convincing nine wicket victory over Punjab The working committee of the Board met at Bombay on Feb 18 to review the decision But Board secretary Jagmohan Dalmiya said more time was needed to study the evidence A senior member of the Board said, "An extra week was given so that a consensus could be reached The BCCI tries to resolve all such controversies by consensus '

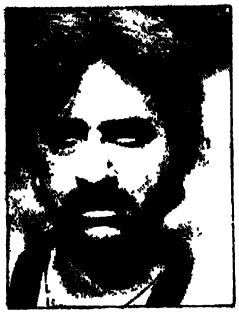
Sadly like a political crisis, this cricket dispute has snowballed into an acrimonious issue Whatever be the ultimate outcome this week,there is no hiding the fact that factionalism within the BCCI, Bindra and Bedi prestige, umpiring committee lapses and several other related issues are at stake in this dispute

Novy Kapadia, New Delhi

DELHI DEFENCE



Subash Chopra (DDCA Patron since 1987-88): The prestige and rigid stances of certain officials led to the delay in this vital decision. It is a minor technical issue which could easily have been resolved, but the dispute got needlessly politicised. The players suffered in this dispute between officials. Mr I.S. Bindra of the PCA should reconsider his decision. He has made his point. Let them agree to a replay, without asking DDCA officials to resign. The BCCI president Mr Madhavrao Scindia has a pro-player image. If he takes a decision against the players' interest. this image will suffer.



Surinder Khanna (former Delhi and Test wicketkeeper): Delhi won the match vs Punjab but the players were being needlessly penalised. Why should the Delhi players suffer, due to the power struggle in the Board. It was basically an ego problem of some important officials. The delay in the BCCI decision added to the confusion. I think a replay is the best solution. Surely Punjab do not want to play the knock out stage with a back door entry. That is not cricket. Let the decision be on cricketing merits.



Madan Lal (former Delhi skipper and Test player): Officials are responsible for the chaos. The BCCI should always consider the players and not the prestige of important officials should matter. Why should the Delhi cricket team suffer? The DDCA officials can be penalised or warned. There should be an inquiry as to why the designated umpire did not reach on time . Delhi players should not be victimised in this dispute.



Dr. S.S. Sareen (DDCA general secretary): The controversy defies logic. The BCCI working committee should reconsider the decision of the technical committee. There was no logic in the decision. No bonus points was given to either team. But no criteria is stated as to why Punjab were just awarded 12 points. Was it done to make them second in the North Zone, so that they could avoid playing Bombay in the knock out round?Cricket should be decided on the playing fields not in committee rooms.

Lakhmir Singh (Delhi Univ. cricket manager): Officials are expendable,not players. The game is more important than mere technicalities. The Delhi team, one of the best in the country, does not deserve to be punished for technical lapses. Let there be a proper enquiry as to why the neutral umpire did not come. Was it a pre-planned move to sabotage the game? DDCA can be punished by not awarding them a Test match or one day international next time.

Ravi Chaturvedi (Television commentator): Cricket matches are decided on the ground. Delhi won convincingly on the ground. Even Bedi admits that Pritam Sood made no controversial decision which altered the match. So the dispute was a technical one. The verdict of the match should not have been altered outside the ground. Delhi as a permanent Test venue is the convenor of running cricket at all levels in north India. Thus,why cannot they have the jurisdiction of appointing an umpire for a crucial match, if the neutral umpire has not come. After all it is not fair to play a crucial match with one umpire at both ends.

Interviews by Novy Kapadia and Ghaus Mohammed

RANJI TROPHY QUARTER FINAL: BENGAL BEATS KARNATAKA

Smart Moves

Bengal's intelligent use of the quotient rule and some admirable batting by Srikant Kalyani and Snehasish Ganguly, was enough to send the Karnataka team home unhappy

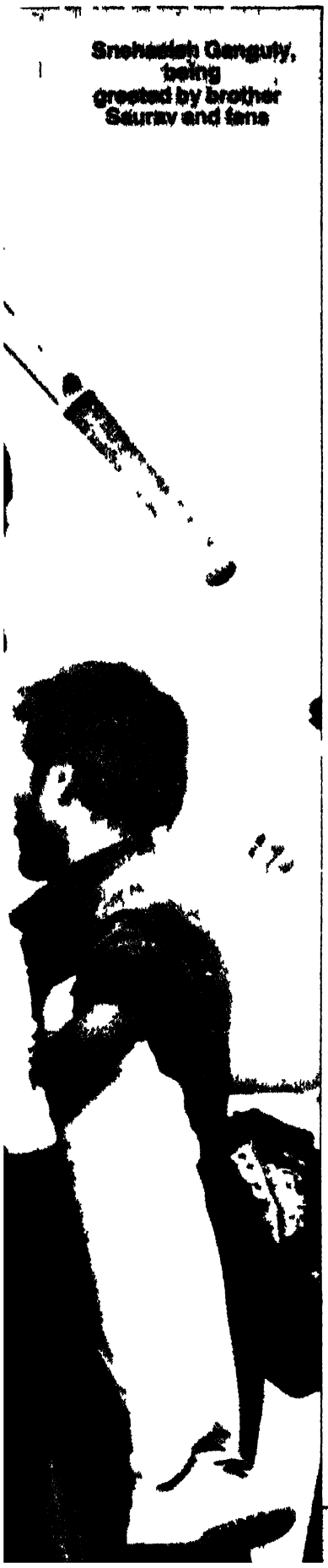
"It's just not cricket. There's nothing to talk about when one team plays fairly and the other doesn't," fumed Syed Kirmani inside the dressing room. The 41-year old Karnataka captain's outrage was understandable. His team had just been knocked out of the Ranji Trophy and that too after scoring almost 800 runs in an innings.

It was yet again the quotient rule (runs divided by overs faced) which was Bengal's saviour as Karnataka were nudged out because the home team creditably (and fairly) worked the quotient rule to their advantage. When the match ended, Bengal had a quotient of 3.26 as against Karnataka's 3.17 and the visitors finally paid the penalty of bowling five overs less in the match.

Only last season, Bengal had ridden the quotient rule (it was runs divided by wickets fallen then) to clinch the Ranji Trophy after waiting for 51 years. But never was the tension so high as this Bengal versus Karnataka quarter final match, which was riveting literally till the last delivery was bowled.

After Karnataka had set their best ever total of 791 for the loss of six wickets, very few gave the Ranji Trophy champions a chance to gain a semi-final berth. Bengal began chasing the "impossible" immediately after tea on the third day and by draw of stumps had lost captain Pronob Roy, one of the men capable of a big score.





Snehasish Ganguly, being greeted by brother Saurav and fans

To be fair conditions were not really ideal when the Bengal openers went out to bat They had spent over 16 hours on the field and were obviously tired To end the day with all wickets intact would have been a perfect beginning but with Roy back in the pavilion Karnataka had made the decisive first move

Bengal were under pressure when play began on the fourth day Arun Lal who has been Bengal's bright shining guiding light was gone A pall of gloom descended on the Eden Gardens and once opener Mintu Das was out before lunch Bengal were in trouble Ashok Malhotra exited next and Bengal's chances had virtually evaporated

But there was still Srikant Kalyani A man who had a point to prove The Bengal selectors thought he was not good enough to play for the state The former Maharashtra captain had played only two matches last season after migrating from his former state He was sidelined thereafter and only drafted into the side hours before the match against Karnataka Kalyani turned out be Bengal's man for the occasion The man who can lay claim to the lion's share of Bengal's triumph

Srikant Kalyani magnificent



But the man who somewhat paled Kalyani's immense contribution was Snehasish Ganguly, who cracked his fifth Ranji Trophy century and that too with a broken foot

Kalyani scored a career best 260 runs and spent nearly ten hours



Snehasish Ganguly, the chief architect of Bengal's success, touches his lucky charm after the victory

at the crease to take Bengal to the brink of victory. Kalyani's marathon knock started before lunch on the fourth day. He was involved in two big partnerships (with Sourav Ganguly and then with Snehasish Ganguly) to actually lay the foundation of the Bengal fightback.

But the man who somewhat paled Kalyani's immense contribution was Snehasish who cracked his fifth Ranji Trophy century and that too with a broken right foot.

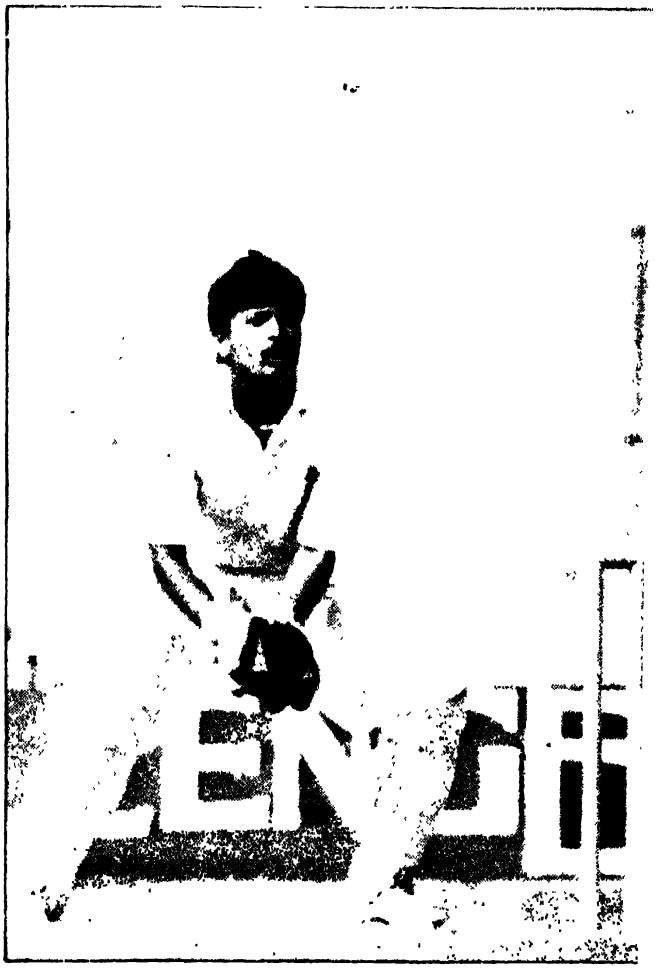
When Snehasish hobbled into bat after brother Sourav left after a gutsy 74 early on the final day, no one gave the left-hander more than a courageous 30 or 40. But a wounded tiger is always a dangerous animal. The cracked talus in his right foot appeared to make him concentrate harder as Bengal had to get at least 342 runs (to their overnight 315 for four) in a minimum of 101 overs (including five short overs) on the last day.

The target seemed out of reach since after the Kalyani-Snehasish pair, there was hardly any batting to come. And Snehasish was not expected to make more than a decent contribution. But after exactly six hours and a minute later, Snehasish made history as Bengal made it to the semi-finals, and Kirmani's men went into shock.

Bengal scored 592 for nine wickets off 200 overs. But another 60 penalty runs were added to the Bengal kitty as the home team tactically thwarted the Karnataka bowlers' to deliver the extra five overs that they had to bowl on the last day.

In one sense it was a pity that Karnataka had to lose a match they had dominated till the fourth day. Arjun Raja's career-best 267, Kirmani's gritty 112, Rahul Dravid's maiden Ranji hundred, Kartick Jashwanth's undefeated 119 and medium pacer Srinath's four for 98 all

When the match ended, Bengal had a quotient of 3.26 as against Karnataka's 3.17 and the visitors finally paid the penalty of bowling five overs less in the match



"It's just not cricket. There's nothing to talk about when one team plays fairly and the other doesn't"
—Karnataka captain Syed Kirmani

went in vain as Bengal chalked out a great win

But more than Bengal s calculated win the match will be best remembered for Snehasish s heroic unconquered 116 and Kalyani s monumental 260 It was simply a job well done

Soumitra Bose, Calcutta





Syed Kirmani: on comeback trail?

Karnataka Protests In Vain

THE already ' protest-riddled, Ranji Trophy is in some more trouble This time it will be Karnataka's turn to lodge a complaint against Bengal Immediately after Bengal edged Karnataka out of the Ranji Trophy on quotient at the Eden Garden (it was precisely the extra 60 penalty runs which Karnataka conceded for bowling five overs short), the Karnataka management said that it would protest to the board saying that the Bengal batsmen wasted time on the final day and prevented them from making up the lost overs

But all this seems purely out of frustration as Karnataka had lost a match after scoring 791 runs in the only time they batted

Bengal played clearly within the rules and even the umpires—Messrs P Godbole of Vidarbha and Devendra Sharma of Delhi defended the Bengal players

It was understandable that an injured player would take few more seconds between strokes and in three days of gamesmanship, it was only obvious that Bengal wouldn't allow Karnataka the pleasure of completing the extra overs on the last day and thus lose out on the penalty runs

SB

Photographs NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

RANJI TROPHY QUARTERFINAL: HYDERABAD BEAT BIHAR

Rain Plays Spoilsport

Hyderabad win a rain-truncated match, but is there no solution to the smaller centre's lack of facilities?

WHAT was billed as a five-day affair was truncated to just two courtesy a thunderstorm and inadequate covers At Ranchi s Mecon ground, the Ranji quarterfinal between Bihar and Hyderabad saw no play from days three to five And if Hyderabad offspinner Kanwaljit Singh was under arc- lights on the first day and teammate M V Sridhar (the M M) on the second, umpires Sanjay Shah and Surinder Sharma monopolised attention thereafter

It's a pity that the wicket suffered extensive damage very early on the third day- when the covers were blown off For, though Hyderabad had moved ahead on the first innings (298 for six, in reply to 203), the prodigious turn the somewhat underprepared wicket was affording would have made for absorbing cricket An outright result within five days was expected

That the ball started to turn even before lunch on the opening day surprised both skippers, Mohammed Azharuddin and Hari Gidwani The flamboyant Azhar, a super hit with Ranchiites, had spoken of "600 runs" for the side batting first And the low-profile Gidwani, who has decided to retire, had talked of a "perfect batting track "

But it's on a "perfect" strip that Bihar floundered abysmally Showing little grit, they plunged to 145 for nine before the last-wicket pair, Atul Ranjan Prasad and Dhananjay Singh, proved that batting wasn't all that difficult and added 58

"Had we got 350, it would have been a different ball game 203 is no total for a five-day match," remarked a visibly disappointed Gidwani But Gidwani himself contributed by getting out impulsively If the skipper, who also is the best batsman, gets 46 then the side can draw little inspiration

Though he topscored, Gidwani will recall the effort only for joining the exclusive 5,000-run Ranji Club Going into the game 21 shy of that landmark, Gidwani, played over 20 games for Delhi in the mid-Seventies, has served his adopted state splendidly

The bowling honours were captured by the extremely mild-mannered Kanwaljit, who returned a five-wicket haul for the eighth time in his nearly decade-old first class career That the wicket afforded considerable bite should not lessen his achievement The crowd showing its appreciation by lustily cheering him along

> All small centres suffer from inbuilt handicaps, but it's for the BCCI to ensure that they are not found wanting. To begin with, it's time that standardised covers are made available to all centres

Internationals,Arshad Ayub and Venkatapathy Raju, who complete Hyderabad's incisive spin attack, picked up two and one wicket respectively The solitary wicket for Raju, Man of the Match in this season's only Test—in Chandigarh vs the Lankans—completing 100 wickets for him in the Ranji Trophy No wonder Azhar feels that his spin attack is the country's best He has good reason to

Hyderabad launched their reply in rousing fashion Abdul Azeem, especially, was in a devastating mood and plundered 78 off just 74 deliveries When he eventually perished to an impetuous hit Hyderabad had already reached 128 Though Azeem didn t take too kindly to Azhar s dressing down of sorts, Azhar was correct in emphasising that "you play for the team and not yourself At all times "

The other opener, Dr M V Sridhar, then set about prescribing a bitter dose He authored a superb unbeaten 112, exhibiting both what you should--and should not—do on a turner A perfect lesson to those who wish to succeed However, the other Hyderabad batsmen seemed afflicted by a suicidal streak and the side slid to 251 for six

Credit, though, should also go to the



SANTOSH GHOSH

Azhar had predicted "600 runs" for the team batting first

seasoned Bihar spinners, left-arm Avinash Kumar and Offie Vurity Venkatram. The latter, a former skipper, had a memorable 15-7-18-2 spell on the second afternoon. Now contemplating retirement, the only motivation for him to stay on for one more season is the lure of one more wicket giving him the Bihar Ranji Trophy record of 205 wickets.

A word about the organisation. The Ranchi District Cricket Association was not short on enthusiasm, but it wasn't well prepared for a knockout match. Perhaps one shouldn't be too harsh on the RDCA, for all small centres suffer from inbuilt handicaps, but it's for the BCCI to ensure that they are not found wanting. To begin with, it's time that standardised covers are made available to all centres which stage first class games.

The script may well have unfolded dramatically had the covers been of the contemporary kind. The RDCA is indeed lucky that Hyderabad had taken the lead and so despite the abandonment, a result (on the first innings) had been achieved. There would have been much acrimony had only one innings been completed or if the side batting second had not faced a minimum of 30 overs (for the quotient rule to become operative).

L.P. Sahi

SIMON BARNES meets the men who wield power in sport: this week, PRIMO NEBIOLO

THE ITALIAN STALLION OF ATHLETICS

We turn to sport for romance, for magic for joy but the men who run sport remind us that the real world is run by people who pursue not truth and beauty, but prestige, influence money in a word power

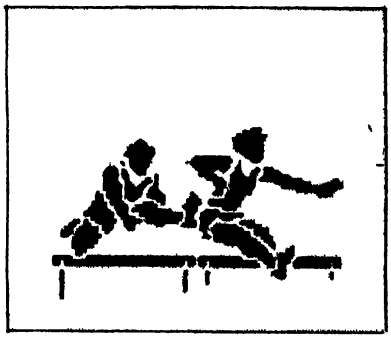
Who are these guys? One can sense their shadowy grey-suited presence every time one turns to the sports pages their names lurk half-remembered in the columns of type every time the frivolities of sport turn to business to money to power names like Havelange Nebiolo Chatrier Balestre

They have so much power as much power as a head of state say some Certainly, they command finances that make the gross national product of a third world nation look like loose change They are courted by all nations, developed and undeveloped in a fashion that would make many a global politician turn in envy and wonder

Yet they seem almost unaccountable elected by bodies almost as shadowy as themselves and year after year triumphantly re-elected by an overwhelming majority They command an army of billions, all television viewers, they command a treasury of billions for sport is some of the most marketable stuff in the world

But they avoid the headlines These go to Diego Maradona, Ben Johnson, John McEnroe Ayrton Senna These men of shadows live by power alone, and I ask the eternal question of Butch Cassidy who are these guys?

THE first power broker I visited was Primo Nebiolo Italian president of the International Amateur Athletic Federation the International Athletic Foundation and the Association of Summer International Olympic Federations His aim has always been to make athletics as popular as football an achievement that would make him one of the three most powerful men in sport Is he the most resented man in sport? The competition for that award is intense but he is a contender He is a man of confusion and obscurity all that is clear about him is his relish of the brutal in-fighting and horse trading of sports politics



Is he the most resented man in sport? The competition for that award is intense, but he is a contender. He is a man of confusion and obscurity: all that is clear about him is his relish of the brutal in-fighting and horse-trading of sports politics. "1990 was the year of football, the World Cup. 1992 will be the year of the Olympics. But," he added with great satisfaction. "1991 will be the year of athletics."



Who is to replace him? There seems nobody willing to challenge him. Nebiolo is a survivor all right. In theory—like all the sporting power-brokers—Nebiolo puts the interests of the human race first, his sport second, and himself third. Like them all, he believes that numbers one and two are best served by the advancement of number three

"1990 was the year of football, the World Cup. 1992 will be the year of the Olympics. But," he added with great satisfaction, "1991 will be the year of athletics."

His plans for this year include the world indoor championships, a world marathon cup, the grand prix circuit, the world cross country championship with 60 countries ("Great coverage! Fantastic!") even a world walking cup, and topping it all, the world championships in Tokyo.

The world athletics championships are Nebiolo's baby, and when they began in 1983, they seemed a breath of innocence in a wicked, boycott-crazy world. When they were held in Rome in 1987, they stank to heaven. But Nebiolo marches on to Tokyo.

"We had a great success in Helsinki in 1983 We went to Rome four years later and it seemed better. More coverage, more attention, more spectators. Great! Great! But in Tokyo it might be that we will say *this* was the best. Maybe in 1995 we will increase the popularity again..."

Popularity, coverage, expansion, money, power It is all the same stuff, in the end. Athletics has never had so high a profile, and it has all happened under Nebiolo's presidency. Never has the sport's reputation for honesty been lower: with drugs everywhere, the stars gone money-mad and the scandal of Rome '87

Yet, again and again, Nebiolo hangs on It is not clear at first how he attracts such loyalty He sits in his office in Rome like a Borgia cardinal who never takes tea without an intrigue He lacks both charisma and charm, things some power-brokers possess in devastating quantities He just sits there, stout, unprepossessingly bald, a few scant locks glued to the back of his skull.

His is an uncomfortable presence, "Not an easy man," one of his aides muttered He lacks many obvious things, but he is as streetwise as they come. He rose to power, as he puts it "Not for merit Not for merit Step by step. I do not believe I have many merits. I was present, I was constant Same when I was an athlete. I was constant Always there. Helping the others, trying to understand and so on It is not a life of merit It is a natural life."

He was a long jumper, never a great one. "The moment I love best is to be in the stadium watching athletics and making predictions with my wife She is a very good statistician, she knows all. But many times I win if they are not Italian " A brief shout of laughter. "If they are not Italian! If they are Italian it is not easy!"

Indeed it is not. Nebiolo has a pronounced taste for Italian triumph For example, when Italy failed to reach the final of the athletics World Cup in Rome 1981 on merit, Nebiolo had a ninth lane built on the race track "for the host nation". Far worse, the stench of the triumph of Giovanni Evangelisti still pervades his garments.

Evangelisti won the long-jump bronze medal at the world championships in Rome in 1987, the competition that was, if you like, Nebiolo's finest hour Nebiolo's triumph will forever be soured by Evangelisti, he won with a jump that officials mismeasured Nobody has proved or even publicly suggested a conspiracy. But hundreds have criticised Nebiolo for first trying to hush it up, and then striving to delay judgment. An initial enquiry, chaired by himself, found that "nothing untoward occurred". A



Seen here with royalty, Prince Albert. Nebiolo's job demands that he rub shoulders with the global Who's Who

PRIMO NEBIOLO: CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Born: Turin, July 14, 1923.
Positions: President of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF), the International Athletic Foundation (IAF) and the Association of Summer International Olympic Federations (ASIOF).
Adminsitrative career: 1947: Started managerial career with the Turin Sports Centre. **1961:** elected chairman of FISU, the international growing body of university sports, a position he still holds. **1969:** elected chairman of the Italian Athletics Federation (Fidal), a position he held until 1989. **1972:** elected member of the IAAF Council, becoming president in 1981. **1974:** chairman of the organising committee for the European athletics championships in Rome. **1978:** elected vice-chairman of the Italian Olympic Committee. **1981:** elected president of the ASOIF

later enquiry by the Italian Olympic Committee revealed the truth.

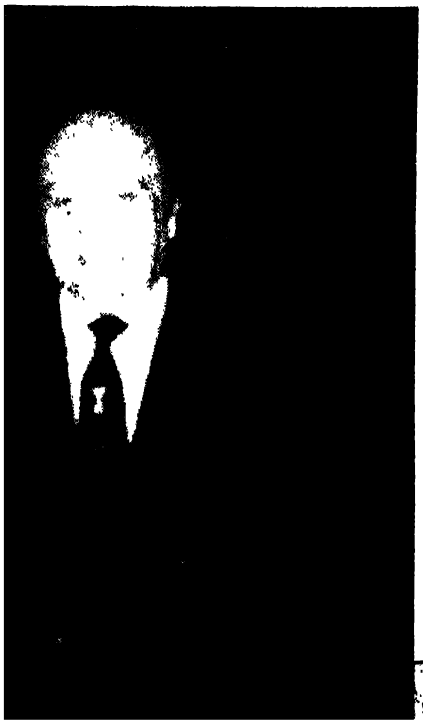
Nebiolo lost much more: he lost his international credibility, that was, in all conscience, already looking pretty tattered. Questions have been asked again and again about possible financial irregularities his possible links with a sports promotion company called Insport, and his failure at one stage to publish accounts for the charitable organisation, IAF. He was interviewed by a judicial enquiry into alleged malpractice in the awarding of marketing contracts for Italian athletics

"If you don't want to have critics, you must not try and do great things. You understand? If you don't want to be put in trouble, it is better to sleep than to work We could have had the 1987 championships outside Italy, and I would be a hero. Imagine they were in Los Angeles, Reagan coming to open them, arriving in a helicopter with me. But I prefer to have them in my country, and I have had some problems But I believe in this life it is not easy to avoid the problems We must continue to work and continue to push, and I am sure we will have good results."

There is something indomitable about him. It is easy to see where his strength lies he is the hotel-lobby negotiator *par excellence*. He has

Dr Nebiolo: may not win you over with glib talk but he has the instinct of a street smart salesman





ambitions left, but the topmost fruits on the tree look beyond his reach He has not made the International Olympic Committee, and perhaps never will. Evangelisti and the rest are likely to keep it that way, and the same problems might yet dish him when he comes up for re-election at the world championships this autumn.

On the other hand, who is to replace him? There seems nobody willing to challenge him Nebiolo is a survivor all right. In theory--like all the sporting power-brokers— Nebiolo puts the interest of the human race first, his sport second, and himself third Like them all, he believes that numbers one and two are best served by the advancement of number three.

"Why did I not spend so much time and so many forces for other ideas, other goals than sport? It was so easy to become important in politics, so easy. All the great men were with me. But then, they also believe that I am important. I don't know if it is true When I meet important politicians, they say, you are important! I say, no, you are important! I don't know...I followed what was a natural progression in my life. Life is not easy, because you arrive at a certain age—and then you cannot change "

Neither his supporters nor his enemies will disagree with that.

Next Week: Joao Havelange

BATRA TENNIS CENTRE

SCHOOL FOR TALENT

Partab Ramchand spoke to **Nandan Bal,** chief coach of BTC, on how the programme got started,its objectives and its achievements .

VIJAY AMRITRAJ has many complaints against the functioning of the All India Tennis Association (AITA) and one of them has been that there has been no follow up to the Britannia Amritraj Tennis scheme "When I set up BAT in 1985 ' he told *Sportsworld* last year I expected the AITA to take the cue and set up similar programmes in at least the four metros But nothing has been done

Peter Burwash, head of Peter Burwash International which provides the coaches for the BAT scheme, had much the same complaint On a visit to Madras about a year ago he told *Sportsworld*, "You can't achieve much by having one such scheme There should be many more such programmes Only from quantity can you get quality"

Well may be the AITA is still turning a deaf ear to these complaints (which are in a way suggestions) But at least a private party is doing something about it And thus, we have had the Batra Tennis Centre which has been functioning officially for the past one year at Pune

Former national champion Nandan Bal, is the chief coach at the centre and while in Madras to take part in the South India Tennis championship he took time off to explain to *Sportsworld* how the programme got started, how it functions, what the chief objectives are, and how effective it has been so far

According to Bal the BTC is named after Ram Batra, former Sheriff of Bombay A keen tennis

"The scheme is shaping up well and I take heart from the performance of Saurav Panja. He was a nobody when he joined this programme and he is now the No. 1 in the under-14 category." Nandan Bal

RAMAN RELIANCE NEWS



Saurav Panja's impressive performances in the under-14 category has made Nandan Bal proud

enthusiast, Batra also served as the president of the Maharashtra State Lawn Tennis Association He expired in 1983 and his sons Rajesh and Rajiv wanted to do something in their father's name which would be associated with the game he was so enthusiastic about

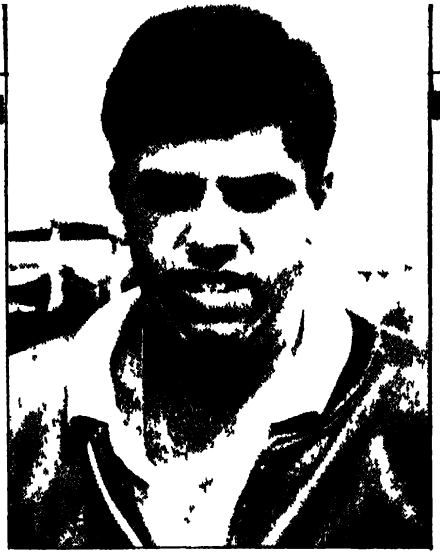
Both were good players and among their friends was Nandan Bal During the course of many conversations in 1986 the talk centred around opening a tennis academy with the help of money from the Batra Memorial Trust Bal was talked into running the show and he in turn asked for the centre to be based in Pune which was his home town

Land was taken on a long lease and four clay courts were set up late in 1989 And on February 11, 1990 the complex, complete with new courts, refurbished office building, changing rooms, pantry and a gym was inaugurated by industrialist, Nusli Wadia

The BTC started with three trainees—Saurav Panja of Calcutta, Nitin Kirtane of Pune and T S Satyanarayanan of Madras Through the academic year of 1989-90 these three promising boys trained at the centre under the watchful eyes of Bal In June 1990 a fourth boy S Saifuddin of Calcutta joined the centre, but after four months went off to the USA on a tennis scholarship

In addition to the boys attached to the programme other well known players like Sandeep Kirtane, Gaurav Natekar, Jaideep Shetty and Sulakshmi Jadhav play more or less regularly at BTC But only the boys actually attached to the programme get all the benefits The centre looks after their education, travel, clothes shoes, rackets and their food and stay "Everything is organised for the boys," says Bal "We have a tie up with Prince for the rackets, a tie up with Proline-for clothes and we are waiting for a tie up, hopefully with Puma or Lotto, for their shoes "

Bal says that he scouts around for talent in various tournaments "I am on the lookout for boys of potential in the age group 12 to



Nandan Bal is the chief coach of the tennis coaching centre in Pune

13 There is scope to improve and scope to make the base even more solid Finance is not a problem and we are committed to the basic idea of producing players of international level'

Asked as to how his programme compared with BAT, Bal says, "Very favourably In facilities and equipment, BTC is not behind BAT at all They have more experience in the field having been in existence for almost six years compared to a little over one year for us But here Bal wondered how much more successful the programme would have been, had the Amritraj brothers practised more often with the boys "The personal touch is very important I remember when Ramanathan Krishnan played with me when I was a junior in 1975 I felt proud and it would have been better if the Amritraj brothers had played with the boys more regularly"

Is he satisfied with the results so far? 'Well I can't say I am 100 per cent satisfied But the scheme is shaping up well and I take heart from the performance of Panja He was a nobody when he joined the programme and he is now the No 1 in the country in the under 14

"When I set up BAT in 1985 I expected the AITA to take the cue and set up similar programmes at least in the four metros. But nothing has been done."—Vijay Amritraj

category Overall the programme has been satisfactory I try to instil in the boys the commitment that they have to work hard, and I do believe I am getting the message across to them"

BTC has expanded not only in terms of boys and activities, but also in the personnel running the centre Late last year M Balachandar, a well known figure around the circuit, joined the programme as assistant coach And looking after the boys education, diet, health annd general welfare is Sheila Nandan, Bal's wife Her role is akin to that of Mrs Amritraj in the BAT scheme

What of the future? "We hope to expand our activities", says Bal "As I said, we hope to add three more boys for the academic year 1991-92 And then we have to concentrate on international exposure Last year Nitin Kirtane and Sathyanarayana went to the USA to attend a two month camp in Florida This year hopefully we will send two more boys to the same camp in June Then we will be sending two boys to ITF tournaments in Europe and USA"

Even though finance is not a problem for the centre because of the money in the Batra Memorial Trust Bal says that the boys trips abroad were sponsored "Rajesh and Rajiv have enough connections to get these things sponsored Sponsorship for tennis is not a problem in India and it is time that the AITA woke up to that fact I mean, that's what they are there for isn't it? - to promote tennis in India Out of quantity comes quality and more such schemes would certainly benefit Indian tennis "

Vijay Amritraj made much the same point "Sponsors are available, but it seems that AITA does not have a marketing arm"

It is time the AITA gets that marketing arm It is not enough for private individuals, companies or trusts to promote tennis in the country Why would they be doing that in the first place for isn't it, the job of the AITA?

Women Arouse Hope

WHEN Jyotsna Dutta realised that her days were numbered in the shot put arena because of the "raw deal" meted out to her, she bid farewell But the hunger to remain in the limelight still lingered Since she had the strength, the will and the knack to do things, she soon decided to try weightlifting That was back in 1985 during the National Games at Delhi when women's weightlifting was introduced for the first time

Jyotsna did not face much opposition and made immediate news Since then, women have begun to take fresh interest in the sport, and with each passing year the iron ladies have shown marked improvement national records were broken often and finally medals were won at the Asiad

Since the time Jyotsna Dutta and Chaya Adak took up weightlifting Bengal's name figured prominently at the national level But there are limitations despite their presence the overall trophy eludes the team So the tussle for the team title centred on Punjab and Tamil Nadu (and were placed in that order)

At Ambala recently, where the 6th women's and the 43rd men s weightlifting championships were held concurrently, as many as ten women s records tumbled In fact, this was the first women s meet after the Beijing Asian Games where three Indian ladies won medals (Chaya Adak, Kunjararani Devi and Jyotsna Dutta)

So it was expected that the trio would have a cakewalk in their respective classes Chaya Adak kept her reputation intact She not only shattered all the national marks in her 52 kg category, but also improved upon her Beijing performance (152 5 kg) by a massive 16 5 kg which also enabled her to be adjudged the best woman lifter at Ambala

What about Kunjarani Devi of Manipur? Her's was perhaps the biggest upset in the nationals It was unexpected, though her display in the 44 kg class was rather appalling She lifted 15 kg short of her previous best of 145 kg and lost to Tamil Nadu's K Surya Prabha (132 5 kg) by 2 5 kg

There was to be yet another upset The reigning junior champion in the 60 kg class K Narasamma of Andhra Pradesh humbled the illustrious Karnataka and five times national champion Shyamala Shetty The interesting feature in the contest between the two was that three new marks were created Narasamma lifted an overall total of 182 5 for a new record (old 177.5 kg) and another in the snatch 80 kg (77 5 kg) Shetty's consolation was improving the old clean and jerk mark of 100 kg by 5 kg Another Andhra girl N Lakshmi created a sensation by winning three gold medals in the 56 kg category

Despite the improvished facilities the women's performances were brilliant especially from the younger ones who, given the right facilities, could go places They are as strong as the Chinese women lifters, as was evident from the fact that out of nine weight classes ten records were rewritten

However there wasn't much to write home about the men's performance It looked rather stagnated although five records were erased As it is, the sport doesn't generate much attention but the final day saw Dalbir Singh of the Railways (which also won the men's team championship with 436 points) attracted the public with a superlative performance in the super class In the snatch he lifted 160 kg (which was better than the earlier mark by 2 5 kg) and hoisted a total of 347 5 kg—an improvement of 5 kg But medal prospects in the 110 kg class is a far cry for India, as Asia's best of 405 kg is in the name of Iran's R Ali Taymori

Harun Riaz, Ambala



Jyotsna Dutta: consistent

Not Wanted!

THIS has reference to the writeup 'Tall scores and frayed tempers' in the Duleep Trophy final at Jamshedpur A sportsman makes a good citizen only if the foundation is well, and truly laid The present day cricketers are taking things lightly and are giving a bad name to the game that till now was referred to as the gentleman's game Physical assault is surely not warranted in a gentleman's game or for that matter in any other sport
JAYANTHY SUBRAMANIAM,
Madras

Jubilant!

IT was a case of great jubiliation that the Indian tennis team defeated the Thailand team in the Davis Cup fixture at Bangkok The Indian players, now that they have tasted blood should go all out to win the next tie
KAWAJA TUBA ANJUM
Unnao

Deplorable

THE pictures published by the magazine in the issue dated 6 12 February 91 of film stars was really deplorable A magazine which is specially meant for sports lovers is slowly relinquishing its post to become another of those movie mags so freely available I hope that better sense will prevail
KAUSHIK MAZUMDAR
Calcutta

Gorgeous, but..

THIS has reference to the photographs of filmstars in the issue dated 6-12 February '91 The photographs were gorgeous but Madhuri Dixit seems to be blatantly disregarding the basic rules of chess Some of the ambiguities in the photograph of hers were
1) According to the rules, the chess board should be set up such that on one's own side, a white square is at the extreme right hand corner The board seems to have been set otherwise
2) The white knight has been upstaged from it's position and is placed on the square next to the king while the other knight is in its normal position
3) Moreover both the black bishops seem to be on white squares
Wonder whether Miss Dixit really knows how to play chess!
SARBAJIT SENGUPTA
Calcutta

Shocking!

BCCI's banning the Delhi cricket side from participating in the Ranji Trophy was shocking The change of an umpire in one of Dehli's league matches without the consent of the rival captain has invited wrath from the BCCI in the form of a ban that will be felt more by the players of the Delhi side than it s officials The BCCI should have directed their punishment to the Delhi officials and left the players alone
SRINIVAS NYPATHY,
Rajahmundry

Enjoyable

SO, that's how our movie stars keep fit, (Issue dated 6-12 Feb '91) I thoroughly enjoyed the novel feature that explained how hard the stars worked to stay fit without letting age catch up on them

The article on Boris Becker (King at last) was also enjoyable Here is a youngster who has persevered for the last four years and has finally become No 1 Kudos and good luck
AMIT A LOIWAL
Baroda

Incredible

KUDOS to Boris Becker for having made it to the top of the tennis world The way he ousted Ivan Lendl in the final at Melbourne was incredible It points to the fact that this man has the stamina, skill and determination.
UMA KAREDLA
Rajahmundry

Boris Becker with Helmut Kohl



THE HEALTH COLUMN



AS a part of your new year resolutions you might have taken up jogging or running to keep fit to keep the girth in control Then what happened?

Either you did not feel motivated enough to get up in the wee hours of the mornings The temptation the bed held was too much Initially you felt guilty and promised to do it the next day, yet gradually you became so used to the guilt that it just stopped bothering you

You went into it with so much of zeal and vigour, that you began experiencing pains and aches and these aches were excuses enough for not making that extra effort in the morning The good news (should we call it so?) is that you don't have to injure yourself just because you are a runner Here's how

Step One—Buy a good pair of running shoes.

Banish those images of great athletes running barefoot Running barefoot on hard surfaces actually does more harm than good So get yourself a good pair of running shoes First of all pick up the right size The right pair fits snugly and yet you should be able to move your toes inside Get yourself a pair that has good cushioning because you're gonna need that when you go pounding the asphalt Remember that the shoe should be light, otherwise you are going to tire those legs too fast Shoes go a long way in preventing injuries like stress fractures and tendinitis

Step Two—Set up a smart training programme: Most runners especially the rookies injure themselves when they try to do too much, too soon Even experienced runners injure themselves when they push their systems to conquer those extra miles Increase the mileage and intensity gradually On a weekly basis increase the milage by ten per cent

Remember the first step is to get that creaking body of yours into some shape Once you achieve that,you can

BEST FOOT FORWARD

add variety to your jogs with speed bursts and tempo runs And when you are finally ready then set yourself a goal and tell yourself that you can achieve it one day

Step Three—Train don't strain Before embarking on the fitness voyage you must have heard people repeating the adage No pain no gain Well forget that and don t take it to be the gospel truth because if you feel pain you won't gain

We are not talking of that mild to moderate discomfort or aches that accompany training, but of real pain that comes with injury As soon as you feel the injury pain stop A word of advice to the rookies If that mild pain does not abate within the first 5 to 10 minutes stop, and apply ice to the injured area

Step Four–Rest Schedule easy days including a few off days from running Many runners believe that if they do not run for a couple of days their level of fitness falls That is not true On the contrary a few easy days, (called 'tapering' technically) is good for boosting up performance because it gives the system some much needed recuperation time

The beginners should try to work up a basic–three days a week routine and maintain that schedule for several weeks As your fitness increases you can slip in a fourth day somewhere Once in a while indulge in some alternative exercises such as cycling, weight training or aerobics

Step Five—Listen to your body. When you work out or run, your body will issue certain commands Listen to, and obey,these commands If your body tells you to slow down, do it If you are experiencing pain, take a break If you are feeling tired or sluggish, take it easy Or you might just need to skip a morning run to catch up on some extra sleep Just make it a point to be back on the track the next day Also put in more carbohydrates and proteins into your diet

Step six—Have fun Don't lose sight of the best reason to run—because it's fun Regular running will make you feel better both physically and mentally You'll develop a positive self image and to top it all you'll have more energy Remember, the bottom line always has been, 'Just do it!'

Once in a while alternate running with other exercises like cycling



SOCCER'S NE

They are called Mr. Fix-Its, Mr. At Least Ten Per Cent and are a new trend in European football but now it

'If you want to ask him the time, you go through his agent.' Those words were barked down the telephone line by the wife of a First Division footballer preparing to play his first FA Cup Final. The message was clear. Money talks—and in this instance it was saying goodbye. It was also a sign of the times. Mr At Least Ten Per Cent had arrived in football—to stay. Agents used to be associated with actors and pop stars. But the Eighties was the decade of the agent in soccer. The public perception of a footballer's agent now lies somewhere between a vulture and a shark.

Mischievous, parasites and the most De-stablising influence on modern-day football are other bouquets hurled in agents' direction. It was disclosed recently that one Mr Ten Per Cent had become Mr Thirty Eight Per Cent. Love them or loathe them, agents are now part of the soccer scene.

But are they the bad boys they have been painted or simply victims of a bad Press?

A sub-committee set up by The Football League in England is holding a series of meetings-to investigate the growing power of agents, and it is hoped that the process could lead to a code of conduct.

One aspect the committee is examining is the Football League's Regulation 80, which forbids the involvement of agents in the transfer market. This rule is broken on a regular basis, and the present moves to grasp one of the sharpest nettles in football is welcomed by some of its most



Mark Hateley and Glen Hoddle were two English signings for Monaco. Agents prefer the players to go abroad because the money is more

W BAD BOYS

described as a growing evil in football. Player agents are not ooks like they have come to stay....

influential figures

Liverpool chief executive Peter Robinson and his Everton counterpart Jim Greenwood are just two who share the growing concern about the activities of agents

Robinson says the emergence of the agent is an Fifties phenomenon, and delivers a prime example of why he is convinced action is necessary "Some of the deals being struck concern me very much I heard of one instance where a player's agent had done a deal which gave him 25% of the player s total earnings That means the player is doing four years work for three years' money That is immoral '

"I would like to see agents having a proper grounding in what is needed when advising footballers, such as pension payments

"Young players who are maybe naive, are being taken advantage of and that has got to be stopped Sometimes people are not acting in the players' best interests, but their own "

Agents are accused of flourishing in an atmosphere of unrest The theory is that a happy client is unlikely to yield as much cash as an unsettled star "It is difficult to prove, but agents are normally able to make money as a result of players moving, not staying particularly if they can get them abroad It is

infiltration of agents into British football

The leader of the 4,000-strong Association declares "Some agents get a law

Love them or loathe them, agents are now part of the soccer scene. But are they the bad boys that they have been painted or simply victims of a bad Press?

not that all of them are bad Some do a good job for the players they represent' says Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson

But he adds "The bad ones really do go over the top and can cause lots of problems '

Ferguson is convinced the emergence of the agent has severed a vital bond between players and managers 'They have changed the whole soccer scene for managers There used to be a bond between players and managers where they would come to you with a problem Now that doesn t happen "

Gordon Taylor,Chief Executive of the Professional Footballers Association delivers a classic quote from America to voice his suspicions about the degree from Harvard and some agents get the third degree from the police "

We are concerned about cases where players are promised the world and nothing is delivered We have no objections to professional advice or an adviser earning an income What concerns us is cases when they take a percentage of a player's football earnings "

Taylor adds "In general they are a de-stabilising influence on the game A lot like to make a percentage of signing-fees, so if things are stable and settled they are not making the same money "

Neil Ramsay is an agent himself, numbering 10 members of Everton's first team squad among the 50 players he represents

He knows the criticisms levelled at agents and says "I can sleep at night, I've got no need to tell lies to anyone, I feel I do what I do in an honourable way "

"The football has got to be right The home life has got to be right The money has got to be right And none of them come in a particular order

"But money doesn't make the world go around One of my players moved back to London He's on very good money but is being driven up the wall because the football isn't right "

"Managers sell players and then start having a go at agents You have to ask whether they are not just trying to appease the fans after selling one of their best players "

Signing-on fees is just one subject under heavy discussion, but Ramsay says "I am paid in relation to the amount of time I work on behalf of a player, which is on-going Whether he moves or stays doesn't matter "

The agent comes in for blanket criticism for being a de-stabilising influence, creating a transfer merry-go-round and lining his pockets

Philip McNulty

FOOTBALL CONTROVERSY

MONEYMANIA

THE year 1991 could well emerge as the year of dispute in Indian football. A meeting last month in Thiruvananthapuram, between the All India Football Federation (AIFF) and representatives of the leading national tournament organisers brought into focus many acrimonious issues: Finances, allotment of dates, schedules and inviting foreign teams and so on.

Another suggestion of the AIFF which was rejected was that every major tournament be held in alternate years. All major tournament organisers turned it down outright.

At the meeting, the AIFF were represented by its President, Priya Ranjan Das Munshi, secretary Mr. P.P. Lakshmanan and ex-secretary, Mr. Ashok Ghosh. Representatives from the Durand, Rovers, IFA Shield, DCM, Stafford Cup and Sait Nagjee tournament committees attended the meeting.

The Durand secretary



Priyaranjan Das Munshi: adamant

Novy Kapadia exposes how a money-minded All India Football Federation has suddenly started putting pressure on various tournament organisers to pay more and more to the parent body for holding some of the most traditional soccer tournaments of the country

Cdr. S.S. Kahlon and the DCM secretary Rajat Mukherjee admitted that the tournament representatives had to take a joint stand on several issues, due to the unreasonable attitude of the AIFF. Both admitted that the AIFF's financial demands were excessive.

Explaining the background to the disputes Cdr. Kahlon said, "The affiliation fee payable to the AIFF for organising an "A" Grade tournament was Rs. 10,000 till recently. Recently it was twice increased to Rs. 15,000, and then last year to Rs. 25,000. Tournaments which invited foreign teams had to pay Rs. 5,000 per team." For instance last year the DCM paid the AIFF Rs. 35,000 as they invited two foreign teams from South Korea and Nepal.

Tournament representatives were shocked when the AIFF suggested that the affiliation fees will be raised further. All the tournament representatives united to vehemently oppose the motion. Due to the zealous opposition, the AIFF could not muster any support for increasing the affiliation fees. The motion was left adjourned. Tournament secretaries argued that due to inflation, organisational costs increased substantially. Hence, paying an additional amount to AIFF would exacerbate their financial burden. Cdr. Kahlon stressed, "Organising A grade tournaments helped football in India, so we should not be penalised by being made to pay more annually." However some AIFF sources indicate that the parent body will start a divide-and-rule policy. The affiliation fees of elite and traditional tournaments like the Durand, Rovers and IFA Shield will not be increased. However, there will be a substantial hike in the affiliation fees of tournaments with a commercial background. Thus, for instance, the DCM and Nai Duniya (Hindi newspaper in Madhya Pradesh) tournaments will have to pay Rs 40,000 each as affiliation fees in 1991. Besides they would pay an additional Rs. 5,000 for each foreign team invited.

The Durand committee secretary Cdr. S.S. Kahlon said, "The affiliation fee payable to the AIFF for organising an A grade tournament was Rs. 10,000 till recently. But then it was twice increased to Rs. 15,000, and then last year to Rs. 25,000." And tournament representatives were shocked when the AIFF suggested that the affiliation fees will be raised further

Another suggestion of the AIFF which was rejected was that every major tournament in the country be held in alternate years. The AIFF secretary P.P. Lakshmanan's plea was "We have about 125 tournament committees applying to us for registration. We have whittled the number down to about 85 but still there are too many tournaments and everybody cannot be satisfied. Even if each tournament is of ten days' duration, they cannot be accommodated in a single year. Also the top players get tired playing in so many major tournaments, so it will be better if the tournaments are held in alternate years."

Again the major tournament representatives rejected the suggestion outright. The Durand, Rovers, IFA Shield and DCM tournaments with a rich tradition felt that their sanctity would be destroyed if they were held in alternate years. Like last year, the AIFF insisted that each tournament committee invite only eight outstation teams. This suggestion led to further animosity. Cdr. Kahlon argued that all tournaments will want the same eight teams, Mohun Bagan, East Bengal, Mohammedan Sporting, JCT and BSF, Mahindras, Kerala Police and Salgaocar, Goa. He said, "All tournaments will thus become replicas of the Federation Cups and there will be no surprise team in any tournament." The DCM are particularly upset at this decision, as they had a rich tradition of introducing new teams. Leaders Club, Jalandhar, RAC Bikaner, NEI Jaipur, PSEB Hoshiarpur and Bokaro Steel Plant made their mark in the DCM tournaments of yore. DCM was the first to invite a team from Goa way back in 1963. Vasco, Goa played in the DCM in 1963.

Tournament secretaries are upset at the mercenary motivations of the AIFF. With an eight team restriction, most tournaments will conclude quickly and so more tournaments can be affiliated in the vacant dates which will bring in more money into the AIFF coffers.

Also the idea of holding tournaments in alternate years is not due to the parent body's concern for players' welfare. The AIFF desire to give permission to many more tournaments is only to gain more affiliation fees.●

KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND



Legs in *kokutsu dachi* position. Right hand moves to the right side rib cage and the left hand fist is placed on top of the right fist



Left hand moves to the *uchi uki* position and the right hand in to the *chodan uki*



Left hand moves back and rests on the right shoulders. Right hand strikes out in *tet sui uchi*

THIS week we start a new kata called the *pinan sono ni*

Start from the same position as in *Pinan sono ichi* i e , *mokso* and the *yoi*

Your legs should move to the *kokutsu dachi* position and retain it for the next three moves Your right hand should move back with the palm enclosed to form a fist near your right rib cage The left fist should be placed on top of the right fist

For the next move your left hand should shift into the *uchi uki* and the right hand into the *chodan uki*

Thirdly, the left hand moves back and rests on the right shoulder and the right hand strikes out in *tet sui uchi* aimed at the armpit of your opponent

By Shivaji Ganguly

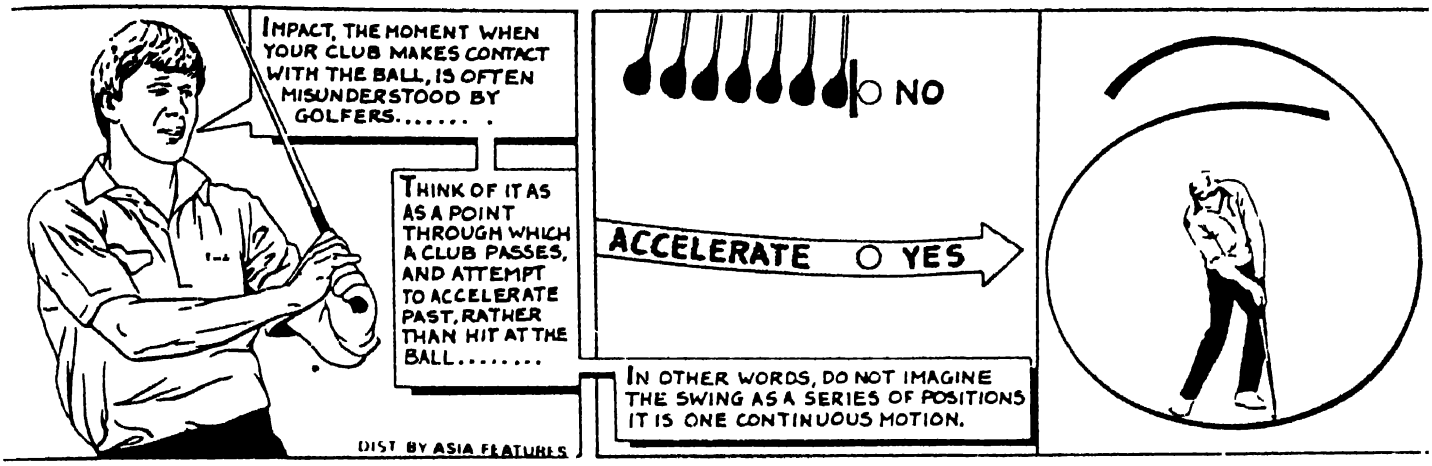
Kyokushinkaikan karate

PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA

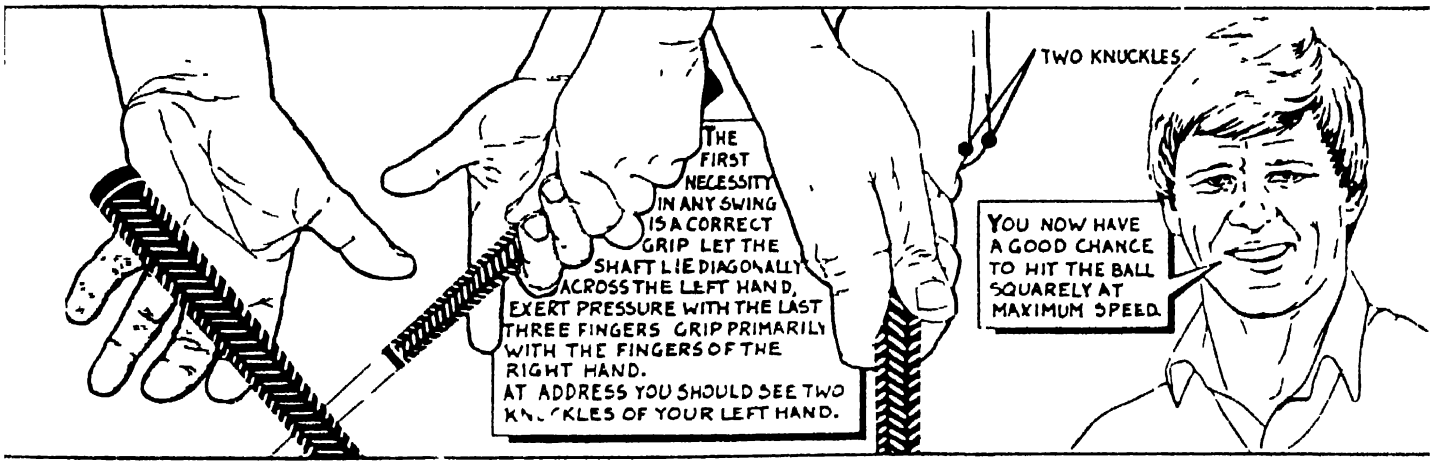
The All India Instructors Camp organised by the Kyokushinkaikan karate HQ is being held from 4 10 March 1991 at Harish Park Bhawanipur Calcutta Any person with a good martial art background can apply to Shivaji Ganguy at 136 Harish Mukherjee Road Cal 25 Fees Rs 1 600 (inclusive of camp fees board and lodging) Reporting ate 3 March between 4 00 and 6 00 p m

THE FALDO FORMULA

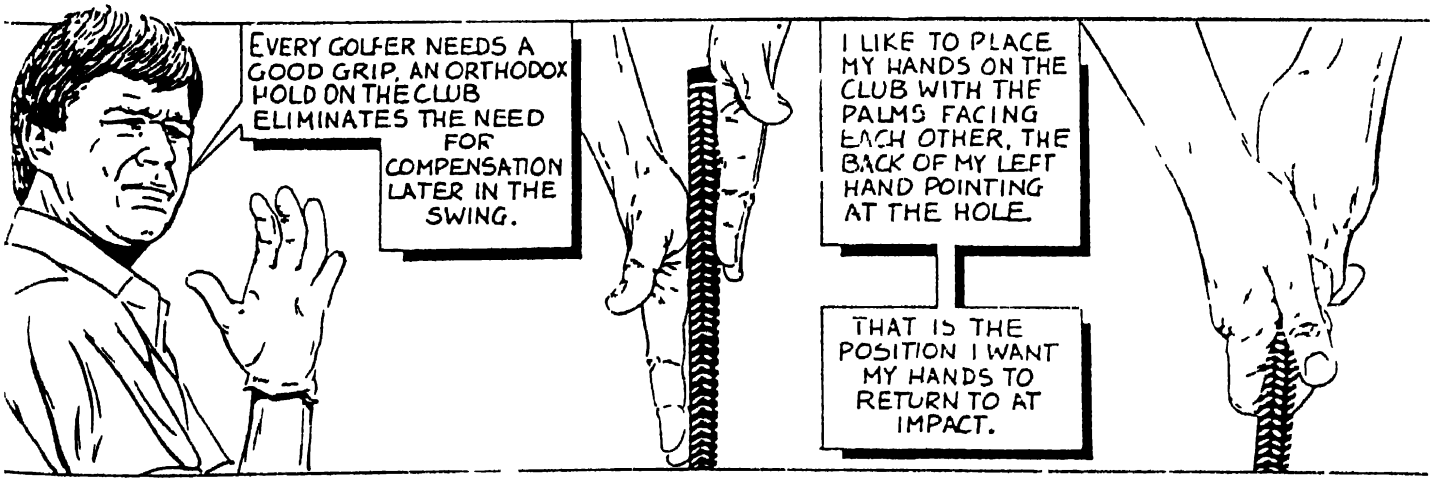
Understanding Impact



The Grip



Grip with the Palms Facing



NEW DELHI

Lal Bahadur Shastri Hockey

PUNJAB AND SIND BANK thrashed IFFCO 4 0 to lift the Lal Bahadur Shastri Memorial hockey trophy held in New Delhi's Shivaji Stadium recently

Several top teams such as Air India IFFCO, Namdhari XI, EME, Orient Sports Club (consisting of many Indian Airlines players) participated in the tournament which was sponsored by Orient Sports Craft Club in collaboration with the Lal Bahadur Shastri Memorial Hockey Society

Namdhari XI were unlucky to have lost to a young and inexperienced IFFCO side in the semi-final, when senior international Hardeep Singh missed an easy penalty stroke less than a minute before the goalless match ended However, in the tie-breaker, IFFCO's goalkeeper Nadir Ali put up an impressive show and sealed Namdhari's fate

In the final, Punjab and Sind Bank had no difficulty in outplaying IFFCO and their star forwards such as Gundeep Kumar, Ram Saran and Ripudaman Singh scored at will

Rasheed Kidwai

BANGALORE

State Carrom

A GHOUSEKHAN, of Bharat Electronics Ltd , emerged senior singles and doubles champion in the 11th Annual State Level Carrom Tournament organised by the Telecom Recreation Club

In the singles, Ghousekhan, overcoming a stiff challenge from Saleem Ahmed beat him finally 25 14, 15 25 25 21 and pairing with M Govindraj beat Saleem and Seena 4 25 25-21, 25-11

In the women's singles, B S Jaya of LIC beat Roopkala Anand of State Bank of India 25-22, 25-15

Other results (Junior boys) Ismail beat C Vijayan, 25-11, 8-25, 25-21 (Non-medallist singles) Habeeb, Sobha Carrom Club beat Shafi, Hindustan CC, 11-25, 25-5, 25-24

Ralph F. Patrao

NAGPUR

Central Railway Hockey

LAST year's runner-up Jhansi Division with their improved performance this year annexed the coveted trophy in the Central Railway Inter-Divisional Hockey Tournament

Except for the semi-finalists—Jhansi, Bombay, Jabalpur and hosts Nagpur—the rest of the four teams Bhusaval, Solapur, Bhopal and Combined Work-Shops put up a very poor performance

Last year's winners, Jabalpur lost to Jhansi in the semi-final and their players indulged in rough play during the game After the match, two of their players who tried to assault an umpire with sticks were beaten up by the spectators Bombay beat Nagpur in the second semi-final via the tie-breaker

The final between Jhansi and Bombay was a dull and drab affair which finally saw Jhansi emerging winners They



Members of the Punjab and Sind Bank hockey team with the Lal Bahadur Shastri trophy

struck once in each half through Kaushlendra and K.P. Yadav.
Joseph Rao

JAMSHEDPUR

Sports Complex

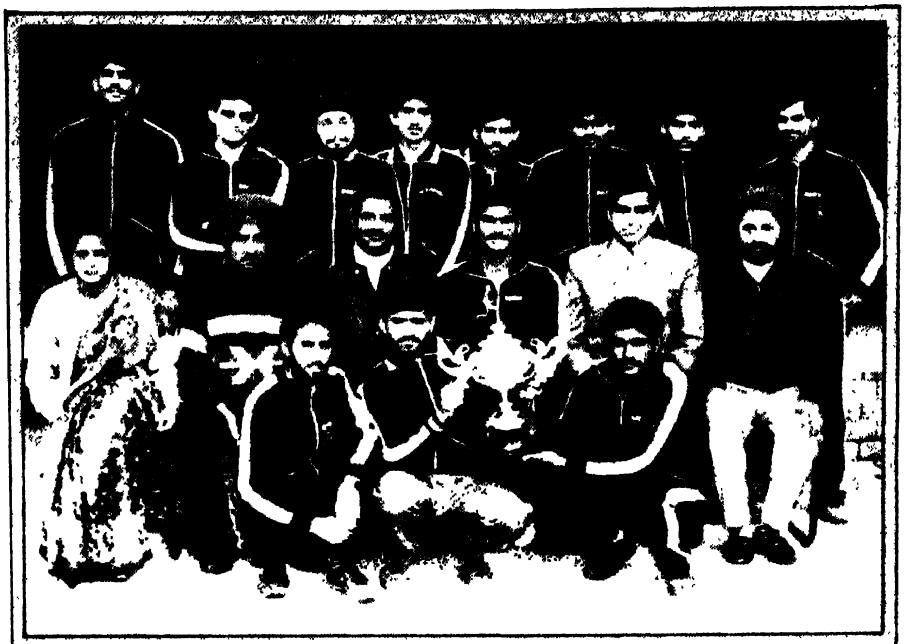
MR.J.R.D. Tata, Chairman TATA group of companies inaugurated a new sports complex named after him at Jamshedpur. The rupees 11 crore complex is a gift from Tata Steel to the people of Jamshedpur.

The complex has been primarily designed for hockey, football and track and field events with a seating capacity of 35,000 and provisions for further expansion. The complex sprawls over 30 acres and there are plans to add a swimming pool and a multi purpose indoor stadium.

One of the highlights of the complex is the eight lane synthetic track to be imported from Germany.
Anjan Chatterjee



RAJESH KUMAR



NEW DELHI

All-India Inter Varsity Athletics

Delhi University emerged the champions after a gap of 16 years in the All-India Inter Varsity Athletic Championship held at Kalyani University. The Delhi University men claimed four gold, three silver and two bronze medals to top the table. (In picture) The Delhi University team.

CALCUTTA

Thums Up Inter-School Cricket

AGARPARA MAHAJATI VIDYAPITH finished as the best side in the East Zone Thums Up Inter-School Cricket Championship recently. The North 24 Parganas district champions beat the Calcutta champions South Point by a resounding 68 runs in the final at the Town ground.

By finishing East Zone champions, Agarpara go into the All-India finals which will be held in Madras. This was the second time that Agarpara made it to the all-India final. The first time was in 1988-89 when the All-India was not held.

South Point and Agarpara were more or less evenly matched with a number of State-level junior players in their sides. And one such player, the 15-year-old Ajay Das, put up a brilliant all-round show to steer Agarpara to a facile win.

South Point made the first error by deciding to field in the limited overs match after winning the toss. The wicket on which the final was played was not suitable for a school final and it was not understood why the organisers could not manage a better ground.

Agarpara hit 212, inclusive of eight penalty runs, in the 35 overs they faced. They lost only eight

wickets as Das and another under-19 Bengal cricketer, Jayanta Ghosh Dastidar, put up a 89-run partnership to post a healthy total for Agarpara.

Das' 59 runs included four 4s and a 6. Ghosh Dastidar's brisk 40 had five boundaries in it. The only successful bowler for South Point was Arijit Sengupta who finished with three wickets for 39 runs.

When South Point went in to bat the Town wicket was already crumbling Das drew first blood for Agarpara removing the prolific South Point opener Samrat Tiwari for only nine runs South Point never really recovered from that blow.



ARUN BANERJEE



Inset: Ajay Das was declared the man of the match. Above: The Agarpara Mahajati Vidyapith cricket team celebrate their victory over South Point

Agarpara demonstrated better cricketing sense and despite a bumpy outfield, the Agarpara fielders did well to contain the South Point batsmen.

Das, who bowls medium pace, struck at regular intervals and the dicey wicket took care of the rest

Only 'Proba' Dutta played a patient innings and remained not out on 51 (three fours) when South Point's share of overs ran out. Nilashish Ghosh made a late charge for South Point, but that was not enough. Ajay Das, who finished with figures of four wickets for 29 runs, was rightly adjudged 'the Man of the Match'.

Brief scores: Agarpara Mahajati Vidyapith 212/8 in 35 overs (Ajay Das 59, Jayanta Ghosh Dastidar 40, Arijit Sengupta 3/39). South Point 144/6 in 35 overs (Probal Dutta 51 not out, Nilashish Ghosh 22, Ajay Das 4/29).

Frank Worrell Day

THE Cricket Association of Bengal and the Association of Voluntary Blood Donors have a unique way of celebrating Frank Worrell Day. This day, which marks the foundation day of the CAB, is an eagerly awaited event every year.

Physically handicapped persons, women and even senior journalists and players are among those who donate blood on the day. This year it was no different. Ram Chandra Chatterjee, a physically disabled man from Howrah and 40 women were among the 851 who donated their blood.

The blood donation camp was held at the Pankaj Gupta Indoor Coaching Centre and the players of the Howrah Union cricket team turned out *en masse* to donate blood.



SUBHAJIT PA

A blood donation camp was held to celebrate Frank Worrell Day by the CAB

Every donor was given a CAB badge and a certificate autographed by former Test cricketer Gundappa Vishwanath.

Inter-Govt. College Athletics

HOOGHLY MOHSIN COLLEGE won the men's title of the second Inter-Government College Athletics Championships which was held at the SAI-Netaji Subhas

Complex, Salt Lake. HMC logged a good 44 points to stay in the clear. The women's title went to Acharya Brojendranath Seal College Cooch Behar, which aggregated 36 points over two days.

Some of the best events of the championships were reserved for the final day of the meet to decide who were the fastest athletes. Partha Pratim Ghosh of Chandannagore College and HMC's Subhabrata Dewan were the fastest in the 100m. While Ghosh clocked 11.2 seconds, Dewan stopped the clock at 13.7 seconds.

Soumitra Bose

CALCUTTA

The fourth annual sports for the orthopaedically handicapped was held at the Gulmohar Railway Stadium, Howrah. About 300 persons, including children, participated in 23 events. The meet was organised by the Eastern Railway Orthopaedic Institute and Research Centre, Howrah.

NIRMALENDU MAJUMDAR



Classic Calcutta St. Leger

If ever there was something known as a piping hot favourite, it was Romantic Dancer who earned 10-2 on-money odds in the Classic Calcutta St Leger, the last and most gruelling of the classic races in the Calcutta season.

Much, in fact too much, was at stake this time at the St Leger for the twinkle-hoofed Romantic Dancer. It wasn't just the Rs 2,86,635 prize money in this race that was up for grabs; the Sovereign Silver-Cartier grey gelding, belonging to Mrs B.M. Khaitan and Mrs and Mr D. Khaitan, had already won the Calcutta 2000 Guineas and the Calcutta Derby. It jolly well had to win the last leg of the Classic Triple Crown trophy. He had already notched up maximum points to win the Horse of the Year trophy and the St Leger win (and automatically the Triple Crown) would give him a collective moneybag of nearly seven lakh rupees.

Guaranteed to make the best horse sweat, the 2800-metre St Leger was therefore considered as belonging to Romantic Dancer who had four other handsome pieces of horseflesh to contend with: Natski, Sandbagger, Citiglow and Twilight Lady. The second favourite, Sandbagger, had only the other day been trounced by more than three lengths in the Derby by the Dancer himself, but this time the chestnut colt (Paul Burke up) showed that he was capable of making the Dancer miss a beat or two.

Partnered by his old faithful, Bajrang Singh, Romantic Dancer was ridden in fine style, but perhaps with a wee bit too much of bravado on the part of the jockey

Romantic Dancer (Bajrang Singh up) poses with Divya Jalan, D. Khaitan, B.M. Khaitan

ANIL GROVER



in this quick-pace race. Bajrang, smirking at the competition, and trying to toy with it, had the four-year-old grey's supporters gaping and their blood pounding hard at their temples. In fact, the horseman himself had another think coming in the last 150 metres with Sandbagger and Burke going all hooves and whip Thankfully, Romantic Dancer passed the winning post a smart neck ahead and Bajrang had the smirk back on his face, patting the Dancer proudly several times.

This victory also gave trainer Haskell David his St Leger hattrick: last year the Khaitans-owned Aspirant had been ridden out by Robin Corner and a year before that Corner again had booted home Silver for owners Dasho Lhendup Dorji and Solomon F. Sopher.

Romantic Dancer may not exactly have waltzed away with the St Leger, or for that matter, the Triple Crown and Horse of the Year, all on that bright sunny Saturday afternoon (February 16). But where is the romance of it all if the great big thunder at the winning post doesn't send your blood racing?

Anil Grover

MADRAS

South India Tennis

IT is to the credit of former national champion Nandan Bal, now 32, not fully fit and playing only occasional tournaments, that he was still able to reach the men's singles final of the South India Tennis Championship. This prestigious ranking tournament on the AITA calendar, was sponsored by India Cements and conducted by the Madras Cricket Club. That said, it must also be admitted that the fact that Bal reached the final was a sad commentary on the standard of some of the younger Indian players. Some of whom are expected to be standard bearers in the future.

In fact Bal could well have won the title. After all, he was not

RAMAN / RELIANCE NEWS



Manoj Kumar of Tamil Nadu won the South India Tennis

actually beaten by Manoj Kumar, the 23-year-old player from Tamil Nadu. Down 2-5 in the first set Bal, who won the national title three years in a row from 1983 to 1985, was forced to concede because of injury. In the fifth game while trying to make a return, he was suddenly seen clutching his thigh and apparently in much pain. He had pulled a thigh muscle and though he tried gamely for a few more games, he was in no physical shape to offer any resistance. And in the eighth game he indicated to the umpire that he was quitting and then ambled up to the net to shake Manoj Kumar's hand.

For once, there was a large number of entries in the women's singles—more than 40—and the fare provided a pleasant surprise. In fact, the most positive aspect of the week long event was the fact that the standard in the women's singles event had improved. And the star of the show was an unknown and unseeded, but highly talented,14-year-old girl from Coimbatore—K.V. Nirupama The daughter of former Tamil Nadu State cricketer K.S. Vaidyanathan, Nirupama is a fast rising star on the Indian tennis firmament. She caused a stir by surprising second seeded Falguni Parsana in the second round, but such was the impact of her 6-2, 6-1 win, that thereafter she was the favourite for every match—even against third seed Divya Merchant in the semi final. She duly won in three hard fought sets and went on to win the title with a 6-4, 7-6 (8-6) victory over V Aarthi of Karnataka

Top seeded Monisha Mehta of Gujarat lost to Aarthi in the semi finals while another fancied player Sheetal Khanna, the left-hander from Bengal went down to Divya Merchant in the quarter finals.

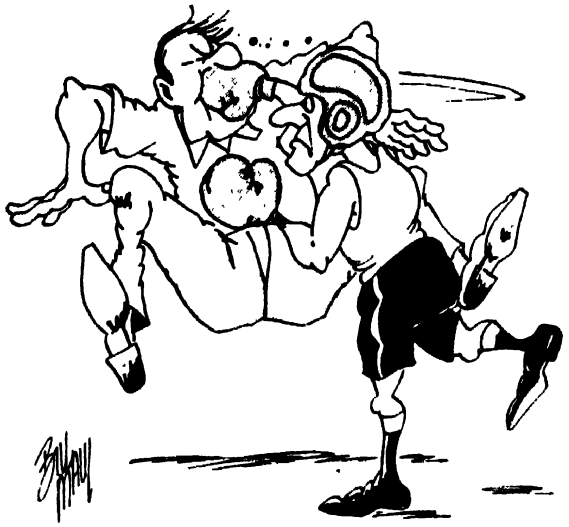
Ironically Nirupama who was top seed in the girls under-16 event lost to Sahiba Chaddha.

The boys events—under-18 and under-14 —predictably attracted considerable attention given the transition stage that Indian tennis is in today. However, the fare came as a disappointment. The only saving grace was the form displayed by tiny tot Saurav Panja of Bengal. Playing under the Batra Tennis Centre banner, the 13-year-old lost in the final of the under-14 event to Jaideep Shetty of Maharashtra, but he showed enough of his talent and with proper guidance could prove to be a star in the future.

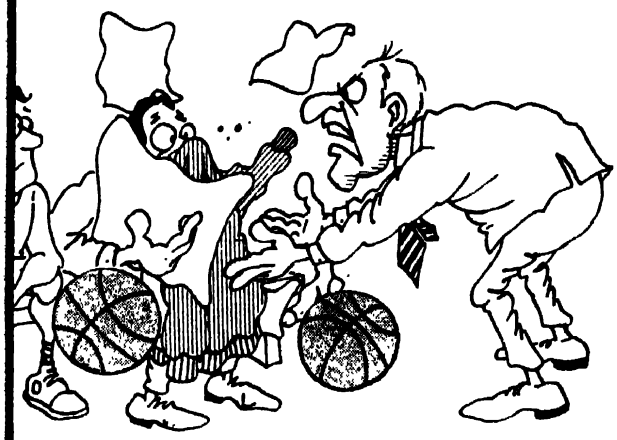
Akash Lamba in an all BAT affair in the under-18 final surprised the top seed Altaf Merchant to win the title.

Partab Ramchand

THE SPORTS HALL OF SHAME [redacted] BY NASH & ZULLO



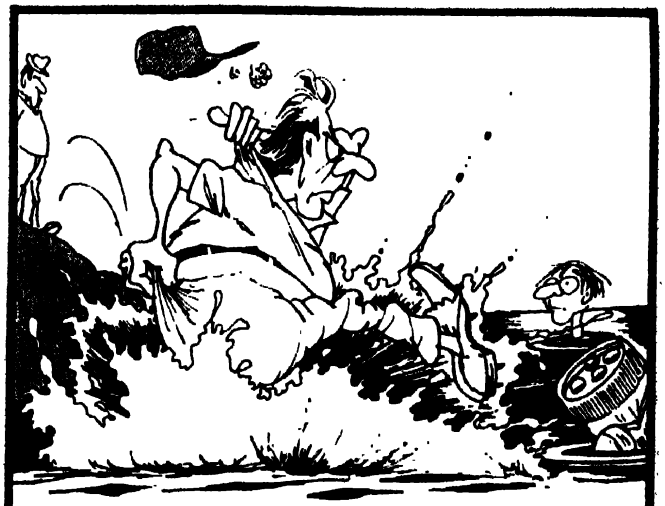
SPANISH BOXER **VALENTIN LOREN** RECEIVED A LIFETIME BAN FROM AMATEUR BOXING AFTER TAKING MATTERS INTO HIS OWN HANDS DURING THE 1964 OLYMPIC GAMES. THE FEATHERWEIGHT, WHO WAS DISQUALIFIED AFTER REPEATED WARNINGS FOR HOLDING AND OPEN-GLOVE HITTING, TURNED TO HUNGARIAN REFEREE GYORGY SERMER AND SLUGGED HIM IN THE FACE!



UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH BASKETBALL COACH **DOC CARLSON** LET HIS TEMPER GET THE BEST OF HIM DURING A GAME WITH KENTUCKY IN 1938. DISSATISFIED WITH THE OFFICIATING, DOC GATHERED UP HIS TEAM'S EXTRA SWEAT SUITS, TOWELS, AND PRACTICE BALLS AND CARTED THEM OVER TO THE KENTUCKY BENCH. "*THOSE OFFICIALS ARE GIVING YOU EVERYTHING. YOU MIGHT AS WELL TAKE THESE, TOO.*" CARLSON ROARED BEFORE DUMPING THE ITEMS AT THE FEET OF KENTUCKY COACH ADOLPH RUPP.



AT THE 1980 BOISE STATE INVITATIONAL CROSS-COUNTRY MEET, THREE MEN FROM DEFENDING NCAA CHAMPION **UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS - EL PASO** WERE RUNNING ONE, TWO, THREE. THEY WOULD'VE FINISHED THAT WAY—BUT THE TRIO TOOK A WRONG TURN! WEBER STATE (UTAH) COLLEGE'S DOUG FRIEDLI CAME FROM 200 YARDS BEHIND TO WIN BECAUSE HE FOLLOWED THE ARROW-MARKED COURSE. SAID DOUG OF HIS LOST RIVALS, "*MAYBE WHEN YOU'RE RUNNING THAT FAST, YOU CAN'T SEE THE ARROWS.*"



INFAMOUS GOLF PRO **LEFTY STACKHOUSE**, WHO PLAYED IN THE LATE 1930s AND EARLY 1940s, ONCE BLEW HIS STACK AT A TOURNAMENT IN TEXAS. AFTER DRIVING SIX STRAIGHT BALLS INTO A LAKE, THE FURIOUS STACKHOUSE THREW HIS CLUB AND GOLF BAG INTO THE WATER. WHEN HIS CADDIE BEGAN TO GIGGLE, LEFTY THREW HIM IN THE DRINK, TOO. THEN, TO CAP OFF HIS WET AND WILD TIRADE, THE STEAMING DUFFER COOLED OFF BY TOSSING HIMSELF IN THE LAKE!

BRIDGE

The Tolani Masters Teams is one of the more prestigious events on the national calendar restricted to those who have attained at least the rank of National Master In the last one held as usual at Bombay the HCL team, fresh from its triumph in the Rula National Open Teams earlier in December won again after surviving a close call in the semi final round-robin Today's hand is from the final

NORTH(dummy)
♠ Q 9 7 4
♥ K 7 6 5
♦ A 10 7 6
♣ 5

WEST
♠ 10 3 2
♥ Q 9
♦ 8 2
♣ K Q 10 9 7 6

EAST
♠ A J 8 5
♥ A J 10 3 2
♦ 4
♣ J 3 2

SOUTH
♠ K 6
♥ 8 4
♦ K Q J 9 5 3
♣ A 8 4

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1	3♣	3	3♠
4	Pass	5	All pass

This was the auction in the Closed Room A heart lead would have settled the issue at the outset but West, naturally enough, led the king of clubs The HCL South won the club lead, ruffed a club, led a spade to his king, crossed over to the ace of diamonds and led another low spade off the table East made the mistake of going up with the jack, not realising how it could cost However, declarer ruffed the club return on the table and pulled the *queen* of spades to set up the nine for a heart pitch

The contract could have, however, been made on its own steam Since East was likely to have three clubs, declarer should have won the club ace, ruffed a club, led a spade to the king ruffed the last club with the ace, drawn just *one* round of trump and led a spade to dummy s nine On winning the jack, East, with only major suit cards left in hand, would be end-played forced either to open up hearts or else set up dummy's spade queen with the diamond ten as entry (that is why declarer can afford only one round of trumps)

At the other table, after the same start, the HCL East, finding himself out-gunned, *passed* throughout, giving South room to bid 3 NT which he felt he could defeat rather than four or five diamonds which might well make This decision to 'Pass' rather than bid four clubs was to have a remarkable effect on the play Here also West led the club king and declarer won his ace, ruffed a club led a spade to his king At this stage, not expecting East to have passed throughout with two aces, three clubs and a stiff diamond South placed him with only two clubs and possibly two diamonds Without ruffing the third club, he drew two rounds of trumps and then led a spade to dummy's nine expecting an end-play if East had no more clubs left As it was, East had a club to return one down Silence can at times be golden!

Shantanu Ghose

MILESTONES

ACCUSED :Diego Maradona of being linked in a drugs and sex ring in Italy This came after a tapped telephonic conversation in which he had talked about some 'goods'

RECORDS SET· National record in the 56 kgs weight category by R Chandrasekharan who lifted a total of 260 kgs The previous record was 257 5 kgs

Chayya Adak of Bengal in the 52 kgs category She totalled 170 kgs bettering her Beijing bronze medal weight of 152 5 kgs

FORMED : A welfare fund by the Hinduja Foundation for providing monthly stipends to sports personalities who won medals for India at the Olympic and Asian Games

DIED: Ron Pickering a leading British athletics coach and broadcaster at the age of 60, in London

RECORD SET: By Leroy Burrell in the 60m world indoor, with a time of 6 48 secs bettering 6 50 secs, set by fellow American Lee McRae

WON: Austria's Admira Wacker club, the Merdeka soccer Tournament defeating China in Kuala Lumpur

DENIED: Roger Milla that he had tried to hold English Football to ransom He had reportedly asked for £



GM Viswanathan Anand

30,000 as appearance fees in a friendly match between England and Cameroon

EMBARKED: Viswanathan Anand to Linares (Spain) to play in a tournament in which both Garry Kasparov and Anatoly Karpov are participating

RELEASED Tony Adams defender of England, from jail after serving a 2 month sentence for drunk driving

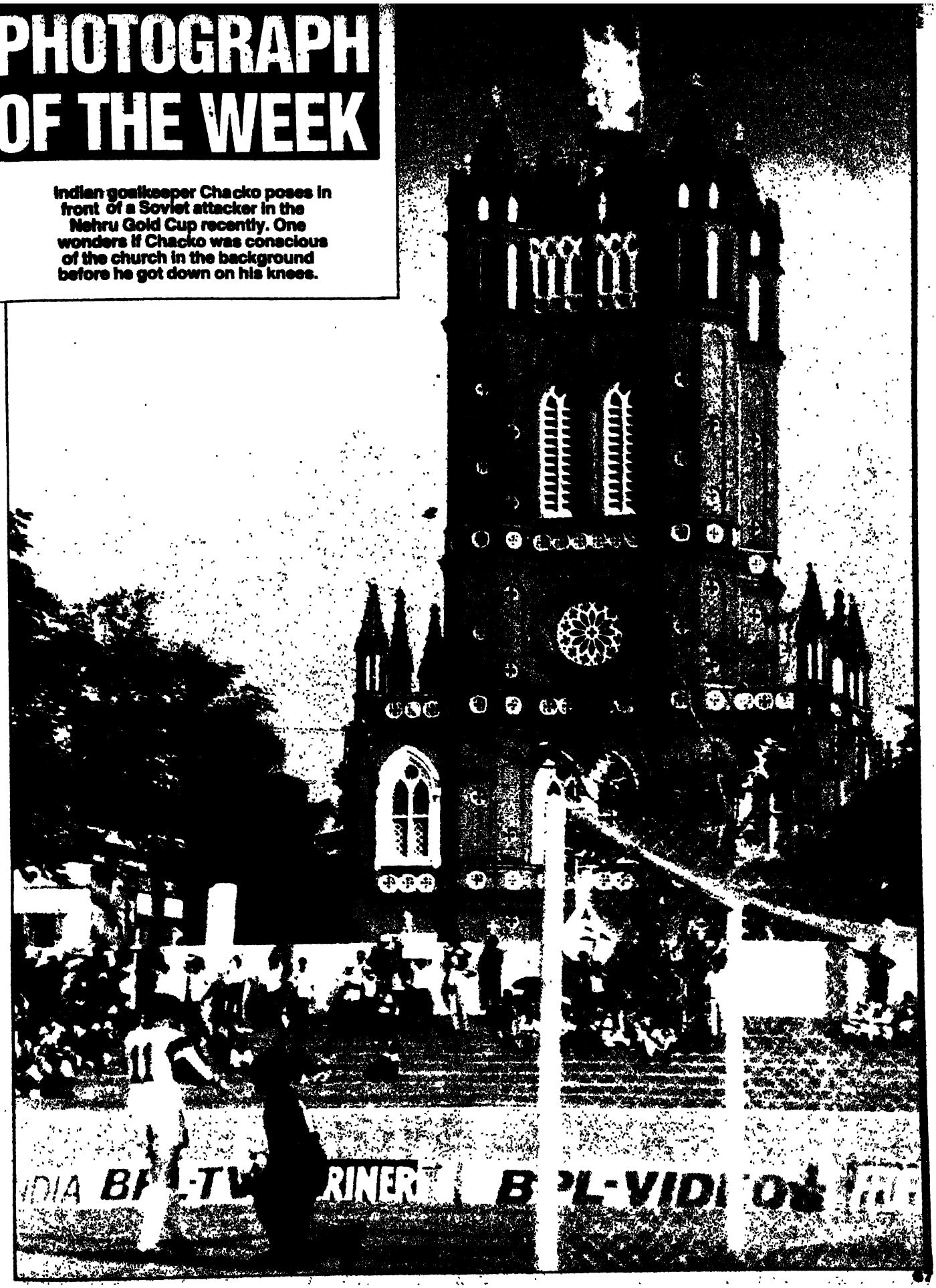
ACCUSED· Linford Christie by Leroy Burrell for making a post race death threat, after the former was defeated in an international track meet at Cosford

ACCEPTED: Manoj Kothari as a professional by the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association

WON: Guy Forget of France, the Donnay Indoor Championship, defeating Andrei Cherkasov of the Soviet Union

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK

Indian goalkeeper Chacko poses in front of a Soviet attacker in the Nehru Gold Cup recently. One wonders if Chacko was conscious of the church in the background before he got down on his knees.



EXTRA-TIME EXTRA

Bloodlust

THE bloodlust of soccer is a never-ending and seemingly uncontrollable phenomenon. From Calcutta's Eden Gardens through the game's most sacred cathedrals to the notorious Heysel Stadium in Brussels, the trail of blood and death stretches across the length and breadth of this planet. And hence, when the latest bloodletting occurred, no one really bothered to give the incident its due news importance

A local league match was being watched by 20,000 people in the Ernest Oppenheimer Stadium near Johannesburg, South Africa, when fighting erupted in the stands spreading panic all around and causing a massive stampede near the exit points where 40 people died in a brief but deadly orgy of squeeze and jostle. The dead also included two children.

And like a haunting omen, it was once again a controversial refereeing decision that triggered the violence and the deaths

Describing the situation leading to the incident, a police department official later said, 'Bottle-throwing began immediately after a goal was scored and people in panic started to run for the gates where they got crushed under the feet of those who reached late and were in a great hurry to get out of the stadium.'

It was not immediately known which group of fans started the brick-batting since both the clubs, Kaizer Chiefs and Orlando Pirates have large followings in the townships around Johannesburg

But is it really important to know who started the fire? What is important is soccer continues to face the spectre of bloodshed and death

Hail To The Chief

EVERYONE quickly sensed that Marco Van Basten has changed For the better, of course, but the reason that caused the metamorphosis is interesting to those who always thought that in football captaincy is not that big a deal as in most other sports

It is being suggested by admirers and experts alike that since he began to wear the Dutch captain's armband he has completely shed his sulking, aloof image and is taking a keen interest in bolstering his side's footballing as well as moral strength

And more important than that his own game also has shown clear signs of improvement, with



some of the finest goals being scored by him for Holland in the last few months.

Just the other day against Malta, Van Basten showed his Pelesque soccer excellence when he combined with Ruud Gullit to score a goal that people would be talking about for years.

Ruud Gullit crossed from the right. Marco Van Basten, his back to the goal, caught the ball on one foot, let it bounce once and unleashed a bicycle kick that beat Malta's goalkeeper John Cluett from 20 yards. Pundits say it was all because of that armband and the glory that it represents.

An insider reports that even his relationship with his teammates have begun to change. In Italy, a year ago, his arrogance was such that Dutch substitutes never ever dared to speak to him. But now even the don't-give-a-damn Ruud Gullit is keeping quiet and is happily playing second fiddle to his new leader Van Basten.

And the way Van Basten played against Malta all the bitter memories of his unsuccessful Italia '90 experience were erased instantly. So, hail to the chief. And the armband.

TIME EXTRA-TIME

Zico Zeros In

ZICO has waged his war for Brazilian football. His crusade rather. Zico believes that the greatest danger to his country's glorious soccer heritage stems from those good-for-nothing officials who stalk football's corridors of power, masquerading as directors and managers.

They are the parasites, Zico is convinced, and now the country's Secretary of Sports, has unveiled his intention to get rid of them.

And believe it or not, one of the big fish that he wants to take out of the water is none other than Ricardo Taxeira, the President of CBF and most important of all, son-in-law of the FIFA supremo Joao Havelange.

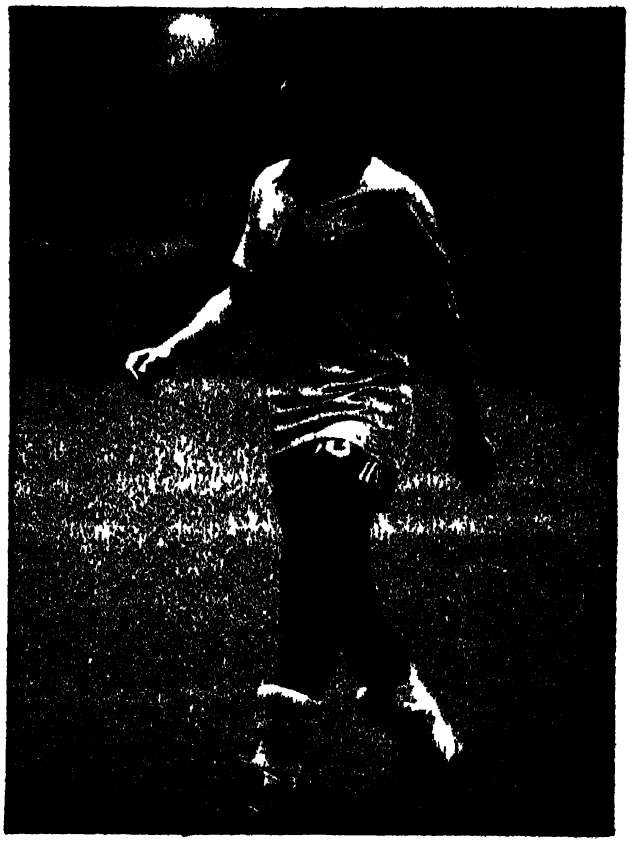
This certainly will stir up a hornet's nest, though it is unlikely that Zico will budge from his stand, for he has already expounded his belief about the diabolical influence that this self-proclaimed do-gooders have cast on the nation's richest heritage.



en President Wept

ANGRY fans attacking players on the pitch is no unusual sight In fact, quite a familiar one nowadays But a head of state weeping openly, disturbed and anguished by mob violence on a soccer field, was a rare sight indeed

During the recent African Champions' Cup final between Red Devils and Jennesse Sportive, unruly spectators stormed the ground, chased a player and almost lynched him In the VIP enclosure was sitting the celebrated Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda, a tireless apostle of peace and international understanding Distressed by the ugly incident and what he considered desecretion of the beautiful game, President Kaunda broke down in tears, while security forces had a harrowing time rescuing the hapless player from mob fury



"There are Presidents of Confederations who were never anything, but today they are in charge And they are benefiting from sport more than helping sport."

Unfortunately enough, Taxeira perfectly fits Zico's description of what he called 'the parasites'.

Taxeira, though a very, very successful businessman in Rio De Janerio, has never played competitive football and has never been involved as a director at even club level.

Hawaiian Dream

THE 1994 World Cup scramble has begun in the United States. Cities are now putting money on the table to host matches of what has been forecast by experts to be the most low-key World Cup show in recent times.

And, unbelievable though it may seem, the first to make the bid was Honolulu,situated far out in the middle of the Pacific.

Everyone thought they were kidding.

But that impression quickly changed when they sent in the $60,000 deposit for the rights to stage three first round games. ●

DIFFERENT STROKES

HELLO DOLLY!



ASA FEATURES

ROBERT REDFORD he ain't, he's only a footballer. But tell that to the Brits. They could probably tell you more about *their* Gazza's acting talents (strictly onfield, of course) than how he plays on the field. Everyone knows that Mr. Paul Gascoigne is a saucy fellow but that didn't stop Barbie doll lookalikes Hayley Spicer and Kate Burt from trying to vie for his attentions (should that read affections?)

Both the Barbie role models did everything but scratch each other's eyes out in an all out effort to catch the glint in Gazza's eye. In the process, they behaved like anything but role models for little girls.

On seeing Gazza, a flighty Kate pecked him on the cheeks, a favour which Gazza, ever chivalrous, returned with interest. He said, "She's beautiful." An envious Hayley on being asked whether she would steal (or try to) Kate's beau turned up her cute little nose and snorted, "I would not go out with him. Barbie only has eyes for her boyfriend Ken." So saying she went on to beat 4,000 other hopefuls to win the part of Barbie. Hell hath no fury...

Sometimes even Paul Gascoigne can make a wrong choice. Perhaps he can't recognise class just as some can't recognise his class on the field.

Gazza lands one on Kate while Hayley (inset) unperturbed walked away with the title of Barbie

CAPTAIN INVISIBLE

FOOTBALL'S PETER PAN is back again for the umpteenth time to do duty for Queen and country. Bryan Robson roared back into action against Cameroon dispelling all doubts that he had become part of soccer's infamous junk yard.

"Obviously there were a few doubts going through my mind when I came back from the World Cup," he said. "Not just about my England future, but whether I could put my career back on course."

Put it back on course he did, after a few operations on his Achilles tendon put the zip back into him.

Even the captain's post was waiting for the grand old man, though of course, it was taken away from Gary Lineker. Robbo stoutly defended this decision while at the same time he felt sorry for Lineker. "I'd have been disappointed if I'd been picked and not been captain. I've captained England 65 times, so there's no pressure on me."

Robson will go down in football history as one of the best player captains England NEVER had.

Bryan Robson: for the English captain it's 'Never Say Never Again'



ASA FEATURES



WAR VICTIMS

17-year-old Khaled Rashid with his coach Damian Sancilio in Baghdad. Both are waiting patiently for peace

IF the clouds of war ever happen to pass away from the Gulf, among the other changes, one thing is for certain. Kuwait's national tennis team will return home intact And when they do, no-one will be more happier than 17-year-old Khaled Rashid and his American coach Damian Sancilio.

Fortunately for the tennis team, when Iraq invaded Kuwait on that fateful day of August 2, 1990, a part of the Kuwaiti tennis team were competing in the Arabian Championships while the others were in Yugoslavia. Sadly, Kuwaiti athletes became prime targets for Iraqi soldiers. The captain of the national basketball team was executed before 40 people, "because the Iraqis knew he was an athlete. To them an athlete represented Kuwait's future," said Jim Calvin, coach of Kuwait's national basketball team. Soon after this, the Iraqis killed eight members of the water polo team, three from the swimming team and knocked off Sheikh Fahd, president of the Olympic Committee and the Emir's brother.

Tennis has a small following in Kuwait now, thanks to efforts by Sancilio and contributions from such talented youngsters like Khaled Rashid. "He is good and has the potential," said Sancilio of Rashid."

But, then like every other Kuwaiti in the world, Rashid pines to return home. To where he belongs, where he can have an identity. And Sancilio intends to follow him back for he likes the place. "I had a good experience there. I never felt scared or threatened. Most Kuwaitis like America, though some fanatics think otherwise. I actually felt pretty good being there." But he admits that there is no place like home.

JOKES are jokes, but there are some that go too far. Like the rumour fuelled by a really corny mind that shook Bombay. Sunil Gavaskar is dead! Quite simply everybody was bewildered.

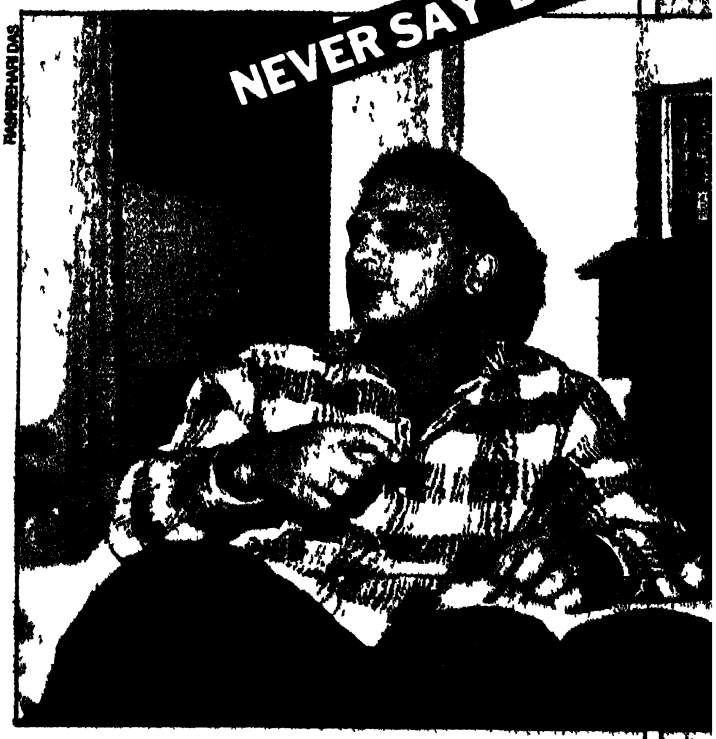
The victim—Mr Gavaskar—himself was, after a long time, literally stumped. He was totally foxed by the sudden spate of phone calls and enquiries that were addressed to his present state of existence. He himself went about the day in the usual manner: going to his Nirlon's office, then home for lunch followed by some badminton at the Bombay Gymkhana.

"I was surprised at the number of phone calls I received after I reached home Apparently this has been happening all day," but since Pammi (his wife) was not at home, there was nobody to dispel the rumour, "the master shot back The rumour had been so widespread in Bombay, that the *Independent*,a daily newspaper carried a strong denial in Sunny's defence the next day

What perhaps could have started the rumour was the absence of his parents all day from their Dadar home. But how this served as a reason, we fail to wonder "Fortunately they were out visiting a sick aunt in hospital This would have been too much of a shock for them. But then, their absence added an extra dimension to the rumour "

Live it up, Sunny!

NEVER SAY 'DIE'

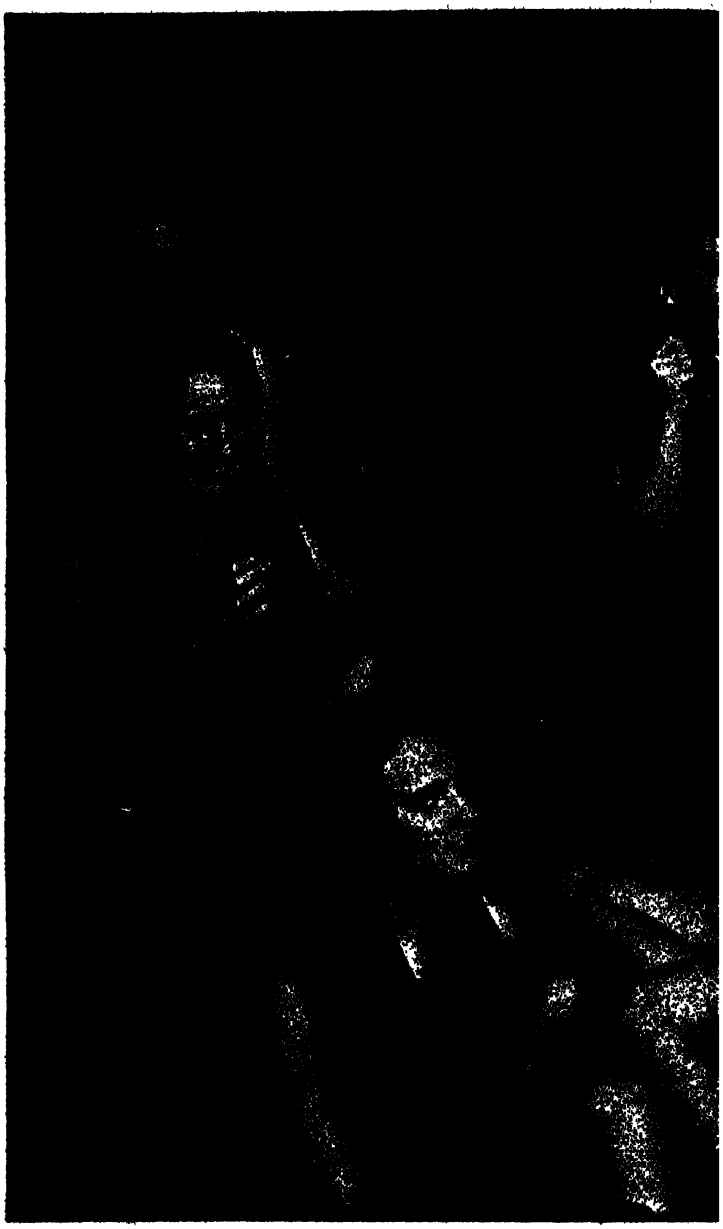


PRAVEEN WALDAS

Sunny: he's alive and kickin' real hard



She might be known as world javelin record holder Steve Backley's girlfriend, but Kerry Shacklock has an identity of her own. She is one of the top synchronised swimmers in the world. But fate has not been kind to her. This is a story of love, tragedy and courage...



THE CROSSROADS OF DESTINY



The British Synchro Team, taking a break from pattern-forming in the pool

SLIGHT, fair-haired Kerry Shacklock walked slowly into the airliner and settled into her seat. She knew that when she flew home again she could expect fame or heartbreak. This flight took 21-year-old champion swimmer Kerry on a tense, make-or-break journey. For the girl who is the British synchronised swimming champion was to give her badly injured neck the ultimate test.

If it stood up to more than six hours a day of rigorous training—swimming and sweating it out with weights-Kerry would be back with the team where she belonged. If it didn't, she would be just another pretty girl, hopefully trying to break into the tough world of modelling

Kerry told me before her fateful flight to Canada took off: "I'm desperately hoping it's going to be alright. This is it. Going to Canada will sort it out one way or the other. They train so hard over there that, if I can't manage, there's no point in carrying on."

And when Kerry starts to test the neck she hurt falling from a bed in Yugoslavia, she will be eagerly watching for the postman and waiting for the phone to ring.

For she desperately needs the support of boy-friend Steve Backley, the world champion javelin thrower. It was Steve who put the steel into Kerry's soul to fight back against the pain of her injury to swim again.

She said: "Steve was always there. When I was worried about going

This year I'd like to be in the medals for the Europeans. Gold would be lovely and, of course, the Olympics are coming up, too. My main priority now is swimming



Boyfriend Steve Backley: world javelin record holder

into the water again, he encouraged me to try Then he urged me to start training He's been really good."

Kerry came close to breaking her neck when she fell off a bed in her hotel room last August She was put into a huge plaster cast, and wondered whether her swimming was over forever

After the cast came off, Kerry was warned not to try to swim for three months. She told me at her home in Yateley, Hampshire. "I went home to rest. And it was then that it hit me what had happened and- -even worse—what could have happened

"I didn't know whether to start training or not. I was frightened. That's when Steve really helped He encouraged me to try. So I started again. But I had nerve pains in my arms and across my shoulders."

In January, Kerry stepped up the pace as she trained. She told me: "It was hard at first But it was good, because I really wanted to do it It was a challenge

"I do about three hours a day in the pool, and weight training every other day In Canada, it will be six hours a day in the pool and more weight training The training has been going well, so I hope it will be o k

"I think it will be all right Synchronised swimming is a sport where you have to be really fit People don't realise this, because it looks easy But that is the whole point of it—to come up smiling

And it will be hard to keep smiling as Kerry goes through the biggest test of her life. And 22-year-old Steve won't be there to help her this time. For he will be in New Zealand.

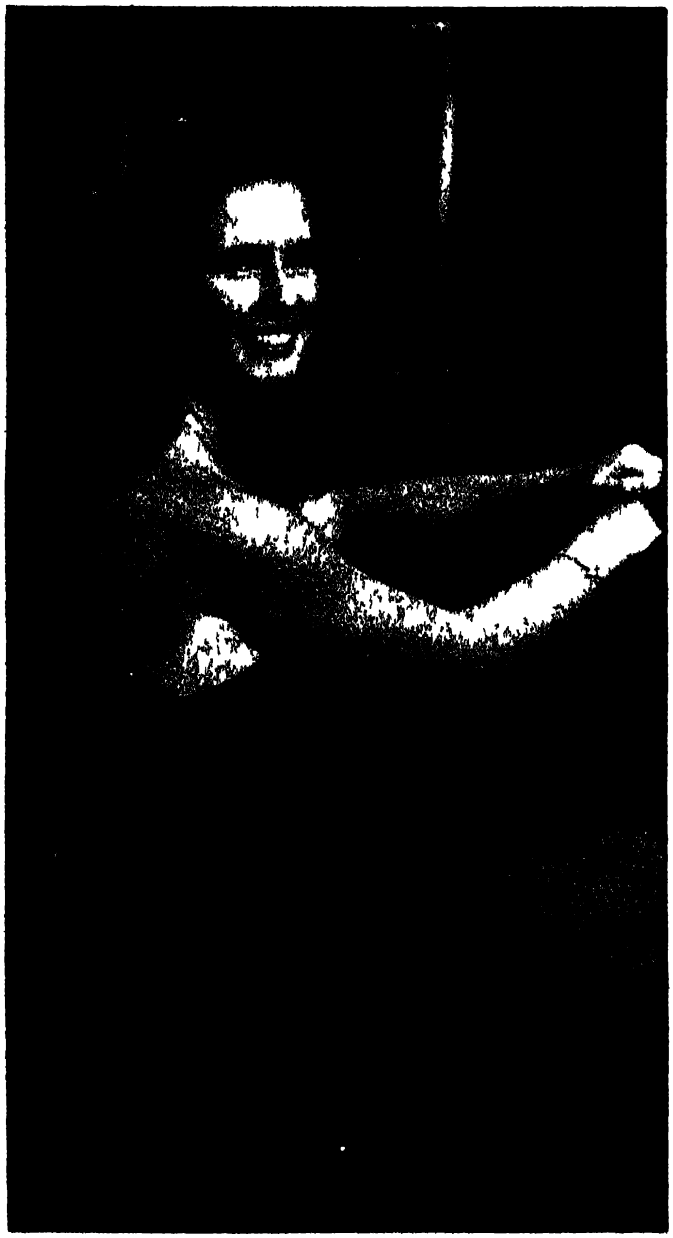
It was, ironically, to support Steve that Kerry went to Yugoslavia. She had gone to watch him compete in the European Games

Then came the accident that could change her life. Kerry recalled· "It makes you realise how easy it is for something bad to happen. And it was all so quick. I had just sat down on the bed when I lost my balance and fell backwards

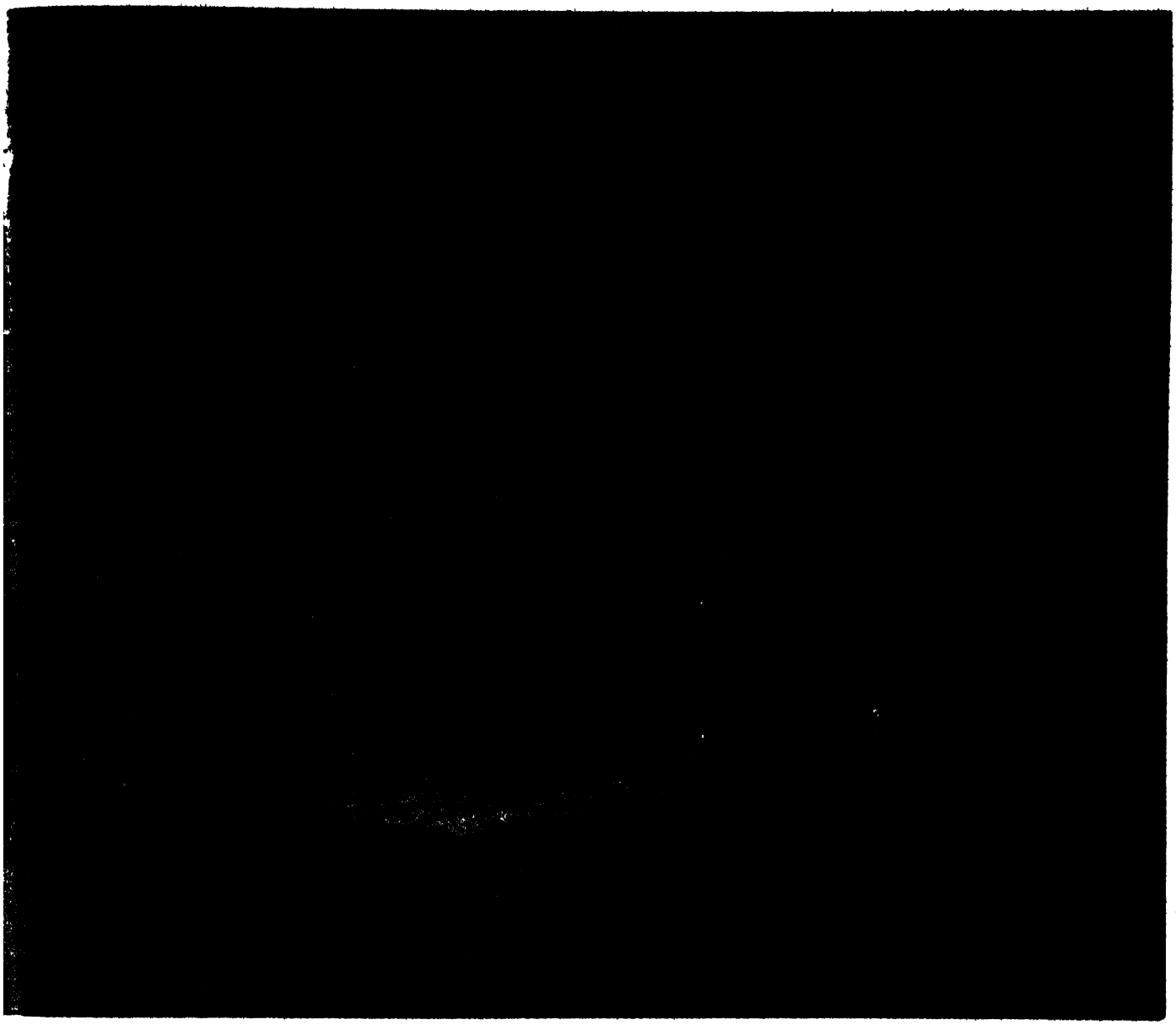
"I landed on the floor. My head was pushed forward, so all my weight was on the top of my spine. My neck cracked so loudly, I was sure I'd broken it.

"It was horrible. I lay on the floor while Steve rang for help. I was

"Synchronised swimming is a sport where you have to be really fit. People don't realise this, because it looks easy. But that is the whole point of it-to come up smiling"



Once in a plaster-cast from top to toe, Kerry will try and be a model if her swimming fails.



And when Kerry starts to test the neck she hurt falling from a bed in Yugoslavia she will be eagerly watching for the postman and waiting for the phone to ring

taken to hospital, where the doctors spoke only a few words of English. The British team doctor came and told me that some of my vertebrae had been knocked out by the fall, and one had not gone back properly. "But, then without saying anything, the doctors started putting a big plaster cast on me. It even went over my head.

"Steve was only allowed to visit me for an hour. It was awful, I couldn't move. It was complete isolation. But the next day, they moved me to another room where I could have visitors all the time. That was much better. "Steve stayed in hospital with me nearly all the time "

Terrified of straining her back, Kerry has been training very gently-a mere three hours a day and weight lifting every other day

"This year I'd like to be in the medals for the Europeans. Gold would be lovely and, of course, the Olympics are coming up, too. My main priority now is swimming."

And, Kerry has another ambition, too. She told me "I'd like to get into modelling. I've done a few things here and there."

She smiled at the thought, her face lighting up with enthusiasm...the sort of zest which has enabled her to fight the battle of her life.

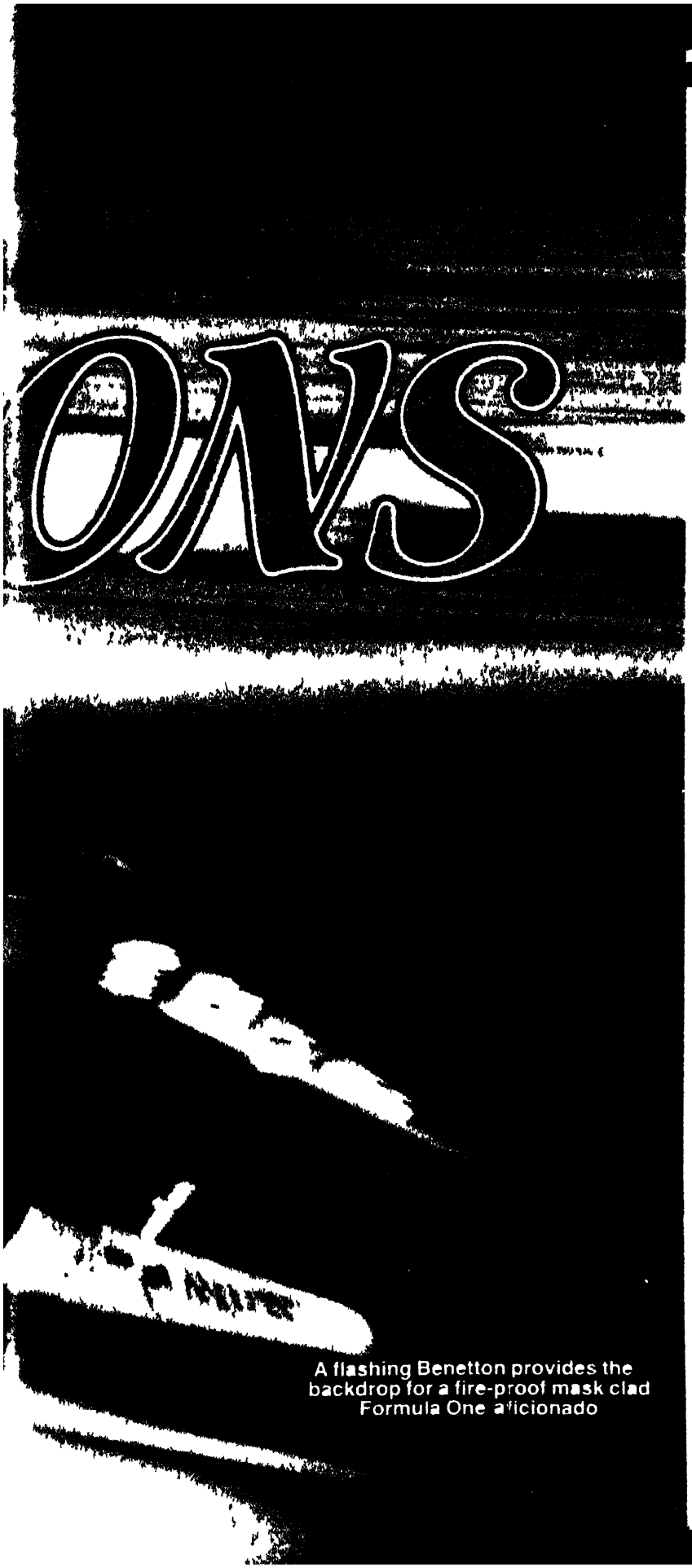
And to keep on fighting.

BRIGET BOUCH

ASIA FEATURES

SPEED DEM





A flashing Benetton provides the backdrop for a fire-proof mask clad Formula One aficionado

Is the high-speed world of Formula One racing the ultimate male fantasy? Glenys Roberts provides a refreshing—and informative—viewpoint after she watched last year's final Grand Prix at Adelaide

MOTOR racing has no conscience This alarming thought determinedly made itself known to me at the Adelaide Grand Prix over the barrage of noise which is Formula One's most obvious modern accessory While 26 low-slung air-brushed cars, not much more than skateboards with cockpits these days, prepared repeatedly to notch up to 15,000 revs over a two-mile circuit, two Sabre and Vampire jets, bomb bays gaping wide above the crowd, buzzed the starting line continuously As if any further adrenalin boost were required, they burned their twin engines in unison, shot their flame-red flares, zoomed into a vertical climb, stood stationary on their tails in a fathomless blue sky, all but looped the loop and plummeted as if stricken to some 50 feet above the startled race-goers once more

The Adelaide Grand Prix is the last of Formula One's 15 annual events which begin at Sao Paulo's Interlagos circuit in April Despite such famous venues as Monte Carlo, Silverstone and Monza, connoisseurs of these hardware meets say it is the best because Australians have partying down to a fine art They fly in annually from Japan, where 1990's great prize had already been decided, apparently in a bout of temper,

between the Brazilian Ayrton Senna, king of the pole positions, and the Frenchman Alain Prost, holder of the greatest number of Grand Prix victories Quite who had done what to whom back there in Suzuka as Senna's McLaren squeezed into too small a gap left by Prost s Ferrari, no one was agreed What certainly had been decided was that the championship and the considerable prize money had gone to the intense little Senna thus bitterly disappointing a whingeing Prost Who would shunt whom? Who would take whose money, or even their life? Motor racing, once the sport of gentlemen, had become gladiatorial combat and the 3 8km street circuit the Colosseum of Adelaide

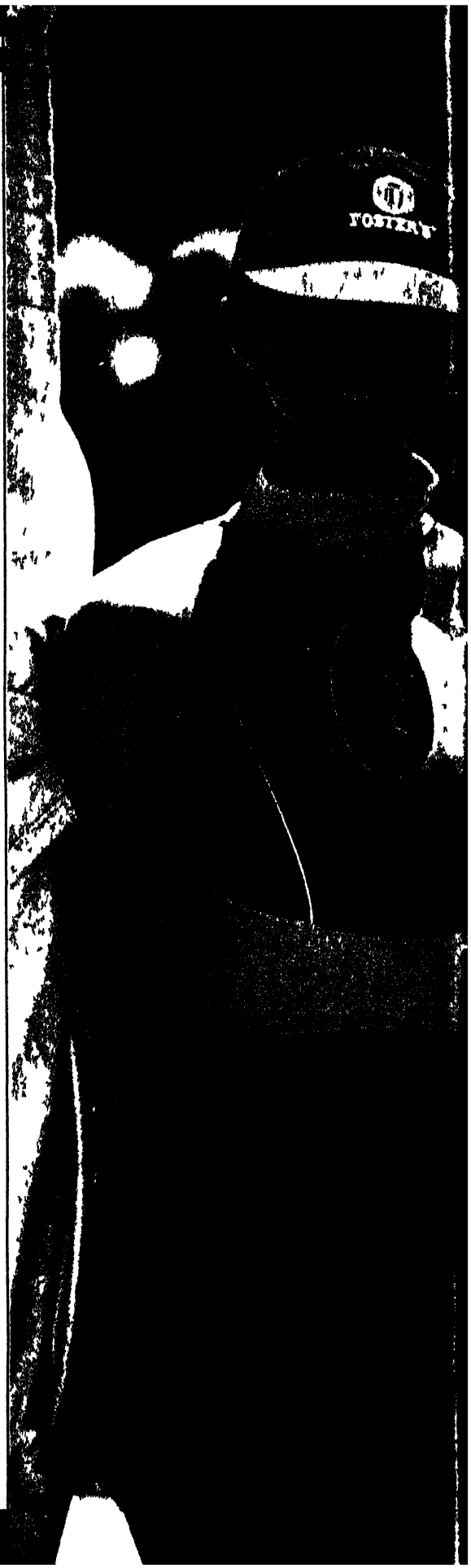
Grand Prix racing is 40 years old and to remind us of a more graceful past the Adelaide authorities had imported some legendary stars There was Juan Fangio, four times champion, waving regally from the grandstand in his formal blue suit, 79 and still wearing a young blonde on his arm Stirling Moss, 59, never champion but four times runner-up, buzzed around like a bantam on speed, perfecting a year round tan There was businesslike Jackie Stewart, 27 victories to his name, and James Hunt 1976 champion

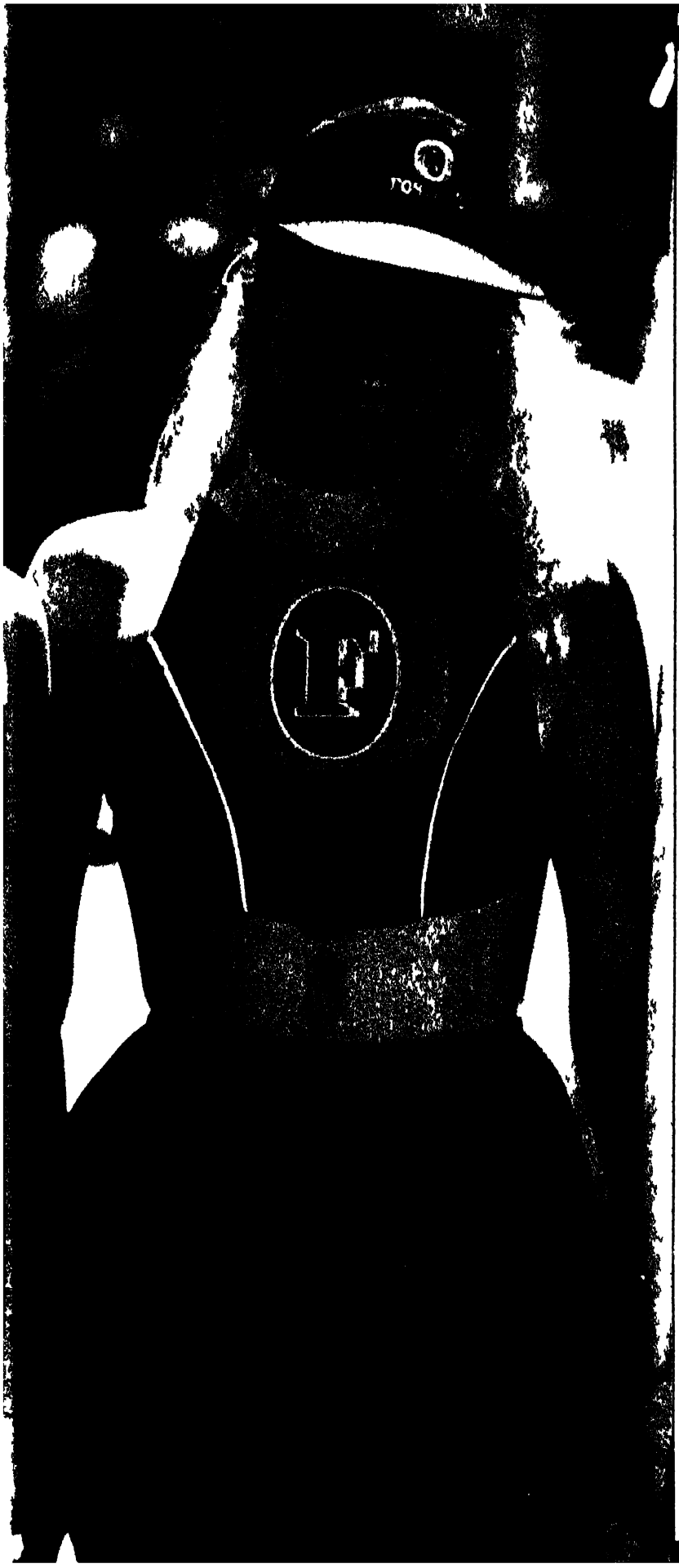
Drivers went on to the track with the same hopes which made Picasso paint

These days the typical racing driver looks less like a matinee idol than a man of the people. He will probably have long, curly hair, a slender torso and look like he might break into a chorus of 'O Sole Mio' any moment or score a goal with a penalty kick



If the two pit popsies leave any doubt as to the sponsors of the Australian Grand Prix, take a look at the backdrop of the victory celebrations below





Fame, fortune and beautiful lovers were the artist's spurs, but the terrible downside of racing, due to the fallibility of the early machines, produced a certain contradictory humility in the most bullish participants It is rarely present today when fortune comes first

Motor racing of course is not the only sport which has been hijacked by money Tennis skiing, boating—everything screams its vulgar logos, reviving tempers naturally keyed up by adrenalin into overdrive through greed But motor racing, dependent on more hardware than the rest put together, is the state of the art of the state of mind which revels in big bucks, jet lag and techno-jargon In the next two years more than 22 different makes of 3 5 litre engines will be built and raced by factories on every continent convinced that motor sport is the technological and commercial battlefield of the 90s It is no longer one lone man up against the limits imposed on him by his maker but a cacophony of super-expensive support systems, starting with the pit

Each Formula One car is linked to a bank of screens which record all its tensions its temperature, its tiniest reactions Speed heat vibration, surge, thrust meltdown, all the criticals are reduced to manageable mathematics in the garage while out on the track the potential champion is at the wheel as if in a remote control Dinky toy

Ayrton Senna and those glamorous frontmen who have to take these chances will not like it described in this way There is still the odd element of fate There is still the human dimension, revved up by the thought of all that money There is still that moment of skill which comes to craftsmen when they are at their peak in any field and which in motor racing, is conspicuous even to the layman and even at 180mph At this moment in history Senna has laid down his marker to the rest of them He can do things with cars which they cannot and the knowledge drives them mad

These days the typical racing driver (apart from Nigel Mansell who is lingering in a British time warp) looks less like a matinee idol than a man of the people He will probably have long curly hair a slender torso and look like he might break into a chorus of O Sole Mio any moment or score a goal with a penalty kick He seems as if he might have spent the night in front of some shrine to the Madonna before entering the ring to slaughter a 600lb bull He will

have the same dependence on little rituals and good luck fetishes
At no point will he be allowed to forget that this is serious business It costs £45 million to keep one team of two drivers like Prost and Mansell or Senna and Berger on the road for a year The Adelaide Grand Prix cost £125 million to stage and all this must be recouped in box office advertising TV and video rights from a worldwide audience

It is a recipe for a huge occasion a four day meet filled with many other calibre cars an amplified rock concert 24-hour boozing and a lot of pit-line talent pit poseurs pit pests and pit pulchritude Girls in spangled Lurex tights oblivious of the huge heat girls in Panstick rendering their age or race inscrutable

In the corporate boxes it is as if the Great Australian Bight had been emptied of lobsters and oysters Effigies of exotic creatures from ibises to koalas sculpted



Former world motorcycling champion Barry Sheene (right), now with Channel Nine, shares a joke with Nigel Mansell

The men who personify the dreams of millions of others. Formula One's elite band of drivers pose before the race



Motor racing, once the sport of gentlemen, had become gladiatorial combat and the 3.8km street circuit the Colosseum

in butter miraculously defy the 100-degree heat courtesy of the dynamo-droning air-conditioning

In the pits the mechanics are eating not lobsters but cling-wrapped cheese sandwiches and slaking their working thirst not with champagne but Coke, and somewhere out there almost irrelevant to the party atmosphere, is the race 'Twenty men driving their balls off to knock one or two tenths of a second off the lap time and to see where it can be done on the circuit,' is how it is explained

And just as suddenly it's all over The





Stirling Moss' habit of showering before getting into his car had dubious intentions

Quite who had done what to whom back there in Suzuka, as Senna's McLaren squeezed into too small a gap left by Prost's Ferrari, no one was agreed

pits are closed The girls have left The butter is melted The jets have gone to the Gulf and the executives home to their wives Somewhere along the way Senna has careered off the track at 160-mph straight into a line of tyres and no one at any point has asked why, what happened or whether he is all right No one cares any more

What did actually happen back there in Adelaide? What was it all about? Was it a mass one-night stand, a gross seduction to persuade 160,000 people to part with £12 million in the brief belief that some of that roar energy could be theirs?

Five years down the line, they said, as the champagne spilled, the super technology we have just witnessed will filter down to the corporate Mercedes or BMW driver to soothe his daily lot

And so, in this name, the circus can move on

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHS ASIA FEATURES

freewheeling

CALL a spade a spade Hah, go tell it to the French If those guys had their way they'd call it a 'fork de flat' or something Look at what they've done to sport Sipping 'cafe' in their 'bistros, the Parisians have embarked on a mission The objective? To add to the confusion that already exists in world sport

Why else would they want to take tried-and-tested terms like manager and coach and change them to 'manageurs' and 'entraineurs' respectively? Or call a corner 'tir D'angle'? Think that's the pits? Well, try rolling 'as' around on your tongue That, pal, is French for ace!

Hell, if those guys wanna get tough, so can we Let's you and me—*bharatiyas*- do some changing too How about calling our coaches *khiladi ke shikshaks*? Who in turu could. help our *khiladis* perfect the art of curving *kona* kicks past bemuddled opponents Why, Pappachan could even be the Indian team's *kona* kick expert How does that sound for starters?

Of course, if the *khiladi ke shikshak* couldn't inspire his team enough to earn enough *konas* and convert them into goals, the game would go into the tiebreaker Only we wouldn't refer to itassuch We'd call it a *kant ki langot todna*

Moving to motor sport, the Frenchies want to call Ayrton Senna's parking slot—pole position—the 'position de tete' We, on the other hand can watch with bated breath as the Brazilian Formula One ace refuses to buckle under the *dabao*—pressure, mate or 'pression' if you're French—to notch up yet another *dande ke jag*

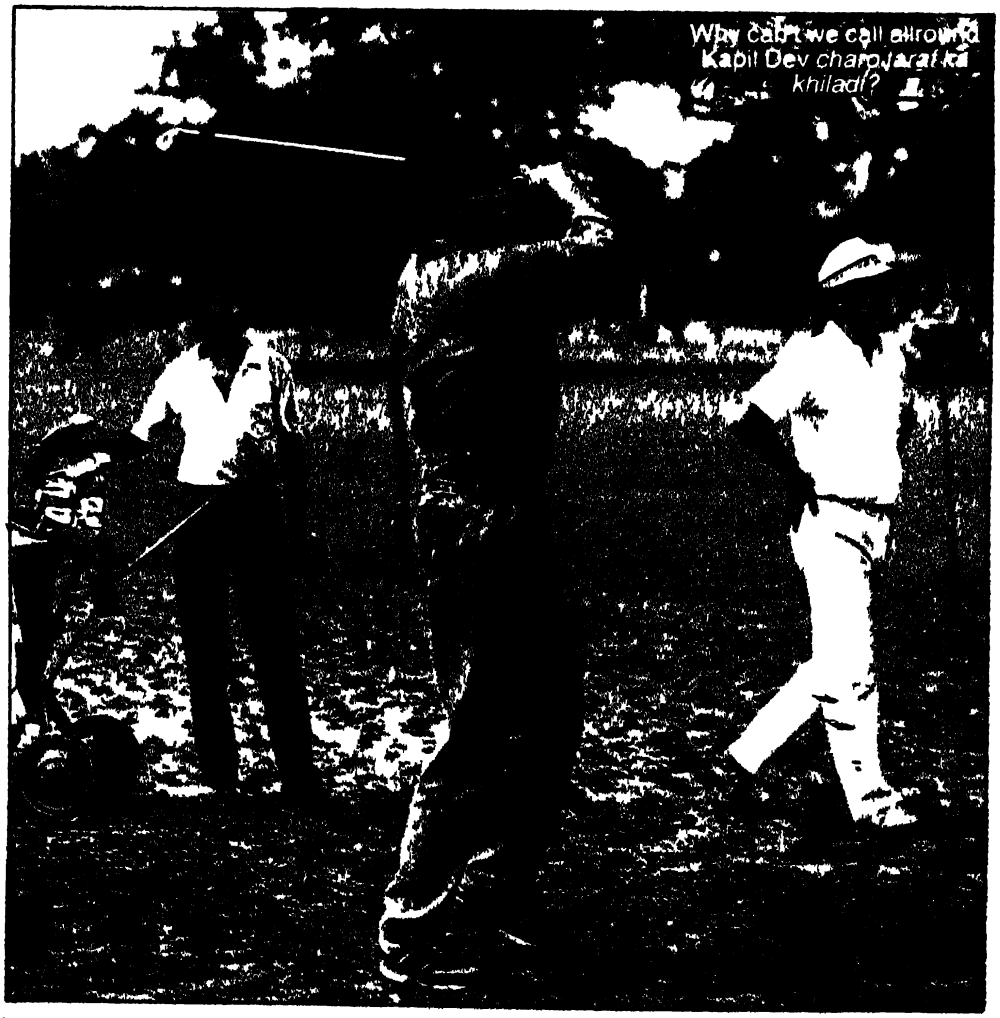
What about table tennis the game of looping topspin forehands and viciously chopped backhands Would be great to watch Kamlesh Mehta playing *batti ke niche, table ke upar, de thakatak le thakatak* and foxing his opponent with his *ulta hath* Backhand, silly

Wimbledon this year would have a definitely altered flavour Becker would serve *ekkas* (aces Edberg would go a *toot*—the French call a service break 'balle de breche' now-up And Graf would still be running around her *ulta hath* to hit an *andhar bahar samne hath* Inside out forehands,but of course

But it would be in cricket that the humour could really surface Kapil Dev would stake his claim to be the world's best *charo taraf ke khiladi*—allrounder, what else?—with fluent *chalaos* off the front foot Of course he'd need all the help he can get from the fielder stationed at *bewakuf ka jagah*—silly point—as well as the guy at *lamba pao*

Maybe if the ultra-patriotic Frenchies came across these suggestions, they'd decide to leave sporting terminology as it is As for me, the next person to come knocking on my door might well be Ashok Singhal, eager to recruit me for his party!

Pradeep Paul



Bestsellers

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BALL POINT PENS



Plastic barrels
Left to Right
Ranger Monarch
and Trendy



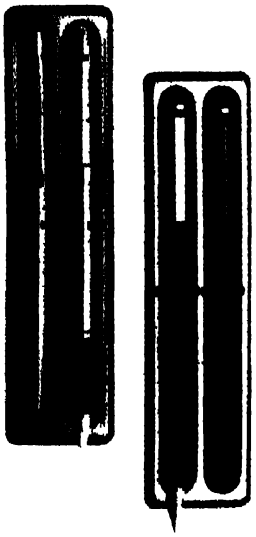
Metal barrels
Left to Right Jotter Crola
Sterling Chrismatic and Goldline

MARKERS



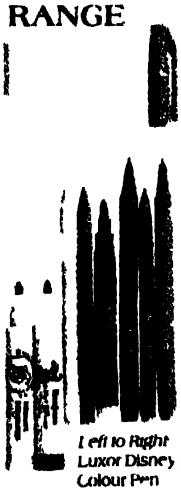
Left to Right Luxor Excel
2 in 1 Marker Monarch
Oil Magic Twin Dual Marker
Excel Metal Body Permanent
Marker in fine (bullet)
and broad (chisel) tips

GIFT SETS



Left to Right Sterling and Vintage.
Also available gift set
of Crola

CHILDREN'S RANGE



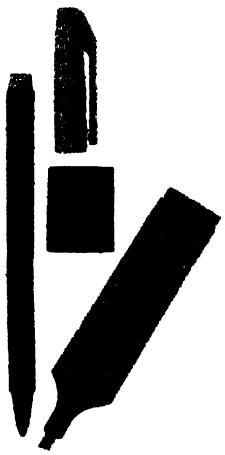
Left to Right
Luxor Disney Funset
Colour Pen
Luxor Bambino Colourset Pen
Disney Inoxcolour Plastic Crayons,
Luxor Donald Duck Magicset Colour Pen
Luxor Sign Pen
Luxor Mickey Mouse Sketch Pen
and Luxor Colour Pen

MICROTIP/ FINE WRITING PENS



Left to Right Hi Roller
Finewriter
Graphik 05
and Stylo microtip

HILITERS



Left to Right Luxor
Fluorescent
Textliter
and Luxor
Fluorescent Hiliter

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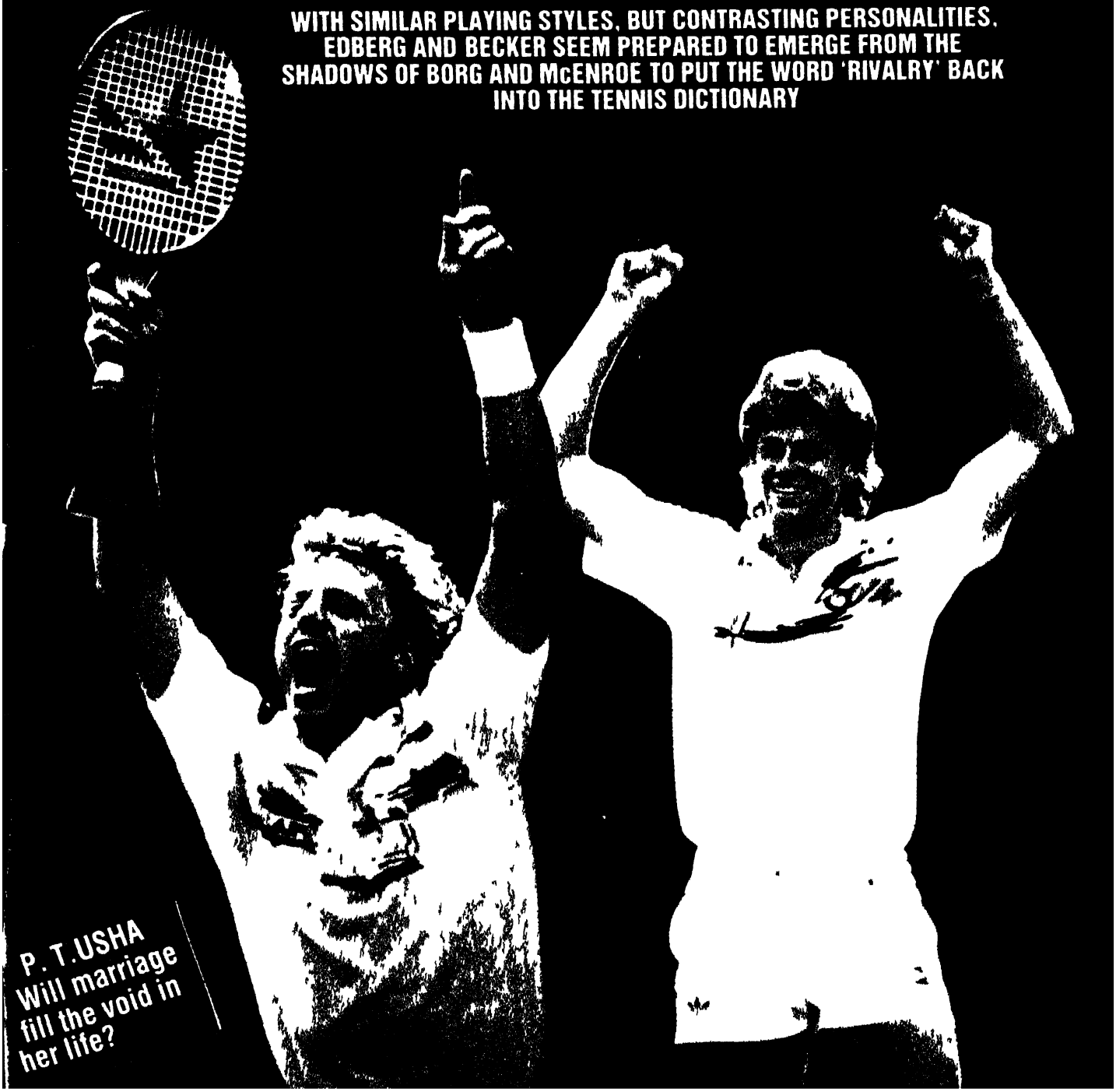

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DOCTORING THE BALL IS COMMON IN PAKISTAN

Sportsworld

PROMISES TO KEEP

WITH SIMILAR PLAYING STYLES, BUT CONTRASTING PERSONALITIES, EDBERG AND BECKER SEEM PREPARED TO EMERGE FROM THE SHADOWS OF BORG AND McENROE TO PUT THE WORD 'RIVALRY' BACK INTO THE TENNIS DICTIONARY



P. T. USHA
Will marriage fill the void in her life?



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VOICES

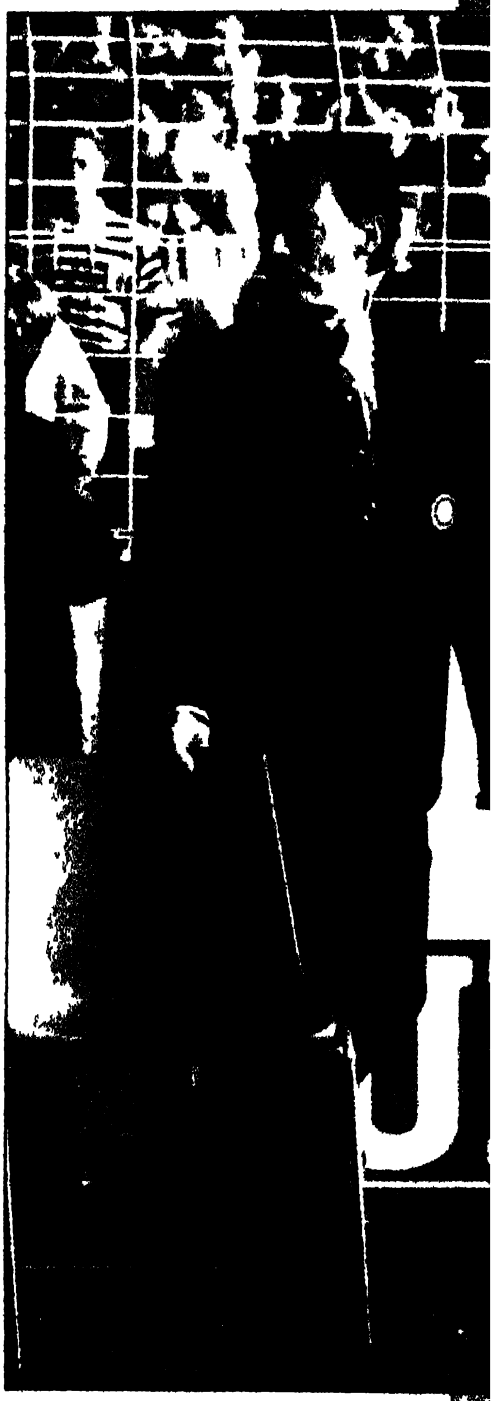
"Exhorting bowlers for a greater effort is done all the time and if anyone feels offended by it he should thank his stars that he did not play against Pakistan when Sarfraz was playing, or when the Australians (in mid '70s) were at their sledging best. One was tempted to carry one's parents' marriage certificate in the hip pocket, if only to stop being called 'a...bastard' practically every over. That by the way was the mildest of sledging then."
SUNIL GAVASKAR explains that though things went out of hand at Jamshedpur, needling of bowlers was always common In this case he was referring to More and Lamba

"In order to stay number one, two or three, you have to play almost 20 tournaments a year and that in my opinion is way too much. It makes it very hard...Too hard, too long and too much."
BORIS BECKER on the tough schedule of the ATP Tour He is of the opinion that more ATP points be awarded for the Grand Slam wins

"In the three months left this season, other stories are going to start and I'm prepared for everything. I'm very disappointed and if I could, I'd right now go to Cuba or Jamaica with my family."
DIEGO MARADONA, after being accused of being involved in a drugs and sex scandal



GAUTAM PATOLE



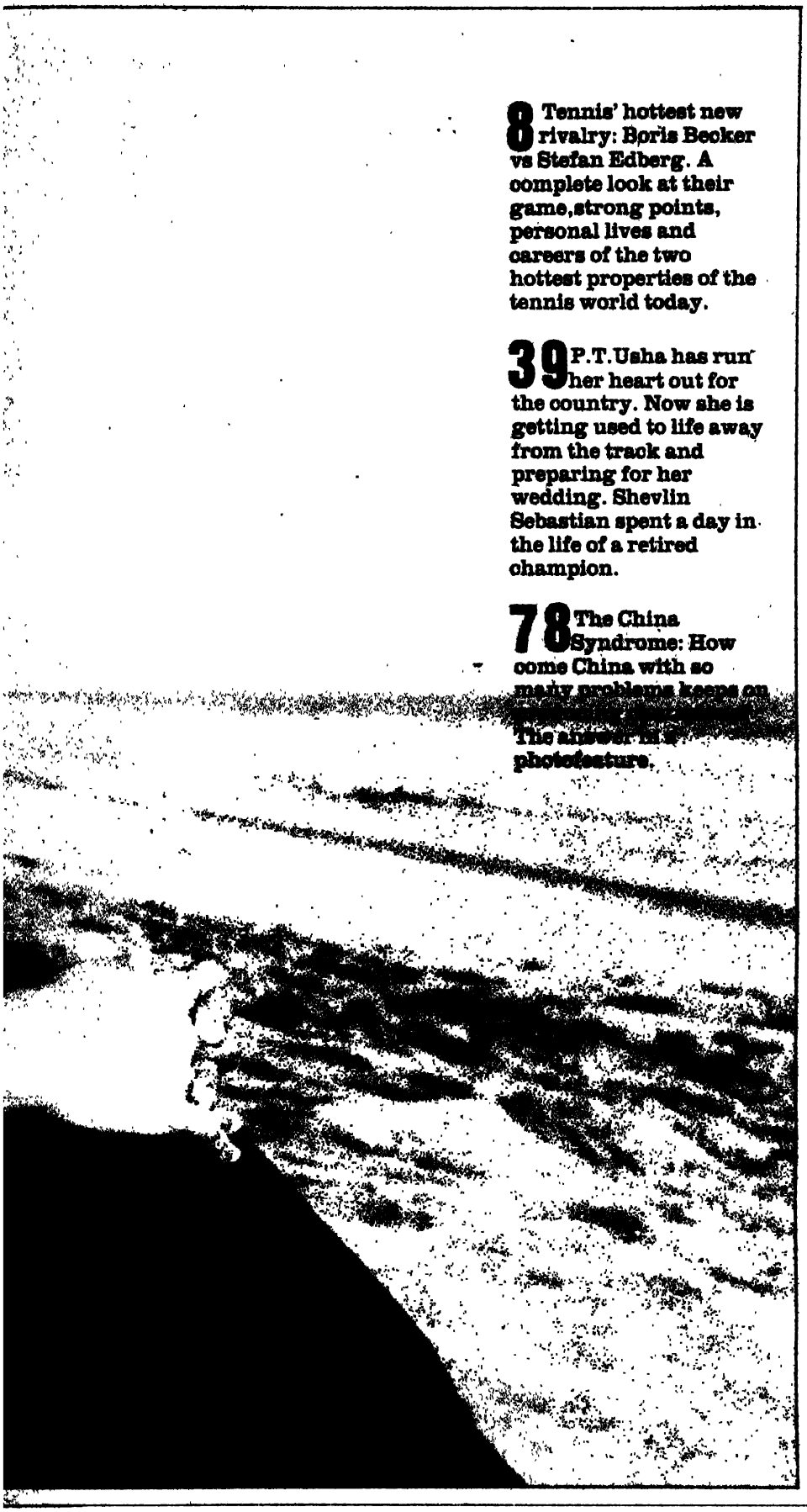
"That's (false starts) what threw me off. I think those guys are trying to mess me up and I don't think that's fair. Everyone's trying to throw me off and trying to beat the gun and pull a fast one on me. But I'm not going to let that bother me."
BEN JOHNSON on the three false starts that preceded his photo finish win against Bruny Surin in the 60m at the Canadian Indoor Championship.

"Sampras is a great player and will be a better player. He has the potential to be the number one in the world, he's got all the tools. He has the confidence and he is maturing as a player. It's disappointing that I was not given a fair shake to at least try to beat him."
JOHN McENROE, after he was defeated by Sampras in the semi-final of the US Pro Indoor Tennis Championship

"Soccer lives by its simplicity and its easy rules that most people can understand. If you make things more complicated the fans understand less and less."
FRANZ BECKENBAUER makes it clear that he is against any radical changes that FIFA have been contemplating to end the goal draught

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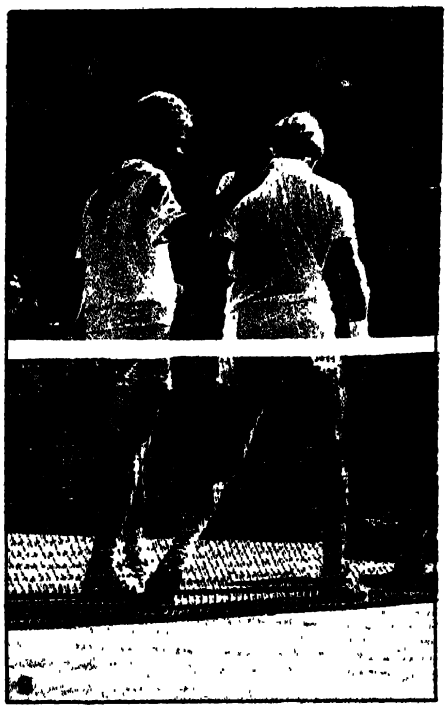
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Sportsworld

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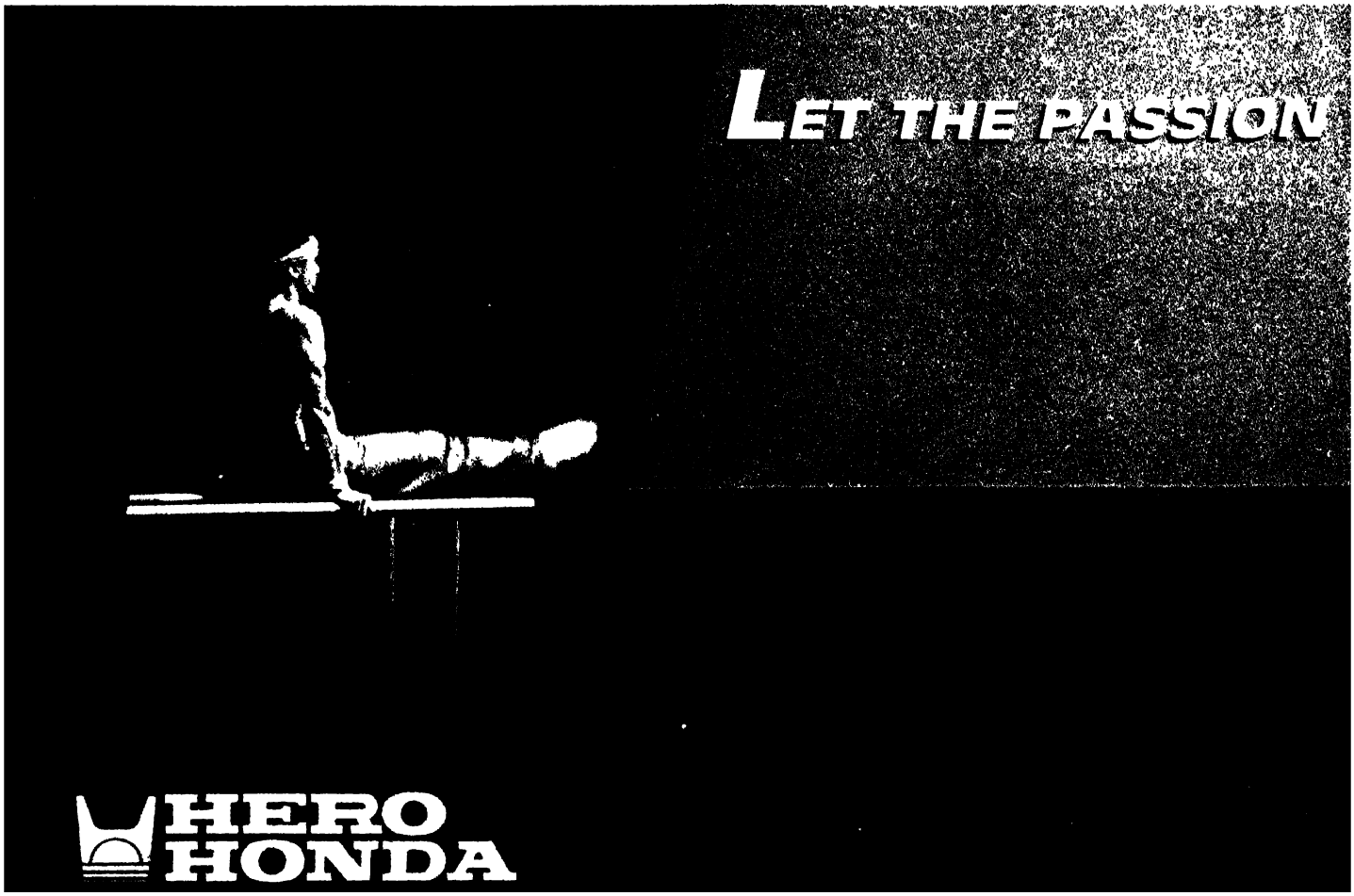
Maradona taking a shower with his wife. He's acquiring a reputation more for dope and girls than for soccer in Italy

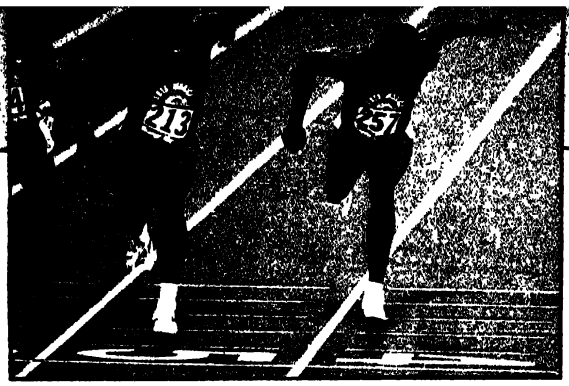
CHICKS 'N DRUGS

Ain't no rock 'n roll

YOU win some, you lose some, right? Diego Maradona loses everything...right from the World Cup, to the last vestiges of his already crumbling sense of decency.

The Argentine maestro has now been implicated in a sex and drugs scandal, when telephone calls intercepted during investigation into a drug trafficking and prostitution ring was traced to his house. Well, if you think all that is old hat try this one for size: Mr Maradona has actually admitted to his involvement with prostitutes linked to a Mafia clan. The confession (though grudgingly) came after three hours of tough interrogation. Eight members of the prostitution ring have already been arrested as part of the enquiry. Maradona admitted speaking to Carmela Canquegrani, considered by Italian cops to be a notorious drug pusher and the lynchpin of a prostitution ring. Diego as if expecting some grace from the cops denied any charges of drug trafficking. The time has surely come to pack your bags, Diego. Destination Buenos Aires.





French and sprinting are the only two areas where Burrell can score over Lewis

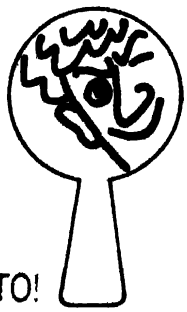
SIMILARITY BREEDS CONTEMPT

But speed makes the difference

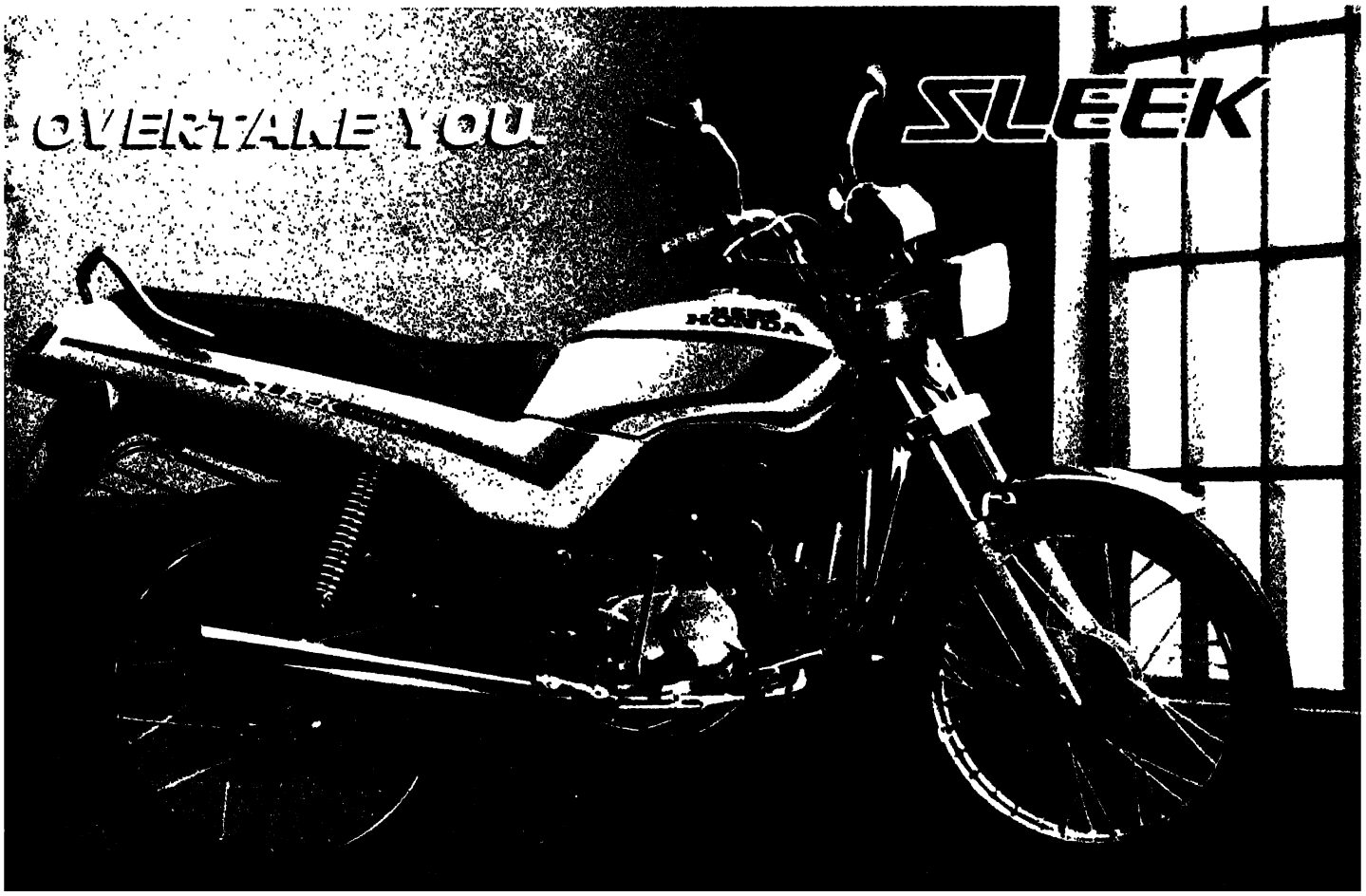
THE western world is rife with rumours that American sprinter Leroy Burrell is getting to be a Carl Lewis clone. Burrell currently is the world's fastest sprinter, but not athlete. That honour goes to Darrell Green, a quarterback for the Washington Redskins who beat Burrell in a hunt exhibition race. To be fair to Burrell it was the first time that he was running in a helmet and pads.

Coming back to Lewis and Burrell, coincidences do happen but not in so many respects. Burrell—like Lewis did—is planning on a four gold haul at the World Championships in Tokyo. If that is a coincidence, then check this out: Burrell comes from Pennsylvania the same for Lewis; Burrell competed from the University of Houston where Lewis studied; Burrell runs for the Santa Monica Track Club, as does Lewis; Burrell is managed by Joe Douglas, ditto for Lewis; Burrell is coached by Tom Tellez likewise Lewis; Burrell studied communications and radio TV which was Lewis' subject; and finally (pant!) at the Goodwill Games, last summer both appeared on the same podium preaching the same tenets of Christianity before running in the same event. Comparisons soon run thin and there is finally a difference. Burrell is studying French, negative for Lewis and most important Burrell not Lewis, is the fastest around. Think that should make a difference.

PRIVATE EYE



WE LOOK WHERE WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO!



BORIS BECKER & STEFAN EDBERG

PROMISES TO KEEP

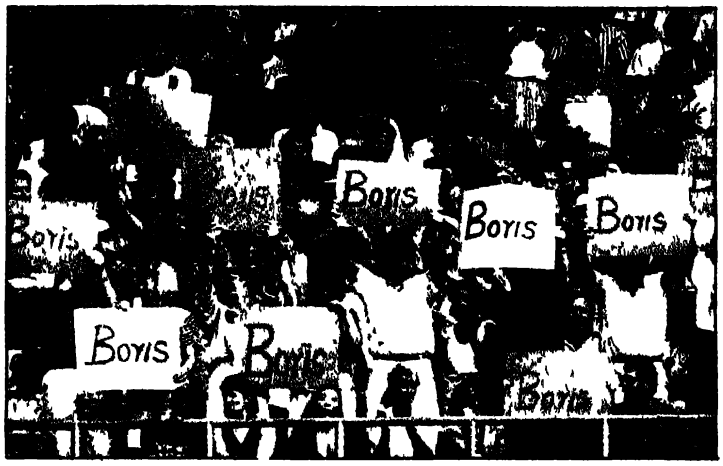
With similar playing styles but contrasting personalities, Stefan Edberg and Boris Becker seem prepared to come out of the shadows of Bjorn Borg and John McEnroe and put the word 'rivalry' back into the tennis dictionary

It was a simple question A question of history "Will their duels become legend?" asked *World Tennis* magazine almost ten years ago, as Bjorn Borg and John McEnroe, sweated, stared and squared off across a tennis net Their styles were in perfect contrast, their personalities jarred against each other, the respect simmered, the rage flamed, the answer was 'YES' Cold steel, hot lead, this, fellows, was a rivalry

For the rest of the 1980s that concept of rivalry was methodically and clinically dismantled by Ivan Lendl— No 1 for 269 weeks in total, 8 Grand Slam titles since 1983 if the Czech was no man's mate, then no man was his equal either

But King's get old, their desire channelled elsewhere— with Lendl read 31, and an undisguised search for his Holy Grail, Wimbledon Oh, and there was one more thing (two actually)— Stefan Edberg, 25 and Boris Becker, 23 Two men, tired of being led and eager to lead

Suddenly, in a flash of time, 7 months to be precise since August 1990, Lendl was deposed to No 3 and the No 1 spot changed hands as freely between Sweden and Germany, as a beer bottle between friends The new decade had quickly accomplished one feat the restoration of the word



SUDDENLY, Lendl was deposed to No.3 and the No.1 spot changed hands as freely between Sweden and Germany as a beer bottle between friends. The new decade has quickly accomplished one feat; the restoration of the word 'rivalry' into the tennis dictionary

BY ROHIT BRIJNATH

'rivalry' into the tennis dictionary

A unique aspect, and a revealing one, in the Edberg-Becker duel, is of course the longevity of their rivalry They have played far more often than their predecessors, Borg and McEnroe (who met 14 times, score 7-7, but obviously), the 1990 Wimbledon final, for instance, being their 24th confrontation "We've been playing each other since we were 14", said Becker after that final and indeed, the first time they met was a moment they both remembered, though perhaps with differing clarity

Becker "It was a German satellite event I was 14"

Edberg "Yes, I remember, it was the Rolex tournament in New York I was 16 '

Becker "It was 6-4, 6-4"

Edberg "No it was 6-3, 6-3"

All very fine But who won?

Becker "He did" (with a smile)

Edberg "I did" (with a smile)

These men smile easily at references to one another, a positive by-product of their decade in combat Fine sportsmanship has been the signature line of their duels, each match characterised by fair play and good naturedness All this was most evident at Wimbledon last year, when after a five set marathon, Becker clambered over the net to warmly embrace his victor Said Becker, "My feeling afterward was I know how it feels both ways, winning and losing, especially with Stefan We've been going through so many matches over the years'

Being professionals it would be hasty

In keeping with their hero's image, Becker's fans are high profile too

Edberg too has a considerable fan following especially among the ladies



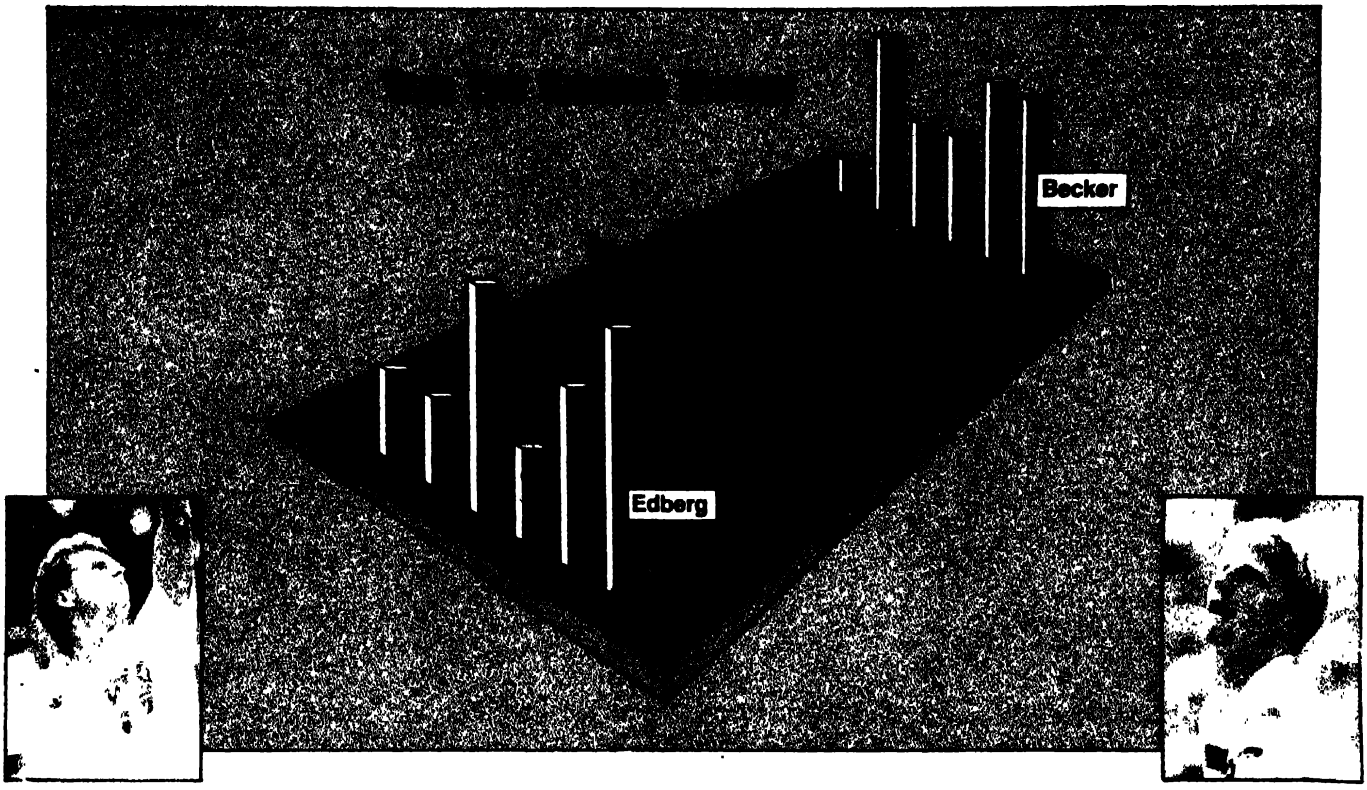


Two weeks ago Becker announced he had split with coach Bob Brett



Edberg with girlfriend Annette Olsen who is the caddie when he plays golf

EDBERG is unobtrusive...almost boring in his manner which is quiet and unreactive, content with long-time girlfriend Annette Olsen and is known to do nothing but play golf and chew gum occasionally



confused, honest, a generator of controversy through his strange confessions of suicide, his successive romances, his struggle with fame and his desire for anonymity. An interviewer's delight, a tabloid headline writer's fantasy, when Becker buys an Alfa Romeo everyone knows, when, where and why.

Edberg is unobtrusive, less vocal about anonymity for he has it, almost boring in his manner which is quiet and unreactive, content with longtime girlfriend Annette Olsen, and is known to do nothing but play golf and chew gum occasionally. A nightmare of calmness. Does he even own a car? Who knows?

Becker, as both player and man in continuous change, is well reflected in his turbulent relationships with coaches. His acrimonious split with Gunther Bosch in early 1987, despite collective sucess, was the earliest indication of his strong individuality and need to grow as a person. Said Tim Mayotte, "Bjorn Borg used to be living in a cocoon (provided by coach Lennart Bergelin). I think Becker handled that kind of situation incredibly well, in ending his relationship with Bosch. It cost him on the court for a while but he realised he couldn't grow emotionally without cutting the cord". A fortnight ago, Becker cut another cord, when he severed ties with coach Bob Brett, the man who recharged his career and wept when the German became No.1, after winning the Australian Open earlier this year. Such is Becker's way.

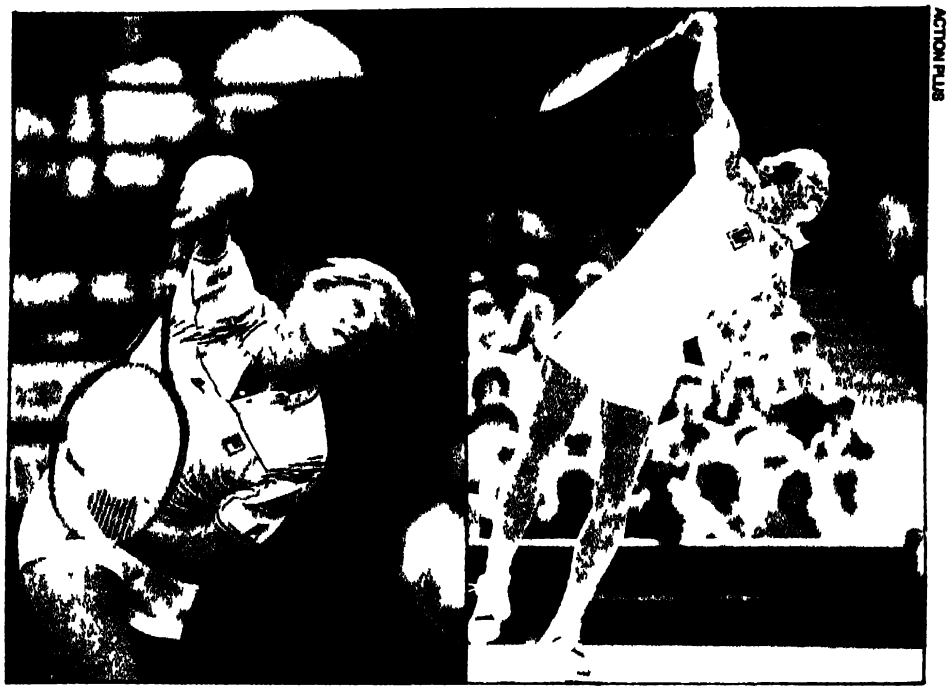
Edberg's privacy had made him difficult to gauge, and his relationship with Tony Pickard has been uninterrupted, relaxed and rewarding. Pickard, in fact, plays a somewhat unorthodox role, admittedly possessing no interest or concern in Edberg's stroke development (he leaves that to Stefan), concentrating mainly on replacing Edberg's despondent hang-dog look with a more aggressive and competitive attitude. Even now, despite Edberg's No.1 position, as a match player the question mark of fragility looms larger over his head than Becker's.

As players too, in strengths and technique, both men are different.

Becker is all machismo, a brute, who screams with extroverted passion, endowed with stunning athleticism, with pillars as arms and oak tables as shoulders. A clear and present danger.

Edberg is cute (ask the girls) with the hands of a pianist, an artist, who uses his racket like a stiletto to Becker's club. Slim as a branch, as

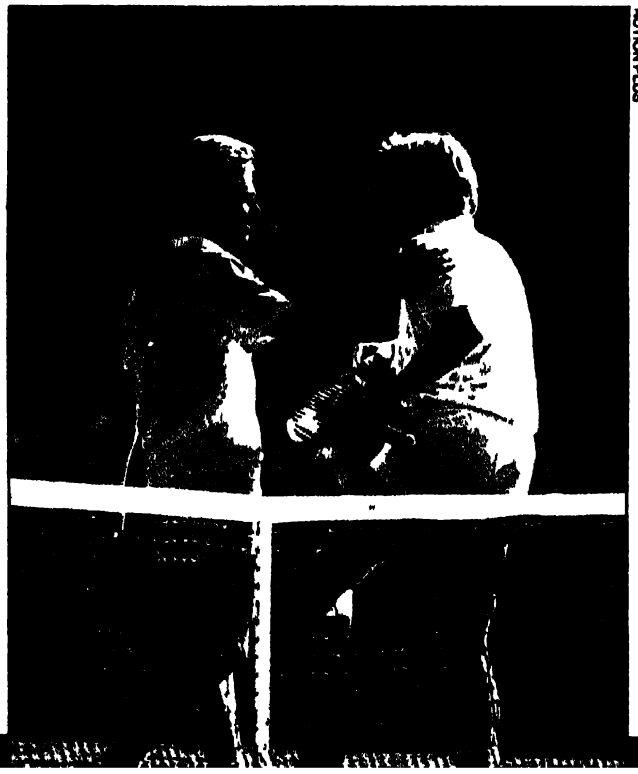
PRINCES OF POWER





Both men have marvellous serves, Becker's forehand is explosive, Edberg's backhand

to say that this camaradrie affected the intensity of their combat Nevertheless, if we ask the question "Have their duels become legend?" of the Becker-Edberg rivalry, we find an incomplete answer, for barring their five-set semi-final at the 1989 French Open, none of their confrontations have stirred the imagination or accelerated the heart beat The reason lies perhaps in their similar playing styles and not in their absence of rage, though it is still premature to say that confidently



In fact, their fury at the French was astonishing, as both men actively dislike clay, not surprising since Becker's first word as a child must have been 'serve', and Edberg s 'volley' Their preference is grass, their arena obviously Wimbledon, and though their greatest successes have come there (five titles totally) none of their three finals rates even a memory

Serve and volley excluded, both men have little in common At best we can say they have been equally successful (Becker 30 titles / Edberg 28), won their first Grand Slam tournaments in the same year, 1985, (Becker, Wimbledon/Edberg, Australian Open), and have earned similar fortunes in prize money (Becker $ 8,450,631/ Edberg $ 8,633,696)

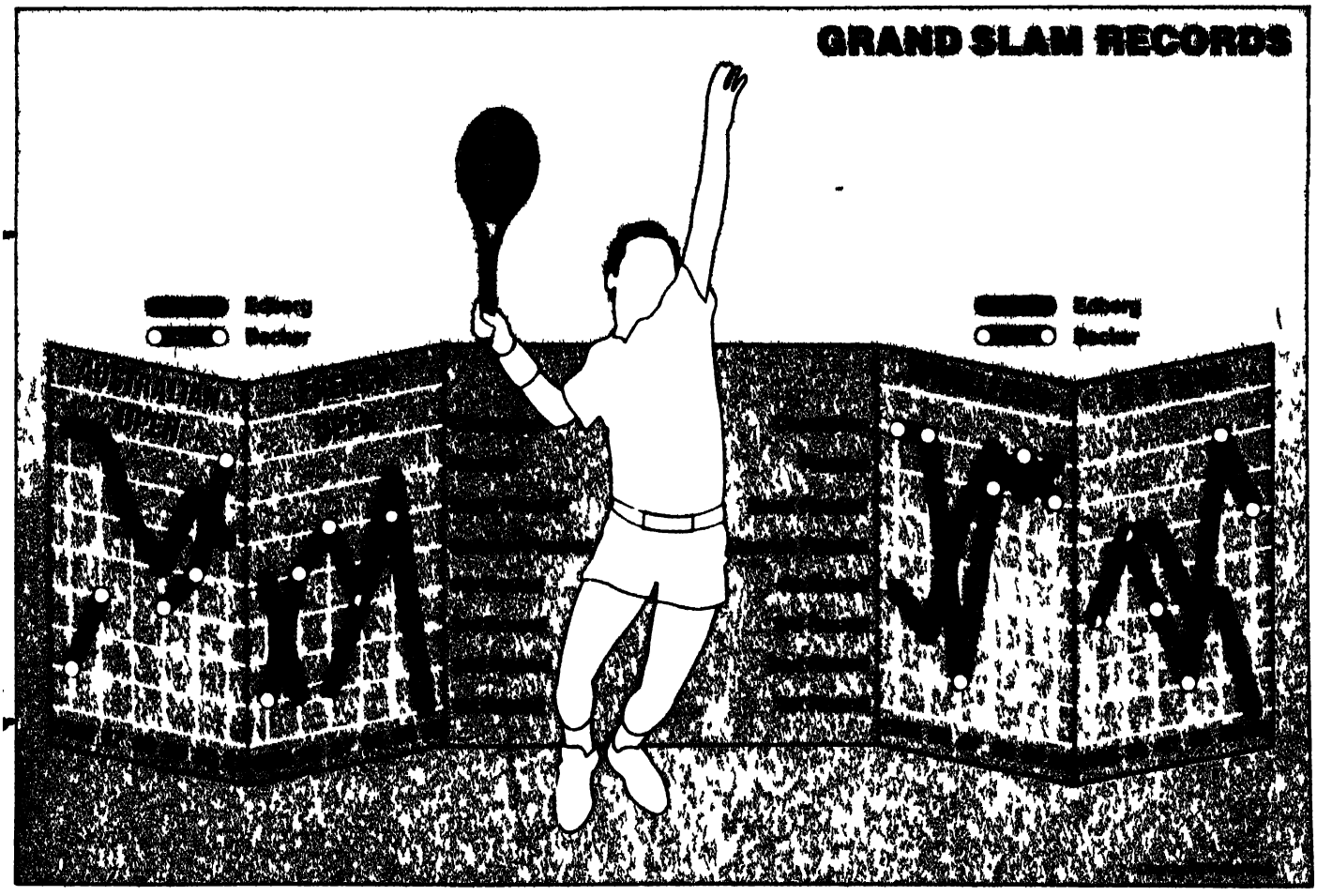
In everything else, they could not be in greater contrast

Becker appears an alarmingly complex person,

Wimbledon '90: Becker crosses the net to embrace his victor



is beautiful, and if Becker is athletic on the volley then Edberg is technically perfect







BECKER is all machismo, a brute who screams with extroverted passion, endowed with stunning athleticism. Edberg is cute...as composed as a statue, he moves swiftly with disguised danger

Becker is always expressive when he wins Edberg, usually stone faced, for once shows his delight

composed as a statue, he moves swiftly with disguised danger

Both men have serves with exaggerated back arches, Becker's forehand could go through concrete Edberg's backhand has rewritten all textbooks on beautiful strokeplay Becker is strong on the volley, Edberg defines precision with it

On their respective days each is formidable the best tennis player in the world

At present Edberg is No 1, and will be so for some time considering Becker's four week lay off due to a thigh injury Both men have much to accomplish and achieve, primarily, victory on clay (neither has won a tournament on that surface) So too must they discover a resilience to withstand the combined onslaught of Sampras, Agassi, Ivanisevic and Lendl Neither is an easy task but these men have not travelled a long, hard road for nothing

There remains though one invisible enemy to conquer History

For too long, tennis has lived in the long shadow of greatness that McEnroe and Borg cast, both individually and collectively Yet, now, a decade later we have two young men, equally gifted, measurably close and destined to rule Perhaps finally, Boris Becker and Stefan Edberg will provide the necessary resolve and skill, to step from the shadows into the light and illuminate the world with a new brilliance. ●

PHOTOGRAPHS: TOMMY HINDLEY

SO FAR THIS YEAR

BECKER: Three tournaments

A) Adelaide- lost to Magnus Larsson in the first round.

B) Australian Open-won, defeated Ivan Lendl in the final.

C) Brussels-lost to Andrei Cherkasov in the semi finals, retired at 2-2 in the third set.

PRIZE MONEY: $US 290,444 (leader).

A leg injury will put him out for the whole month.

EDBERG: Two tournaments

A) Australian Open-lost to Ivan Lendl in the semi finals. (probably one of the three best matches so far this year)

B) Brussels-lost in the semi finals to Guy Forget.

PRIZE MONEY: $US 81,823 (in 8th place).

It should also be noted that both played Davis Cup after the Australian Open. Edberg did not win a set in three matches (singles and doubles) against Yugoslavia and Becker won his two singles but lost the doubles against Italy.

Information up dated to Feb 18, 1991

1990 TOP STATISTICAL LEADERS
Overall Match Record on Different surfaces

	W-L	Pct
1 Stefan Edberg	70-14	833
2 Ivan Lendl	53-11	828
3 Boris Becker	71-15	826
Carpet		
	W-L	**Pct**
1 Boris Becker	26-3	897
2 Stefan Edberg	18 3	.857
Grass		
	W-L	**Pct**
1 Stefan Edberg	10-1	909
2 Ivan Lendl	10-1	909
3 Amos Mansdorf	7-1	875
4 Boris Becker	10-2	833
Hard		
	W-L	**Pct**
1 Stefan Edberg	39-5	.886
2 Andre Agassi	26-5	.839
3. Boris Becker	25-5	833
Indoor		
	W-L	**Pct**
1 Boris Becker	31-3	912
2 Ivan Lendl	25-5	.833
3 Stefan Edberg	22-5	.815
Outdoor		
	W-L	**Pct**
1. Stefan Edberg	48-9	.842
2 Ivan Lendl	28-6	.824
3 Andre Agassi	34-8	.810
4 Thomas Muster	45-13	.776
5. Boris Becker	40-12	.769

Courtesy ATP Tour Guide

OFFICIAL TOP MONEY EARNERS (FROM 1985)

1. Ivan Lendl	...$1,971,074
2. John McEnroe	...$1,455,611
3. Mats Wilander	...$1,081,697
4. Stefan Edberg	...$731,152
5. Boris Becker	...$625,757
1986	
1. Ivan Lendl	.. $1,987,537
2. Boris Becker	...$1,434,324
3. Stefan Edberg	...$1,028,906
1987	
1. Ivan Lendl	...$2,003,656
2. Stefan Edberg	...$1,587,467
3. Miloslav Mecir	...$1,205,326
4. Mats Wilander	...$1,164,674
5. Pat Cash	...$565,934
6 Anders Jarryd	...$561,977
7. Boris Becker	..$558,979
1988	
1. Mats Wilander	. .$1,726,731
2 Boris Becker	...$1,696,953
3. Stefan Edberg	.. $1,402,802
1989	
1. Ivan Lendl	.$2,344,367
2. Boris Becker	$2,216,823
3. Stefan Edberg	. $1,661,491
1990	
1. Stefan Edberg	$1,995,901
2 Andre Agassi	$1,741,382
3. Boris Becker	. $1,587,502

Courtesy ATP Tour Guide

1990 ATP TOUR TITLE LEADERS

BY SURFACE

Player	Total	Carpet	Clay	Grass	Hard
1 Stefan Edberg	7	1	0	1	5
2. Boris Becker	5	3	0	0	2
3. Ivan Lendl	5	3	0	1	1

STOP PRESS

IT HAS BEEN CONFIRMED THAT BORIS BECKER, HAVING SPLIT WITH BOB BRETT, WILL NOW BE COACHED BY NIKKI PILIC, WHO IS A FORMER PLAYER AND COACH OF THE GERMAN DAVIS CUP TEAM. BOB BRETT MEANWHILE HAS BEEN HIRED BY GORAN IVANISEVIC, WHO HAS ALSO PARTED WAYS WITH HIS FORMER COACH BALAZ TAROCSY

YAWN!

Edberg Is No. 1 Again (Or Is He?)

In a tongue-in-cheek discussion, Rohit Brijnath trys to explain to his Uncle Stanley about who's No. 1. He failed

MY Uncle Stanley's Sunday breakfast was ruined And it was too late to run

A genial gent, who still dreams of wooden rackets, Uncle Stanley knows terribly little about tennis, but just that enough to be difficult Every now and then he'd lower his newspaper, slip in a small aside like "Ellsworth Vines' serve was better than Becker's' and snurk endlessly Because he knew they'd be no argument since Vines played in the 1930 s and I wasn't born till 30 years later

But back to that Sunday breakfast The coffee was forgotten, his brow was displeasingly furrowed "Hmmpff" he snorted, pointing to where it was written that Stefan Edberg was No 1 *again* and Boris Becker was No 2 "Again?" he bellowed "why are these sub editors so diabolically incompetent? I ask you, when was this dashed Edberg No 1 before anyway? And Becker, well everyone knows he s always been No 2 Pass me that pad like a good chap it s time I told the editor about his sportspage Surely they know Lendl's No 1 old boy, always has been'

Uncle Stanley, you must remember hasn t read the sportspages ever since Ben Johnson, to use his own words "put up a devilishly poor show by using unfair means to win" This was around the same time when he thought Stanozolol was the name of the Romanian ambassador

Anyway, back to this No 1 business "Ummm, Uncle Stan", I oilily countered, "Lendl hasn't been No 1 for quite some time"

"Rubbish", he trumpeted "ever since that McPatrick fellow got married, he has"

"Actually it's McEnroe", I idiotically interceded

"Yes, yes, I meant Patrick McEnroe", he snapped

Oh dear, this wasn't going too well "It's John McEnroe, Uncle Stan, but never mind, point is, Lendl lost the No 1 ranking to Mats Wilander on September 12, 1988 but got it back in January 1989 when he won the Australian Open and Wilander got

Who's Been No. 1 (Since 1985)

LENDL——September 1985 to September 1988

WILANDER——September 1988 to January 1989

LENDL——January 1989 to August 1990

EDBERG——August 1990 to January 1991

BECKER——January 1991 to February 17,1991

EDBERG——February 1991 to...

beaten in the second round by Krishnan"

"What, Ramanathan's still playing. By golly he's really stretching his career . Admirable, nevertheless."

Jesus wept. Did I dare tell him it was Ramesh? Never. So I took a huge breath and continued: "Lendl remained No. 1 only till the autumn, when Edberg, having won Wimbledon and a few other tournaments, took over the top spot on August 13, 1990, yet like his fellow Swede Mats Wilander couldn't hold onto it for long, relinquishing the No. 1 ranking to Becker on January 28, 1991, who in turn injured his leg and defaulted from the Brussels Indoor Championship where Edberg lost in the semi finals to Guy Forget but still managed to grab back the No 1 spot" Phew!

By now Uncle Stanley's eyebrows had meshed with his hairline. "Amazing", he said, not once but twice. "Why didn't anyone tell me this?" he asked his now frozen coffee.

"However", he barked, the bluster back, "I always told you those blasted computers were evil machines. Confusing things, confounding. This is outrageous, everytime I turn my back they have a new No. 1.Hah, nothing like the days of Vines. No infernal computer needed, everyone knew he was the best".

"But it's more exciting", I weakly interrupted. "The race is so consistently close that almost every match has an added relevance."

"Rubbish", he sneered. "Lendl is still the best. It's the Grand Slam tournaments that count didn't you know. Not a handful of points won at some half-baked tournament in Itaparica"

"Well actually that's true, in a sense. There was quite a controversy last year when the International Tennis Federation named Lendl as 'player of the year' although Edberg was No. 1 on the ATP computer. They said Lendl's Grand Slam record (Australian champion, French Open didn't play, Wimbledon semi finalist, US Open quarter finalist) was better than Edberg's (Australian finalist,

TOMMY HINDLEY



THE ATP RANKING SYSTEM

THE computer ranking system was started by the ATP in 1973 However, with the inauguration of the new, independent, ATP TOUR in 1990, the ranking system was changed As the ATP put it, it was "intended to help promote the game"

This is an attempt to explain, as simply as possible, how the different ranking systems work

THE 1973 SYSTEM

Ranking was based on the awarding of points to players for each match won The number of points depended on

a) The prize-money level of the tournament
b) The round reached
c) Bonus points for defeating a player of a given ranking calibre

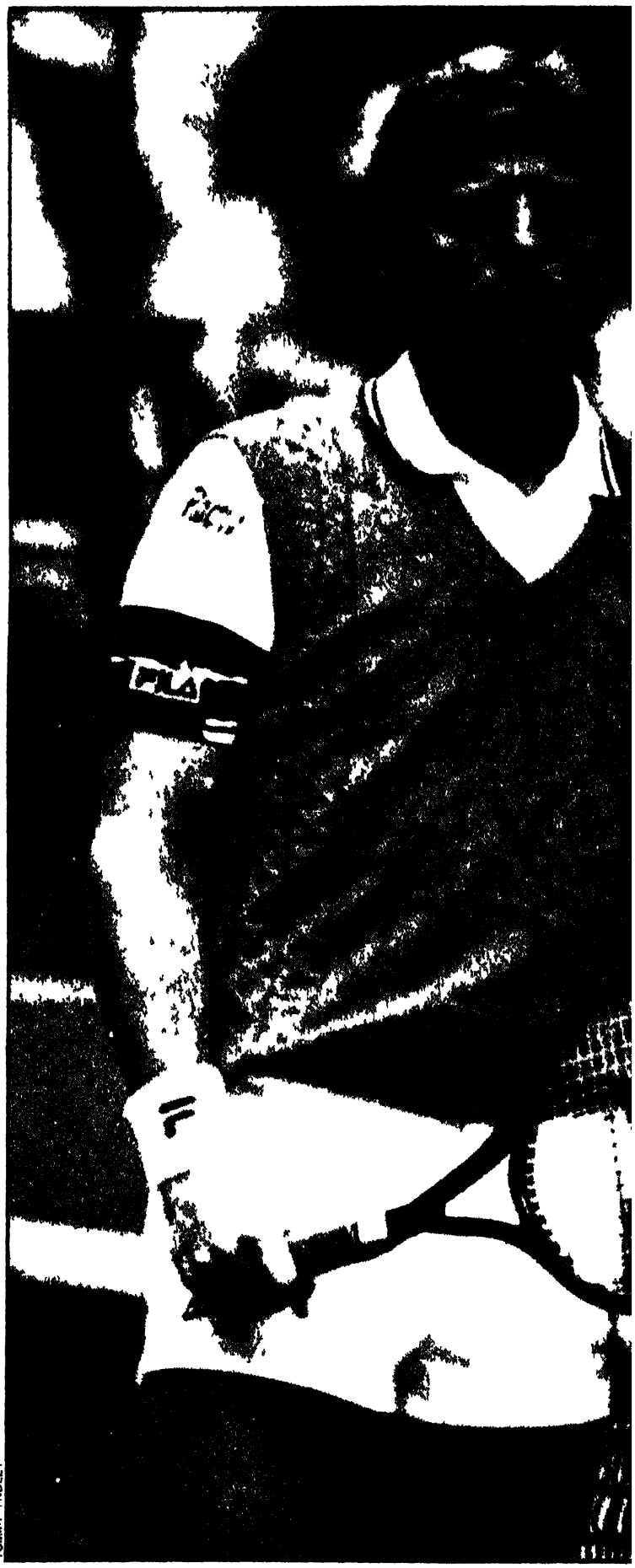
The point totals were accumulated over a 52-week period That means, the results from one event remains in the computer for 52 weeks, and, consequently points drop from the computer after 52 weeks That is, if you win tournament X on Monday, Feb 4, 1989 and earn 1000 points, those points drop from the computer on Monday Feb 5, 1990

The total number of points were then divided by the number of events played (The minimum divisor was 12) From this division an 'average' was computed which then became a players ranking

THE 1990 SYSTEM

Yet there were problems with the 'average' system, which resulted in the ATP adopting the new "Best 14 system" This meant taking a player's best 14 results during a 52-week period and using that aggregate point total as the basis for ranking (If a player enters 20 tournaments his best 14 results are counted) Eleven tournaments is the TOUR minimum, but the best 14 rule means enhanced player commitment otherwise they lose out The system works because the Top 10 appearances have gone up from 143 in 1989 to 180 in 1990

Points are still awarded for the round reached and the calibre (ranking) of a player defeated Yet, the ATP has determined the point allocations made for tournament categories and prize money levels in a manner that has upset the Grand Slams In this new system, the Grand Slam tournments have 'lost' approximately 5% in relative point value, while the ATP Tour events have gained approximately 5% That is, winning Wimbledon gets you 400 points instead of 420 previously, and winning the ATP Championship Series at Brussels earns you 180 points instead of 150 as it was before



TOMMY HINDLEY



Becker and Lendl are still chasing No. 1

French Open first round loser, Wimbledon champion, US Open first round loser)."

"Exactly", crowed Uncle Stanley, to no-one in particular. "That's the bottom line." Then folding his arms across his chest and looking immensely pleased with himself, he added, "These chaps Becker and Edberg have no character. Lack of class, you know. No consistency. Now Lendl, he's got character. Holds the record as No. 1. That's consistency".

"Yes and no", I said, regretting immediately that I'd opened my mouth.

"Yes and no?" snapped Uncle Stanley, "explain yourself boy."

"See, Lendl has been No. 1 more often than any other player, 269 weeks to be exact But Connors hold the record for the longest uninterrupted reign as No. 1 which is 159 weeks".

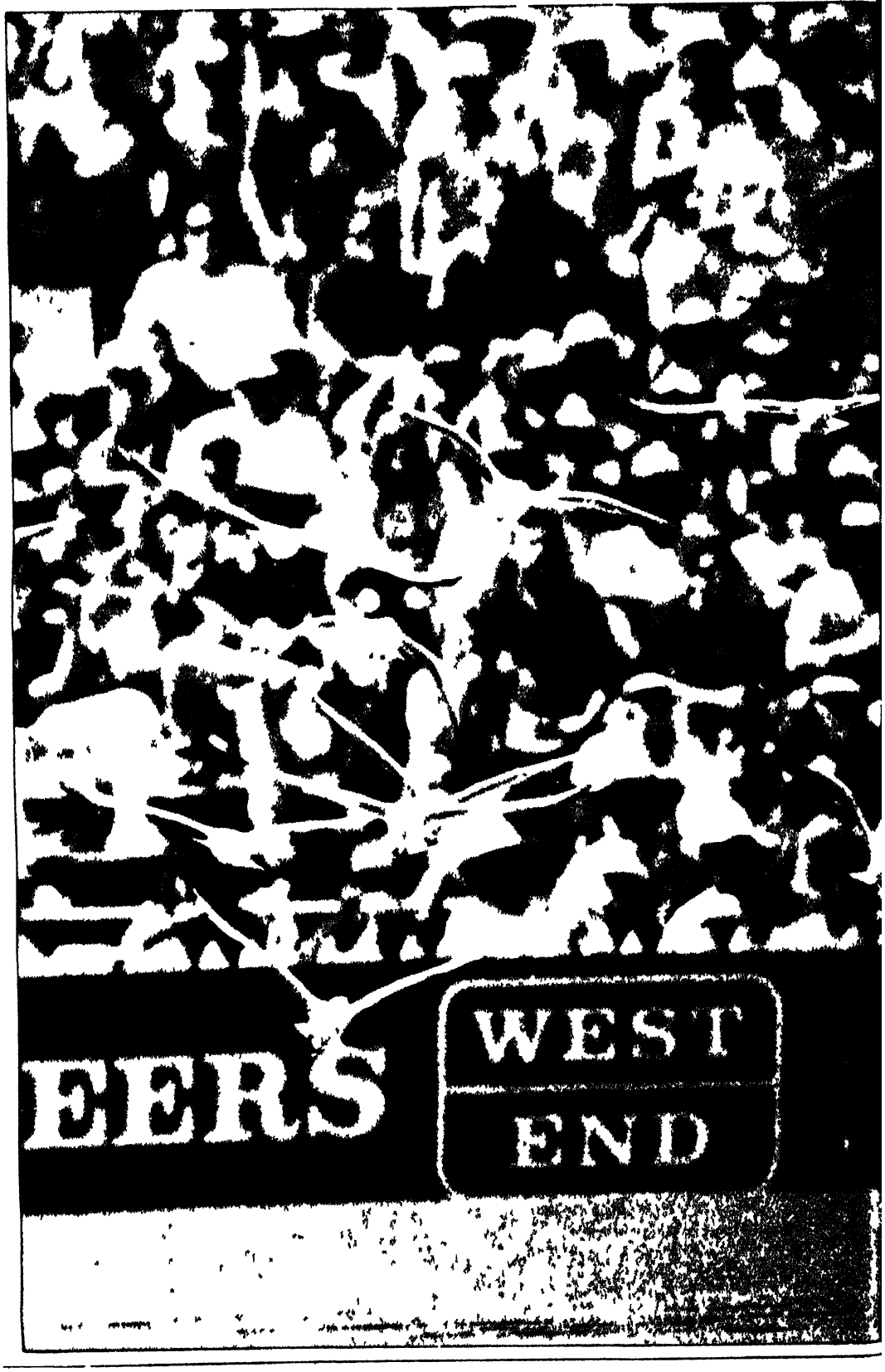
"Statistics", barked Uncle Stanley. "Useless things, misleading, incomprehensible, obnoxious, unacceptable. These rankings are abominable Look at this", he gestured at the Top 20 listing, "they haven't even got Gerulaitis here. Who's this Sampras fellow who's taken his No. 5 placing. Probably some weak kneed, badly behaved American with no serve."

"Ah, I was right wasn't I?" he smirked, as I shook my head in dismay. Uncle Stanley was better left to his dreams of wooden rackets. Oh, and I keep the sportspages away from him from now on.●

PHOTO FEATURE

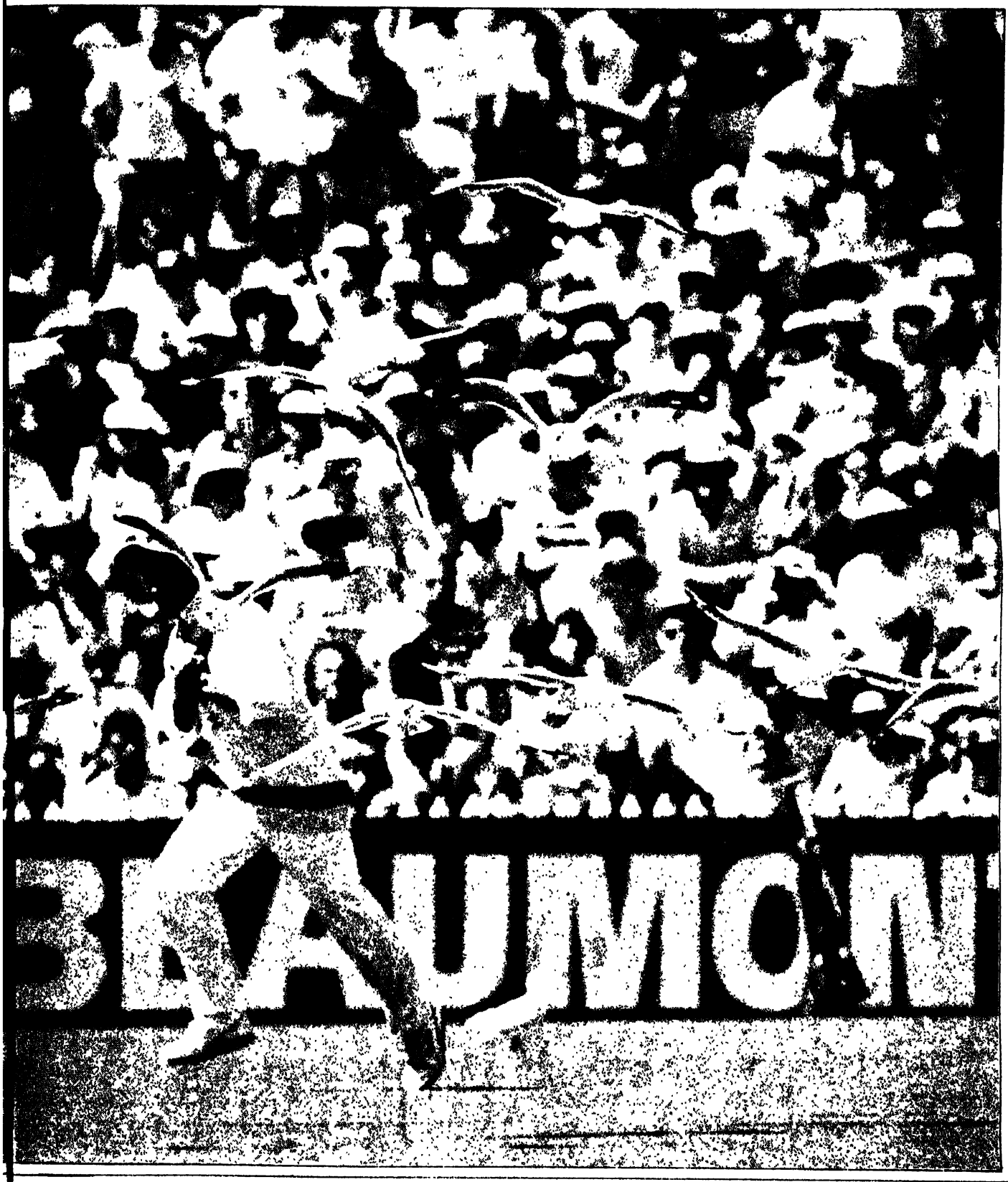
FOR YOUR EYES

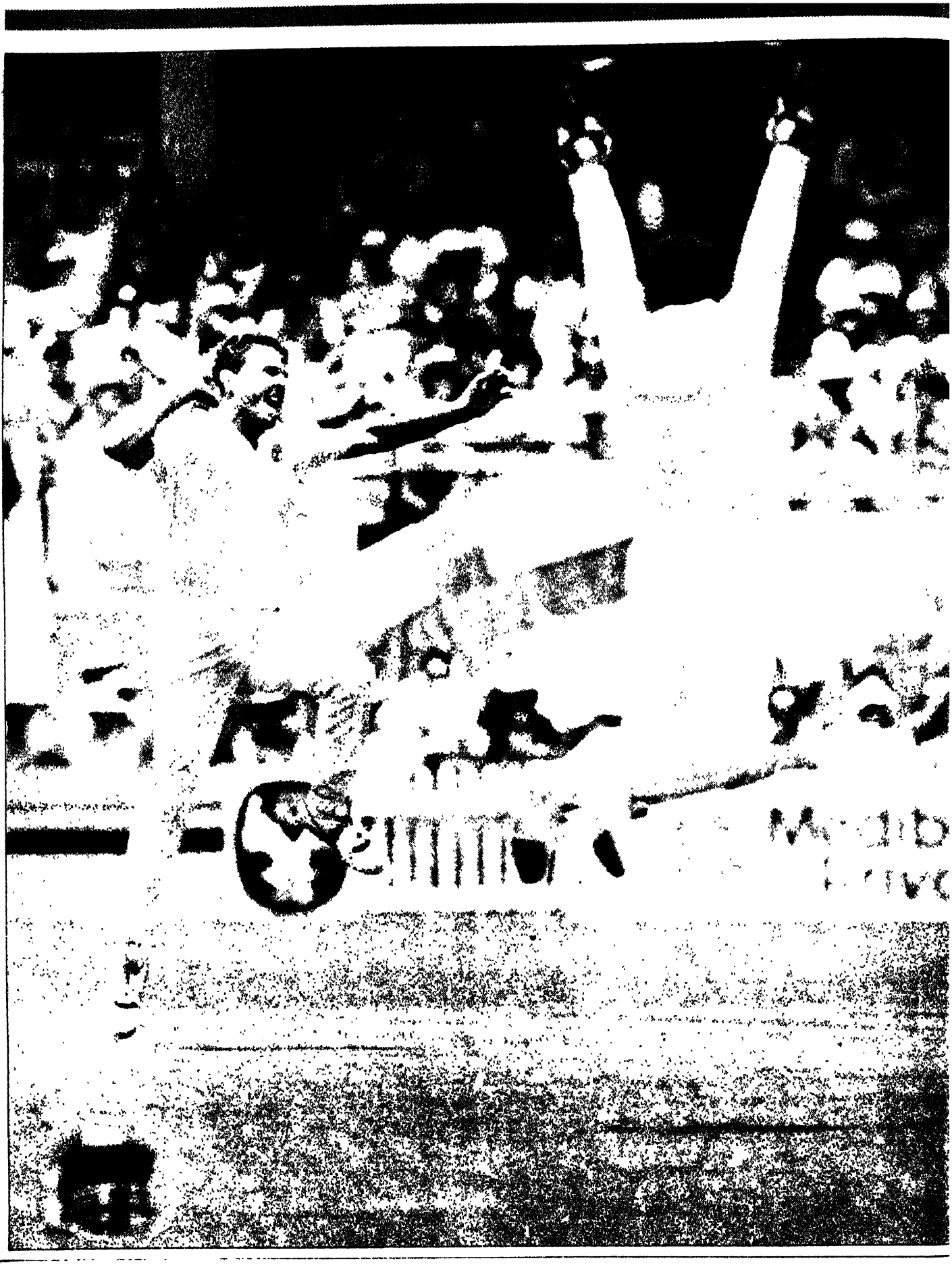
PATRICK EAGAR, the celebrated cricket photographer, takes time off from serious on-field action for the sake of our readers' pure viewing delight



In a sea of seagulls, Greg Matthews catches England's DeFreitas in Adelaide to give the photographer this rare moment of photographic excellence and pleasure...

ONLY



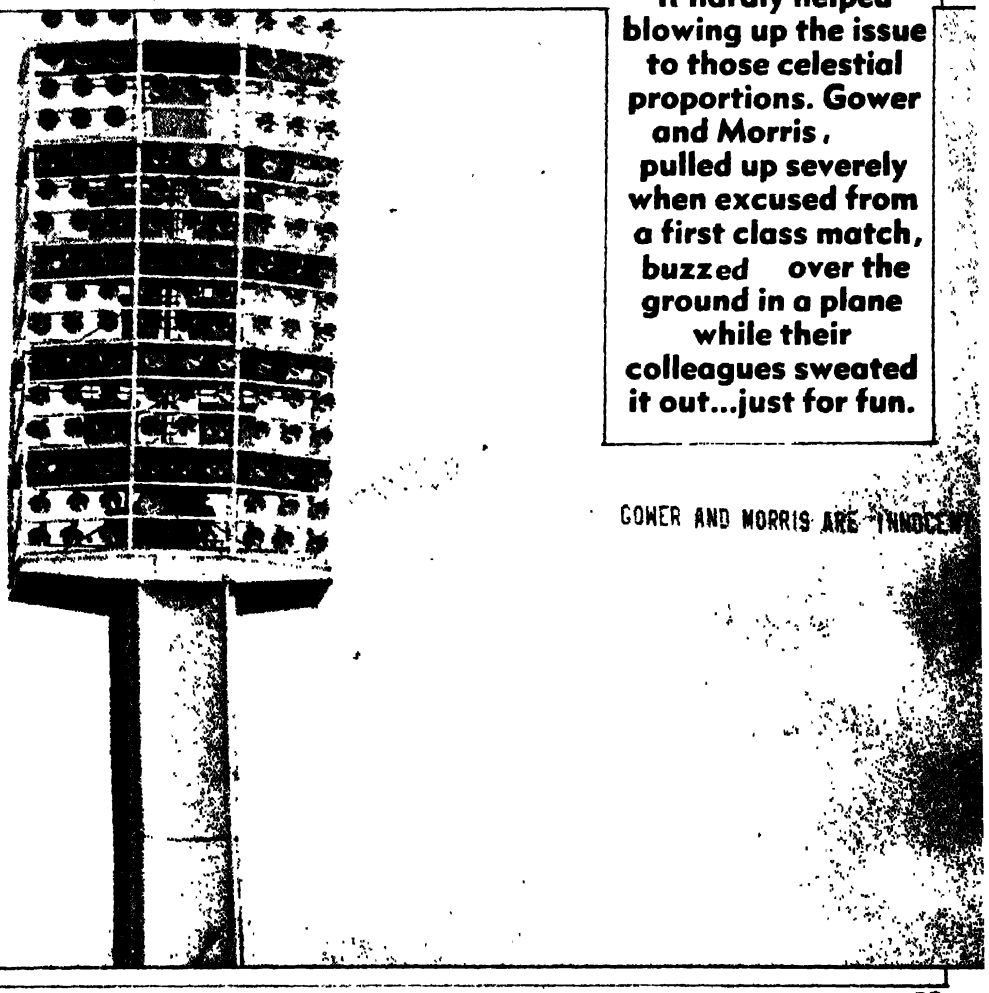


Joy knows no bounds. Nor heights either. Just as we see here, excited over the early dismissal of David Gower, McDermott and Healy take to the air and seem to stay gleefully suspended there as the camera captures their bubbling mood in a frozen moment of timelessness...



Balancing Act: Always a pragmatist, and yet one of cricket's more romantic heroes, former England skipper David Gower, now flying real high as far as his batting is concerned, enjoys a smooth imaginary cruise though never forgets to keep his feet rooted firmly onto the ground and reality...

OK, OK, we got the message loud and clear, even though it hardly helped blowing up the issue to those celestial proportions. Gower and Morris, pulled up severely when excused from a first class match, buzzed over the ground in a plane while their colleagues sweated it out...just for fun.



GOWER AND MORRIS ARE INNOCE

Brian Glanville writes on the changes in strategy in international soccer, the tactics employed by the managers, and debates on the effectiveness of these strategies...

GRAHAM TAYLOR wasn't satisfied with England's tactics when they beat the Cameroons at Wembley a couple of weeks back

But how much do tactics mean? How long can they successfully last? What use are they if they don't suit the men who are meant to deploy them?

England's tactics against the Cameroons had not been impressive Against a team which, without Roger Milla had no ambition to score goals and did not produce a single shot, England could not score once from open play Their first goal was a penalty, their second came from a corner, both scored by Gary Lineker

Graham Taylor often criticised in the past for his long ball tactics, said somewhat yearningly that if Ireland had been playing the Cameroons, they would have squeezed into their own half, played the ball over the top of their packed defence and probably scored five or six against them

I truly doubt that The Cameroons defence was full of big men well capable of heading the ball not least in the formidable shape of the ageing Emmanuel Kunde never in trouble at any point of the game, and eminently capable of dealing with any situation which arose

And curiously enough that very evening in the bitter cold of Wrexham on a frozen pitch on which neither manager had wanted to play Ireland were beating Wales 3 0 with anything but their usual long ball team and tactics

Taylor's evident fear is that when Ireland come to Wembley in March for the vital return European Nations Cup qualifying match– after a tedious 1-1 draw in Dublin - they will again be using their long ball methods

The argument about tactics is also raging in Italy where Marco Van Basten has criticised the tactics of his team, Milan Van Basten rocked the boat at Milan after he had been dropped from the team when he showed poor form

First he asked to be dropped Then when he was dropped he didn t like it Subsequently he was picked again He publicly lamented that Milan s methods which had won them the Italian championship and brought them two consecutive European Cups were no longer working

The constant 'pressing' on the opposition, the formation which had him up front as spearhead, was bringing diminishing returns There was certainly no doubt that points had been dropped a defeat at Parma 2-0, a draw at Genoa

His manager Sacchi, was quick to respond Sacchi who has imposed a four in-line defensive formation, with swift movement up to the halfway line, identified pace or the lack of it as the problem If it wasn t for a shortage of pace, he said even the Italian international veterans team could happily hold its own with anybody

Support for this view came from one of his defenders Costacurta No longer he said could the Milan defence and the Milan

Marco Van Basten opines that tactics and strategies should change with time



CLORSPORT

THERE IS NO M



Passion always ran high in England vs Cameroon, but at Wembley the zeal was missing

midfield produce the pace necessary to reinforce their front line Which seemed, on the face of it, to give Van Basten right to drop a little deeper, as spearheads tend to do as their careers unfold

His Dutch national compatriot, Ruud Gullit, tried to pour oil on troubled waters No team, said Gullit, could eternally keep going at full pelt Men and methods had to eventually become outdated If Milan no longer have their former pace, it seems inevitable that they must change, and without that 'pressing' of their opponents, can they ever hope to be as effective?

Taylor is right to want England to mix their methods, to get the back players coming through with the ball

MILAN'S manager Sacchi, who has imposed a four-in-line defensive formation with swift movement up to the halfway line; identified pace, or the lack of it, as the problem. If it wasn't for a shortage of pace, he said, even the Italian international veterans' team could happily hold its own with anybody.

To discourage the midfielder, such as Paul Gascoigne, perpetually coming back to look for distribution from the defence, to make more use of the wings But what you want and what you get are two different things, especially when it's a national team, so seldom seen by its manager

There is no magic formula, as we know so well Between the wars, the third back game and W formation dominated British football

Since Brazil invented 4-2-4 it's become a mere memory Wise managers know when to change Are Charlton's Ireland changing?

AGIC FORMULA

A STATISTICAL SURVEY

WEST INDIES

RESULTS AT A GLANCE

Series	Venue	Tests	WI	Aus	Drawn	Tied
1930-31	Aus	5	1	4	—	—
1951-52	Aus	5	1	4	—	—
1954-55	WI	5	—	4	2	—
1960-61	Aus	5	1	3	1	1
1964-65	WI	5	2	2	2	—
1968-69	Aus	5	1	1	1	—
1972-73	WI	5	—	3	3	—
1975-76	Aus	6	1	2	—	—
1977-78	WI	5	3	5	1	—
1979-80	Aus	3	2	1	1	—
1981-82	Aus	3	1	—	1	—
1983-84	WI	5	3	1	2	—
1984-85	Aus	5	3	—	1	—
				1		—
13	8 in Aus 5 in WI	62	19	27	15	1

HIGHEST INNINGS TOTALS

West Indies	in West Indies	573	Bridgetown	1964-65
	in Australia	616	Adelaide	1968-69
Australia	in West Indies	758-8d	Kingston	1954-55
	in Australia	619	Sydney	1968-69

LOWEST INNINGS TOTALS

West Indies	in West Indies	109	Georgetown	1972-73
	in Australia	78	Sydney	1951-52
Australia	in West Indies	90	Port of Spain	1977-78
	in Australia	76	Perth	1984-85

MATCH AGGREGATES

Highest	1764 for 39 wickets	Adelaide	1968-69
Lowest	534 for 28 wickets	Melbourne	1930-31

HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL INNINGS

West Indies	in West Indies	219	D.St.Atkinson	Bridgetown	1954-55
	in Australia	208	I.V.A. Richards	Melbourne	1984-85
Australia	in West Indies	210	W.M. Lawry	Bridgetown	1964-65
	in Australia	242	K.D. Walter	Sydney	1968-69

HIGHEST AGGREGATE OF RUNS IN A SERIES

West Indies	in West Indies	827	C.L. Walcott	1954-55
	in Australia	503	R.B. Kanhai	1960-61
Australia	in West Indies	650	R.N. Harvey	1954-55
	in Australia	702	G.S. Chappell	1975-76

VS AUSTRALIA

RECORD WICKET PARTNERSHIPS

WEST INDIES :

1st	250*	C.G. Grenidge, D.L. Haynes	Georgetown	1983-84
2nd	165	M.C. Carew, R.B. Kanhai	Brishane St. John's	1968-69
3rd	308	R.B. Richardson, I.V.A. Richards	Brisbane	1983-84
4th	198	L.G. Rowe, A.I. Kallicharran	Kingston	1975-76
5th	210	R.B. Kanhai, M.L.C. Foster	Bridgetown	1972-73
6th	165	R.B. Kanhai, D.L. Murray	Bridgetown	1972-73
7th	347	D.St. Atkinson, C.C. Depeiza	Adelaide	1954-55
8th	82	H.A. Gomes, A.M.E. Roberts	Adelaide	1981-82
9th	122	D.A.J. Holford, J.L. Hendricks	Brisbane	1968-69
10th	56	J. Garner, C.E.H. Croft		1979-80

AUSTRALIA:

1st	382	W.M. Lawry, R.B. Simpson	Bridgetown	1964-65
2nd	298	W.M. Lawry, I.M. Chappell	Melbourne	1968-69
3rd	295	C.C. McDonad, R.N Harvey	Kingston	1954-55
4th	336	W M. Lawry, K.D. Walters	Sydney	1968-69
5th	220	K.R. Miller, R.G. Archer	Kingston	1954-55
6th	206	R.R. Miller, R.G. Archer	Bridgetown	1954-55
7th	134	K.R. Miller, R.G Archer	Brisbane	1960-61
8th	137	A.K. Davidson, R. Benaud	Kingston	1954-55
9th	97	R. Benaud, I.W. Johnson	Melbourne	1960-61
10th	97	K.W. Mackay, J W. Martin T G. Hogan, R.M Hogg	Georgetown	1983-84

BEST INNINGS BOWLING ANALYSIS

West Indies	in West Indies	6-29	L.R. Gibbs	Georgetown	1964-65
	in Australia	7-54	A.M.E. Roberts	Perth	1975-76
Australia	in West Indies	7-44	I.W. Johnson	Georgetown	1954-55
	in Australia	8-71	G.D. McKenzie	Melbourne	1968-69

BEST MATCH BOWLING ANALYSIS

West Indies	in West Indies	9-80	L R. Gibbs	Georgetown	1964-65
	in Australia	11-107	M.A. Holding	Melbourne	1981-82
Australia	in West Indies	10-115	N.J.N. Hawke	Georgetown	1964-65
	in Australia	11-79	H. Ironmonger	Melbourne	1930-31

HIGHEST AGGREGATE OF WICKETS IN A SERIES

West Indies	in West Indies	31	J. Garner	1983-84
	in Australia	28	M.D. Marshall	1984-85
Australia	in West Indies	26	M.H.N. Walker	1972-73
	in Australia	33	C.V. Grimmett	1930-31
		33	A K. Davidson	1960-61

MOST WICKETKEEPING DISMISSALS IN A SERIES

West Indies	in West Indies	22(21c/1s)	P.J.L. Dujon	1983-84
	in Australia	17 (all ct)	D.L. Murray	1975-76
Australia	in West Indies	20(16c/4s)	G.R.A. Langley	1954-55
	in Australia	17 (all ct)	R.W. Marsh	1975-76

Compiled by Ravi Kant Srivastava.

SPORTING CALENDAR FOR MARCH '91

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
31 India vs Indonesia, Davis Cup (Jaipur); Stafford Cup Football Final (Bangalore)			
3 West Indies vs Australia, First Test (Sabina Park, Jamaica); Santosh Trophy Football (Palakad)	**4** Santosh Trophy (Palakad), Virginia Slims-Women's Tennis Tournament (Florida)	**5** West Indies vs Australia, First Test (Sabina Park, Jamaica); Santosh Trophy (Palakad); Chancellor's Indira Gold Cup Hockey Tournament (Jammu), Virginia Slims Women's Tennis (Florida).	**6** West Indies vs Australia, First Test (Sabina Park, Jamaica); Santosh Trophy (Palakad), Indira Gold Cup Hockey (Jammu); Virginia Slims Women's Tennis (Florida); National Wrestling Championships (Varanasi); Asia Cup Table Tennis (Dhaka).
10 World Indoor Athletic Championships (Seville), West Indies vs Australia, Third One Day International (Trinidad); Virginia Slims Women's Tennis Final (Florida); Santosh Trophy Finals (Palakad); Indira Gold Cup Hockey (Jammu); Airlines Gold Cup Football (Calcutta) Inter-State Athletic Meet, (Gandhinagar)	**11** Indira Gold Cup Hockey (Jammu), Airlines Gold Cup Football (Calcutta)	**12** World Swimming Cup (Montreal), 20th Sr. National and Inter-state Carrom Championships (Guntur); Airlines Gold Cup football (Calcutta); (Indira Gandhi Hockey (Jammu)	**13** World Swimming Cup (Montreal); Airlines Gold Cup Football (Calcutta); All England Badminton Chps. (London); Indira Gandhi Hockey (Jammu); 20th Sr. National Carrom(Guntur); West Indies vs Australia; Fourth One Day International (Barbados).
17 Airlines Gold Cup Football (Calcutta); Dhyan Chand Hockey (Agra); 20th Sr. Nat. Carrom Finals (Gunter). Trinidad vs Australia (Trinidad); Stafford Cup Football (Bangalore).	**18** Donovan 'Razor' Ruddock vs Mike Tyson World Heavywight Boxing (Las Vegas); Dhyan Chand Hockey(Agra); Stafford Cup Football (Bangalore); 52nd Sr. Nat. Table Tennis (Jaipur).	**19** Evander Holyfield vs George Foreman, World Heavyweight Boxing (Atlanta City); Sr. Nat. T.T. (Jaipur); Stafford Cup Football (Bangalore); Dhyan Chand Hockey (Agra); Airlines Gold Cup Football Final (Calcutta)	**20** West Indies vs Australia, Fifth One Day International (Guyana); Sr. Nat. T. T. (Jaipur); Stafford Cup Football (Bangalore), Dhyan Chand Hockey (Agra); European Cup Football Quarter Finals, 2nd leg matches.
24 West Indies vs Australia, Second Test (Guyana); Stafford Cup Football (Bangalore); National Boxing (Shimla); Sr. Nat. TT (Jaipur).	**25** West Indies vs Australia, second Test (Guyana); Stafford Cup Football (Bangalore); National Boxing (Shimla); Sr. National Table Tennis Finals (Jaipur)	**26** European Cup Winners Cup Basketball Final (Geneva); Stafford Cup Football (Bangalore); National Boxing (Shimla).	**27** West Indies vs Australia, 2nd Test (Guyana); European Football Chps. England vs Republic of Ireland, Group 7, (Wembley), Scotland vs Bulgaria, Group 2, (Hampden Park), Yugoslavia vs N. Ireland, Group 4, (Belgrade); Stafford Cup Football (Bangalore) Nat. Boxing Chps. Final (Shimla).

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 West Indies vs Australia First Test (Sabina Park Jamaica) Santosh Trophy Football (Palakad)	2 West Indies vs Australia First Test (Sabina Park Jamaica) Santosh Trophy Football (Palakad)
7 Santosh Trophy Semi Finals (Palakad) Indira Gold Cup Hockey (Jammu) Virginia Slims Women s Tennis (Florida) National Wrestling (Varanasi) Asia Cup T T (Dhaka)	8 Santosh Trophy Semi Finals (Palakad) Indira Gold Cup Hockey (Jammu) World Indoor Athletic Championships (Seville) Virginia Slims Women s Tennis (Florida) National Wrestling (Varanasi) Asia Cup T T (Dhaka) Inter State Athletic Meet (Gandhinagar)	9 Indira Gold Cup Hockey (Jammu) World Indoor Athletic Championships (Seville) West Indies vs Australia Second One Day International (Port of Spain Trinidad) Virginia Slims Women s Tennis (Florida) Airlines Gold Cup Football (Calcutta) Final Day of National Wrestling (Varanasi) Asia Cup T T Finals (Dhaka) Inter State Athletic Meet (Gandhinagar)
14 Airlines Gold Cup Football (Calcutta) All England Badminton (London) Indira Gandhi Hockey (Jammu) 20th Sr Nat Carrom (Guntur) Catalan Open Golf (Spain)	15 Australia vs Trinidad and Tobago (Trinidad) All England Badminton (London) Indira Gandhi Hockey Final (Jammu) Catalan Open Golf (Spain) 20th Sr Nat Carrom Guntur) Airlines Gold Cup Football (Calcutta) 19th All India Dhyan Chand Hockey Championships (Agra) Stafford Cup Football (Bangalore)	16 All England Badminton Finals (London) Catalan Open Golf (Spain) 20th Sr Nat Carrom (Guntur) Airlines Gold Cup Football (Calcutta) Trinidad vs Australia (Trinidad) Dhyan Chand Hockey (Agra) Stafford Cup football (Bangalore)
21 Stafford Cup Football (Bangalore) Sr at T T (Jaipur) Dhyan Chand Hockey (Agra)	22 National Boxing Chps (Shimla) Sr Nat T T (Jaipur) Stafford Cup Football (Bangalore) Dhyan Chand Hockey (Agra)	23 West Indies vs Australia Second Test (Guyana) Stafford Cup Football (Bangalore) Dhyan Chand hockey Final (Agra) National Boxing Chaps (Shimla)
28 West Indies vs Australia 2nd Test (Guyana) Stafford Cup Football (Bangalore)	29 Stafford Cup Football (Bangalore)	30 India vs Indonesia Davis Cup (Jaipur) Stafford Cup Football (Bangalore)

TELEVISION

Live telecast of semis and final of Santosh Trophy Football at Palakad March 7 8 and 10

Live telecast of India vs Indonesia Davis Cup tie at Jaipur

Live telecast of final of Airlines Gold Cup Football Tournament Calcutta March 19

Live telecast of final of Indira Gandhi Hokcey Jammu March 15

RADIO

Running commentary in Hindi and English on semi final and final of Santosh Trophy Football

Running commentary on final of Airlines Gold Cup Football Calcutta March 19

Running commentary on final of Indira Gandhi Hockey Tournament Jammu March 15

Running commentary in Hindi and English on India vs Indonesia Davis Cup tie at Jaipur March 30 and 31

OTHER EVENTS

Lipton International Tennis Chps for men and women Key Biscayne USA March 15 to 24

New Zealand vs Sri Lanka third Test (Auckland) March 1 to 5

National Snooker chps Calcutta March 1 to 8

4th China Open Golf for women March 6 to 8

COMPILED BY NOVY KAPADIA

BALL 'D



Tommy Hindley

Waqar Younis:
Pakistan's pace potential

OCTORING'_Pakistan's antidote

GEOFFREY DEAN on moves to eradicate the use of bottle-tops and knives from a bowler's armoury

The outlawed practice of roughing up one side of the ball to enhance swing is to be eradicated in Pakistan, says Mudassar Nazar, the national B team coach.

"It has got to stop and I hope it will be a thing of the past," Mudassar said in Lahore." It will be difficult to enforce, but we will be firm."

First-class umpires will be instructed by the Pakistan Board to keep a close eye on the state of the ball in the 1991-92 domestic season, particularly during the three-Test series against Sri Lanka.

What punitive powers they will have is yet to be disclosed, although the Board may follow the TCCB's lead at their summer meeting last August when umpires were empowered for the 1991 English season to punish counties that roughed up a ball by giving them a much older one.

Mudassar said that bottle tops and even knives are being used, not only to scuff the balls but also to help rip strips of leather off one side.

The Pakistan Board clearly realized the practice was carried to ridiculous lengths during the two home series against New Zealand and West Indies last year, that something had to be done.

Moreover, such a move is in their interest as they have, in Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis, probably the finest opening attack in Test cricket without having to resort to such tactics.

Mudassar added that the West Indies were "worse than us" when it came to roughing up the ball during the 1-1 drawn series, and that one West Indies player had told him they had resorted to the practice in the last two Tests in the Caribbean against England last year.

What the Pakistan Board take from their pace bowlers with one hand will be balanced by what they give with the other.

"All our pitches will be greener from now on," promised Mudassar, who cited two very plausible reasons for the change.

First that given the huge amount of junior cricket now played in Pakistan pitches will break up unless they are grassed. Secondly spectators must be encouraged back to watch Tests and they will not with old, lifeless pitches. Probably the overriding motive for the proposed change, however, is the strength of Pakistani fast bowling supported by the existence of a junior crop not far behind Younis and Aaqib Javed, according to Arif Abbasi.

Aaqib, 18 is still considering an offer from Hampshire to replace Malcolm Marshall, who will be playing for the West Indies next season.

Abbasi has been trying for a long time to produce pacier and bouncier pitches in Pakistan. He was responsible as long ago as 1979-80 for flying over from Perth the then WACA groundsman, John Mailey, to advise on how to inject more life into Pakistan's pitches.

Courtesy THE CRICKETER PAKISTAN

Mudassar said that bottle tops and even knives are being used, not only to scuff the ball but also to rip strips of leather off one side..."It has got to stop and I hope it will be a thing of the past," said Mudassar...

'DOCTORING' THE BALL IS COMMON IN PAKISTAN

Simon Barnes meets the men who wield power in sport. This week: **Joao**

MR. INDISPUT

Many have criticised Havelange for what appears to be an overvaluation of the financial rewards sport can bring: toadying to America, being too closely involved in financial dealing with television. Questions along these lines bring the politician's standard answer: "When the day arrives that someone is not criticised, he is about to die."

EVERY so often I try the question What is it in sport that gives you most pleasure? Glory? Beauty? Victory? Poetry? I lobbed it in when I spoke to Joao Havelange

Discipline he said Always discipline If the players are very well trained I was always that way when I played water polo A player has an obligation towards the spectator to give his best

Discipline Havelange is the president of FIFA the body that runs football across the world Football is the most passionate game of them all the only game in which the weak regularly defeat the mighty on a surface of wild emotion and Havelange loves the game for its disciplines So which was the best team at the last World Cup

Indisputably he began this being rather coy but to avoid his having to say *indisputablement* in his measured disciplined French indisputably the most disciplined team at the last World Cup the most perfect on the ground was the England team

Indisputablement Havelange has little time for dispute for debate You ask him a question he will give you an answer That is the matter settled You agree with Havelange or you drop the subject This is an imposing not to say intimidating man

He is Brazilian and has led FIFA since 1971 Odd to think that 30 years ago just about all the top jobs in sport were held by the British The only exception was Avery Brundage an American who was president of the International Olympic Committee These days virtually all of sports power brokers are Romance language speakers speaking French Spanish Italian Portuguese

More common ground they tend to wield enormous personal authority They are not chairmen of the board or spokesmen for the committee They are rulers they are dictators nothing less They tend to get elected and re-elected virtually unopposed They tend to be old past retirement age but unlike other passions the desire for pure power waxes rather than wanes with advancing years And they have each presided over the most dramatic rise ever seen in sports financial and political power Never before has sport produced such powerful men men courted by the wealthiest businesses and the most ambitious heads of state in the world

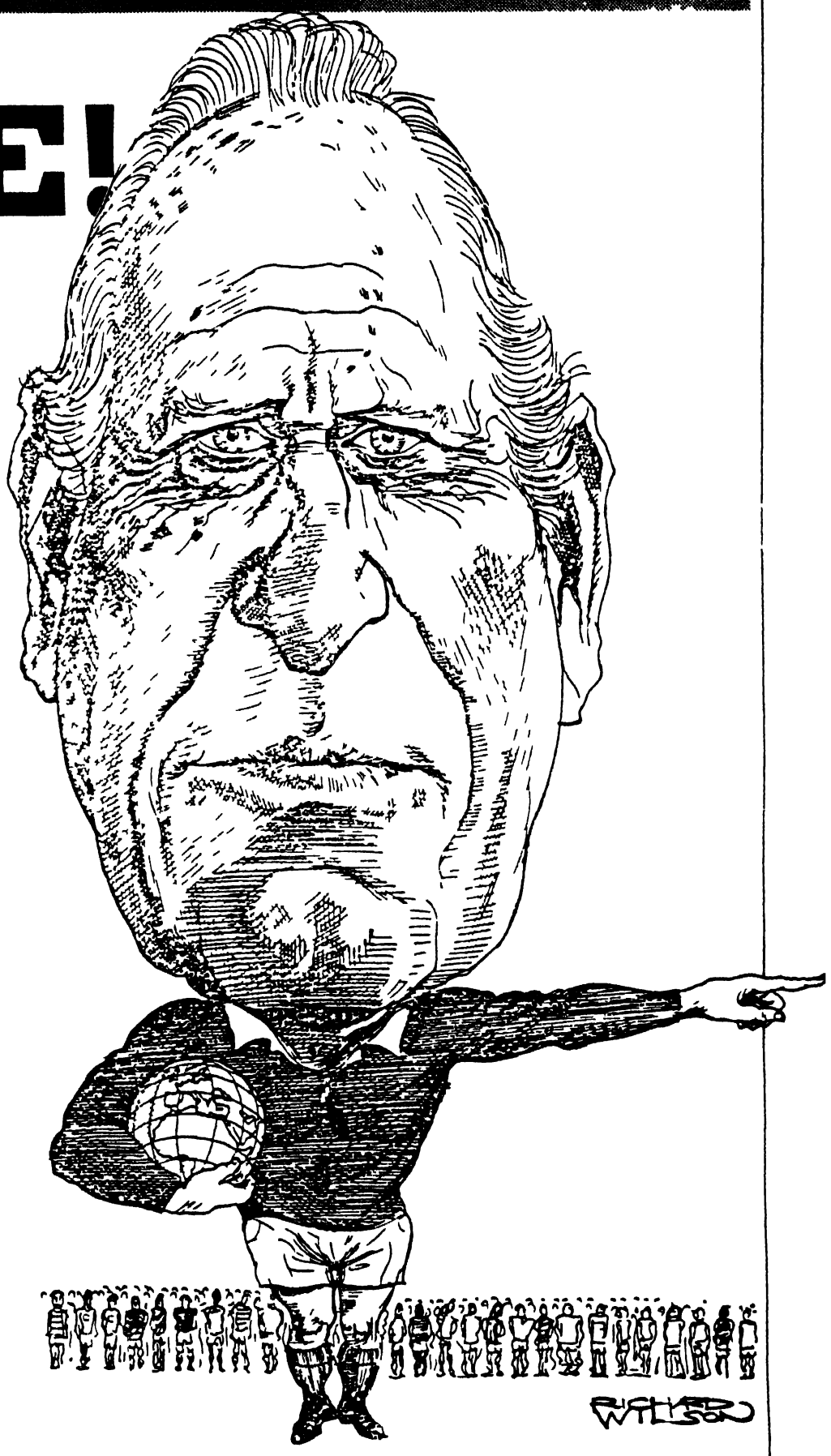
And football is run by this forbidding 75 year old former water polo player a Brazilian who thinks the finest thing in sport is discipline I am told that he is capable of finely tuned emotional speeches and lachrymose greetings when such are required but he is no standard issue Latino In interview he chose to offer his most cautious side pared of all emotions It was like interviewing Mr Spock

A question on say the morality of the game is answered by yet another shoal of figures How does he feel about the lack of passion for the games in the United States the place where the next World Cup will be held?

Havelange

ABLE!





Havelange's most significant achievements are the huge sponsorships he has brought into FIFA and the World Cup, through companies like Coca-Cola, Phillips and JVC, and his huge expansion of the World Cup. He increased participation in the final tournament from 16 to 24 teams: a move which dramatically increased Third World participation and assured Havelange of the loyalty and the votes of Third World nations for years to come

Answer. "First, I would like to say that the last World Cup was shown to 27 billion television viewers. It is already foreseen that the next World Cup will be watched by four billion more In Italy there were 2.4 million spectators at the grounds, in the United States there will be 2.8. They say we can already expect all the tickets to be sold There is no other sport even in the United States that can make such an offer. I think we should not worry about the World Cup being a success in the United States."

Havelange's attempt to conquer America is bizarre in the extreme I mean, why bother? That sets Havelange off on another raft of figures: "Europe is the most interested in football, technically and financially, in 37 countries. Of these, 12 countries can be considered rich America has 50 states. One can consider them 50 countries - 50 *rich* countries...It is a fantastic gain in the development of football. It will really open a big market for sport "

He continued with a hymn of praise for American prosperity "We need 12 cities for the World Cup America produced 33. All have international airports. All have national highways, railroad, first-class hospitals, five-star hotels..." Havelange sounded for a moment like a child reporting on a trip to Hamley's toy-shop I was reminded of a restaurant I visited in Las Vegas: the waiter boasted. "Yes, folks, we throw away more than 50lb of meat every single day " Havelange should eat there

Havelange's most significant achievements are the huge sponsorships he has brought into FIFA and the World Cup, through companies like Coca-Cola, Phillips and JVC, and his huge expansion of the World Cup. He increased participation in the final tournament from 16 to 24 teams: a move which dramatically increased Third World participation and assured



JOAO HAVELANGE: CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Position: President of FIFA, the world governing body of football.
Born: Rio de Janeiro, May 8,1916
Career: Competed as a swimmer for Brazil in the Olympic Games at Berlin. **1952:** Member of Brazilian water polo team for Olympics in Helsinki.
1958: Elected president of the Sports Association of Brazil. **1963:** Elected member of International Olympic Committee **1974:** Elected president of FIFA
Professional career: Doctor of Laws, he is president of Brazil's national bus company and a director of companies in the insurance world and chemical industries In 1988 he was advanced as a nominee for the Nobel Peace Prize

Havelange (centre) is granted an audience with the Pope during Italia '90. The man may be as hard as nails, but he possesses excellent public relations acumen



Havelange of the loyalty and the votes of Third World nations for years to come

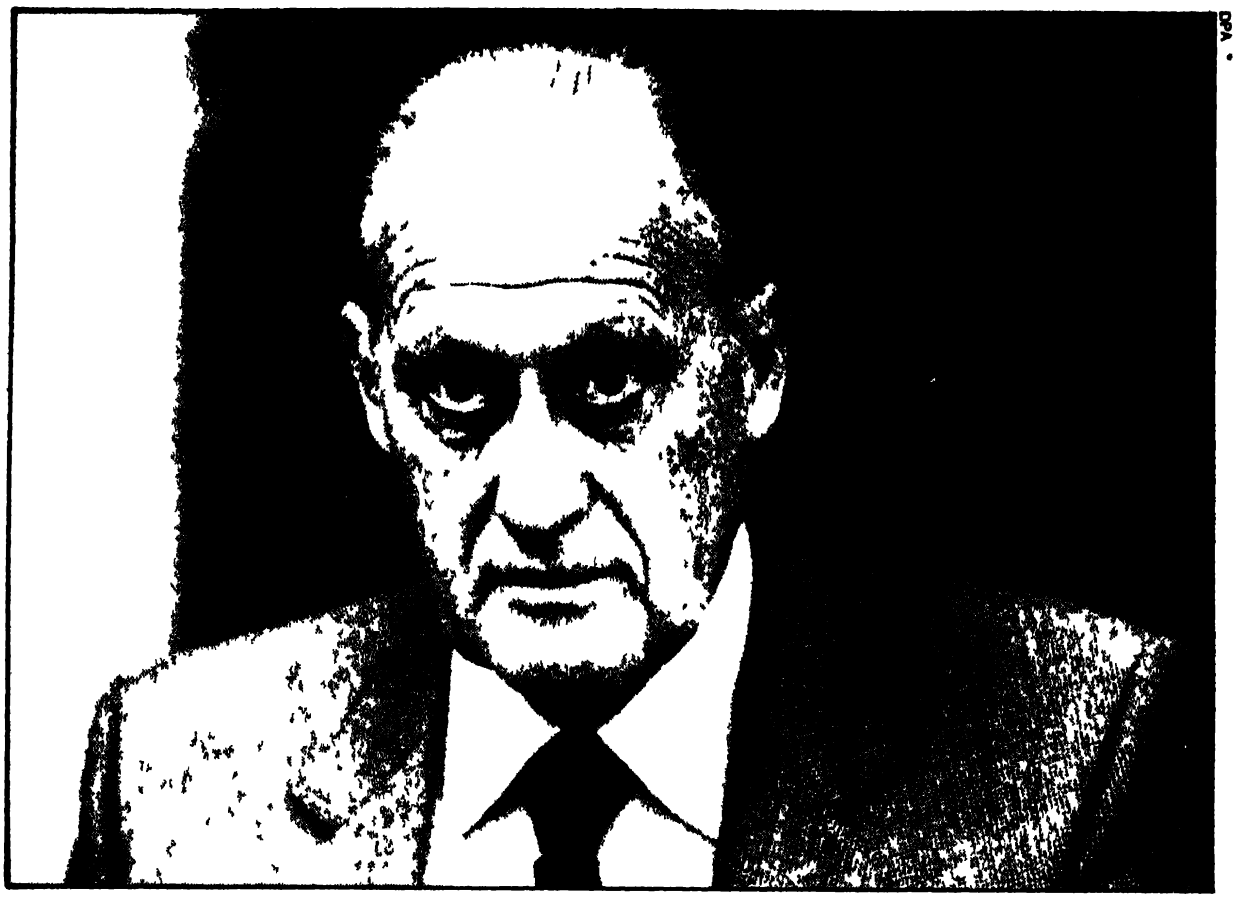
He was voted in for yet another four-year term as president last year His championship of the Third World was triumphantly vindicated in the success of the Cameroon team They played a very beautiful technical and disciplined football They contradicted all criticism of the efforts and the programmes that were made for countries like Cameroon It showed that we were right We continue to do everything we can for the Third World We shall continue the programme of coaching courses and so on The Africans are making great progress and one day they will be champions of the world

Perhaps this will happen in 20 years If so it would hardly be surprising if Havelange were still running FIFA I asked him what moral qualities sport possessed "First you must love sport Then you must be well prepared, physically and mentally Then you must do the job given to you by the coach Then you must lead a healthy life I am 75 and I have never smoked I don t drink When I did swimming and water polo I had a lung capacity of seven litres Today I still have a capacity of five litres I walk every day for an hour and cover five kilometres I do 20 minutes of gymnastics every day Every day I swim a minimum of 1 000 metres

Havelange is truly obsessed by the state of his health I asked him about jingoism at the World Cup He answered with a story about the doctor who examines his arteries every six months 'So I hope you will feel as my doctor does-not sad that you fail to report something negative to report You must be pleased to report what is positive

Havelange is an extremely impressive man He made absolutely no effort to make a conquest of me by friendliness by oratory or by charm He simply, with great but unexaggerated courtesy answered the questions His self-assurance is like Fort Knox

He has been talking about improving the scoring rate by introducing bigger goals He has been talking about splitting the game in four 25-minute quarters to please American television Both are subjects a footballing man could discuss for hours When asked, Havelange would only say that a commission was looking into these things a politician's answer if ever there was one "I do not see any problems for the future, because I work from day to day '



Mr. Indisputable. Havelange has no time for argument You ask him a question, he gives you an answer. End of story

I asked him what mattered to him in sport Without a good organisation you cannot produce a good spectacle That is our strength We try to put this forward in every competition and we try to make this perfect for every World Cup At my age I have done all the sports you can do At my age I have no great passions I can go to never mind which match never mind which team in all tranquility without any outside preoccupation I can watch and have a good time I am not prejudiced by anything

All I wish to do is to continue to serve my family my business FIFAand sport I am happy because of the staff we have atFIFA because football is well respected and because it is *indisputablement* the No I in the world

Many have criticised Havelange for what appears to be an overvaluation of the financial rewards sport can bring toadying to America being too closely involved in financial dealing with television Questions along these lines bring the politician s standard answer When the day arrives that someone is not criticised he is about to die Not exactly a profound moral defence and a line that all sport s powerbrokers are happy to trot out

Why not? The secret of their position is simple enough they are pretty well unaccountable People like Havelange have played their hands so well that no one opposes them In four years time health and arteries willing Havelange will stand again for re election It is not that there is no stopping him there is simply no opposin him

Sport s chief charm may be discipline for Havelange But for him and for all the other men who rule their game it has a still more wonderful thing to offer Sport represents one of the modern world s most magnifi cent vehicles for the undisputed exercise of pure analloyed blatant stark naked power ●

COURTESY THE TIMES LONDON

NEXT WEEK: JEAN MARIE BALESTRE

FRENCH COCKS ARE

An agricultural menace

A traditionally distasteful habit of any rugby union match contested by the French is strutting on the field The cockerel, incidentally is their national emblem The Irish state authorities are, however, not too impressed or happy with this, as they are playing host to the French rugby team The reason for this problem is more agricultural than humanitarian According to the state agricultural department the cockerels accompanying the French fans could be carrying viruses that are hitherto not prevalent in Irish soil The agricultural department are thus having a trying time chasing cockbirds all over Ireland and killing them

Maybe the French should just switch emblems Rene Lacoste's crocodile would be quite a scary alternative!



TURF CLUB MEETINGS

A lot of horsesense

THE representatives of the Royal Calcutta Turf Club and the Press had a meeting recently A number of topics came up for discussion Some of them were simply hilarious while others aimless Here are some of the minutes of the meeting

(1) A lady jockey had applied for a licence recently She was not allowed to ride in the races Decision The lady jockey had been riding for the last six years without success Therefore, her record was not good enough for her to be granted a licence (2) The speech on the PA system is distorted in certain parts Decision This is being looked into by the COC/Chief Engineer (3) The commentators make mistakes quite often while reading the race There should be better commentators Decision There is an acute shortage of commentators Efforts are being made to get better commentators (4) Col Bali suggested that the music on the tracks should be racing oriented Decision Col Bali was told to get tapes with racing oriented music on it (5) All the points discussed at the Conference should be minuted so that a record is available at all times Decision This is the normal practice

The next press conference should be held after the conclusion of the winter season, so stay tuned Major developments could take place

ITALIAN SOCCER

A hooligans paradise

TURBULENT times continue in the Italian soccer league The Roma football club got the rap recently for boorish behaviour when they played AC Milan recently Roma were fined £ 5,000 as they were held responsible for the bad behaviour that their spectators dished out during an otherwise placid game

The fine was implemented when the supporters threw an object, which they described as a 'paper bomb', into the field, after the game But the Roma guys got away for a crime of a more heinous nature, when they unfurled a banner which read "Rijkaard, Rome vomits all over you." This has reference to the incident during the World Cup when Frank Rijkaard of Holland spat on Germany's R idi Voeller The disciplinary committee decided to overlook this offence as according to them it was 'devoid of any racial or territorial connotation.'

Now we know why soccer hooligans simply love Rome.

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1 To whom is the Venus Rosewater Dish awarded?

2 His pin-up poster is the second largest one over to be sold in the world Who's he?

3 Who first promulgated the custom of bringing the Olympic torch to the main venue?

4 In his book 'Runs and Ruins', Gavaskar remarked that it would be a strange and odd sight for his neighbours in England, when he went out for practice with a fellow Somerset player Who is this odd partner?

5 Which cricketer has the distinction of carrying the bat most times in Tests?

6 Who after meeting a bouncer head-on, said "Some day or the other someone will be killed by pace"?

7 John McEnroe ended his five year Grand Slam drought by winning the 1989 US Open doubles title Who was his partner?

RATING TEST

Above 14 Wish you were part of our team
Between 11 and 14 You are not too bad
Below 11 Sportsworld reading recommended
All answers sent in by the contributor

8 Who invented the 'Skyhook' technique in basketball?

9 Why was Zeeshan Ali fined by the All England Lawn Tennis Association during the 1989 Wimbledon championships?

10 Criticising umpiring in Pakistan, what was the slogan coined in the style of 'If Lillee doesn t get you, Thommo will'?

11 Sunil Gavaskar and Gus Logie have achieved something unique in winning the Man of the Match awards on different occasions What is this unique achievement?

12 Which company runs the Italian soccer club, Juventus?

13 Which football club had its highest representation of players in Italia 90?

14 I am the only cricketer in the world to captain the team in the first Test match and was a 12th man in the next Who am I?

15 Whose autobiography is titled Unlimited Challenge?

ANSWERS

1 Wimbledon ladies singles winner
2 Mark Spitz
3 Adolf Hitler
4 Joel Garner
5 Desmond Haynes
6 Mike Gatting
7 Mark Woodforde Australia
8 Kareem Abdul Jabbar
9 For wearing an oversized logo
10 'If Khisar Hayat doesn t get you Shakoor Rana will
11 Both got it for their fielding in one-day matches
12 Fabrica Italiana Automobile Torino (FIAT)
13 Steau Bucharest of Romania with ten players
14 Srinivas Venkatraghavan
15 Garry Kasparov

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TWILIGHT ZONE



Will marriage fill the void in her life created by the retirement from athletics? An uncertain, unsure Usha talks about her illustrious career and her impending marriage

BY SHEVLIN SEBASTIAN, PAYOLLI



Usha, looking most womanly, is now all set to marry V. Srinivasan (below, third from left)





The road is narrow. On the left, a small cigarette shop; a few young men stand near it and look at us curiously. On the right, a thatched roofed cinema hall called Reshmi Talkies. Further down the narrow tarred road is the Block Development Office. A curve on the road, later, suddenly in the distance ...the big, sprawling yellow coloured house of P T. Usha.

The black gate, of shoulder height, has a sign on the wall near it- black letters on white marble says 'Ushas', the name of the house In the open garage, near the front door, a red Standard 2000 gleams. In an adjacent garage is a blue Maruti.

As we move towards the door, photographer Utpal Sorkar has a sudden spasm of nervousness. His brand new Ray Ban sunglasses slip from his hand and fall to the cemented ground. The right lens is completely shattered. Utpal looks shocked. He picks up the small glass pieces and throws it towards a grass verge. 'Bad sign' he mutters to himself.

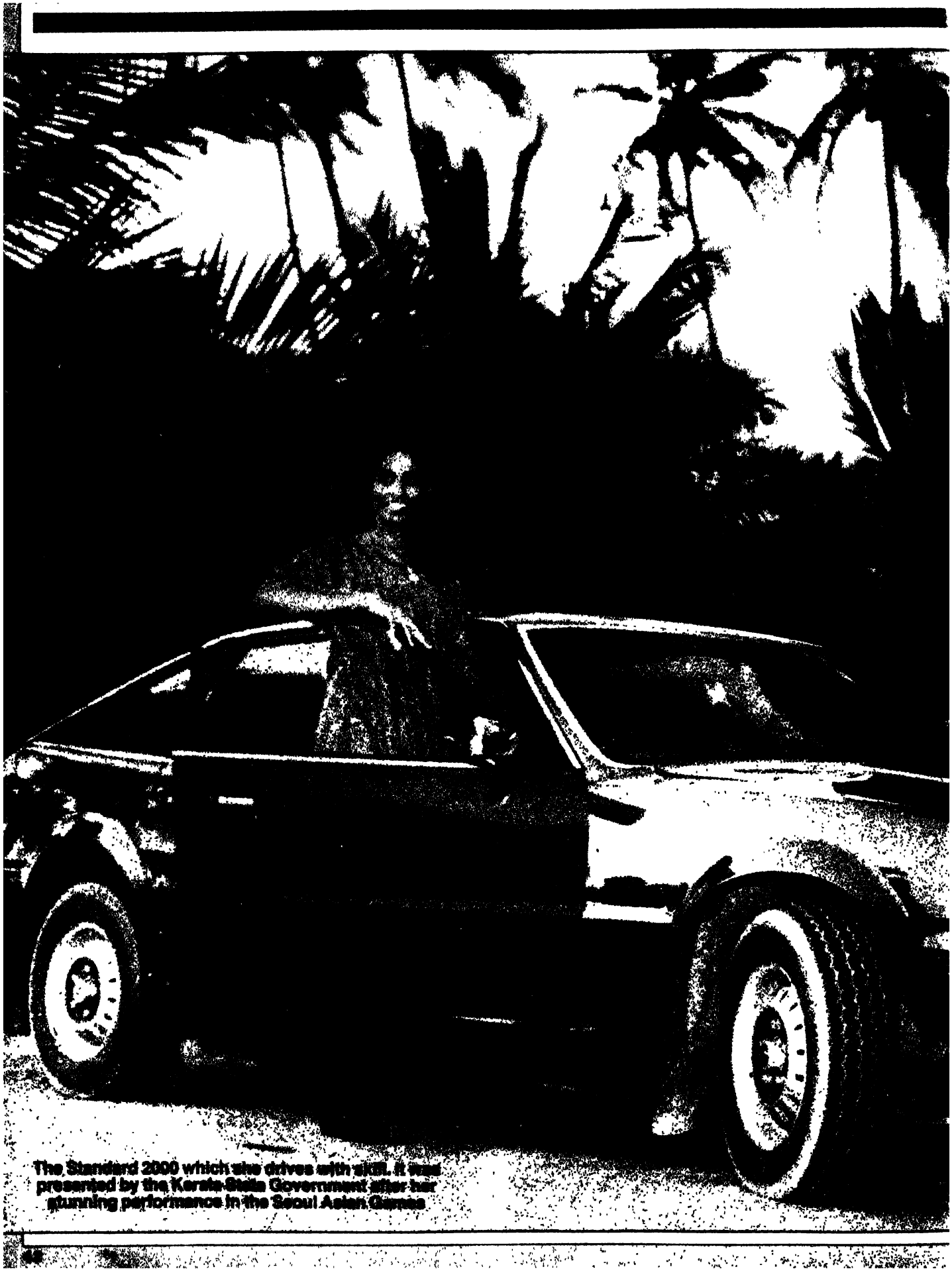
We ring the bell.

After a while, Usha herself opens the door. She smiles but she is looking listless, a little bored. She invites us in. It is a large hall room. One's attention is immediately drawn to an incredible book case that spans a whole wall. It is filled with rows and rows of medals and cups and momentos and souvenirs. On the right, very near the door, is a long staircase that leads up to the first floor

We sit down.

It is very silent in the house You can hear the birds chatter in the tree on the lawn. You can hear the sound of plates being cleaned in the kitchen. The

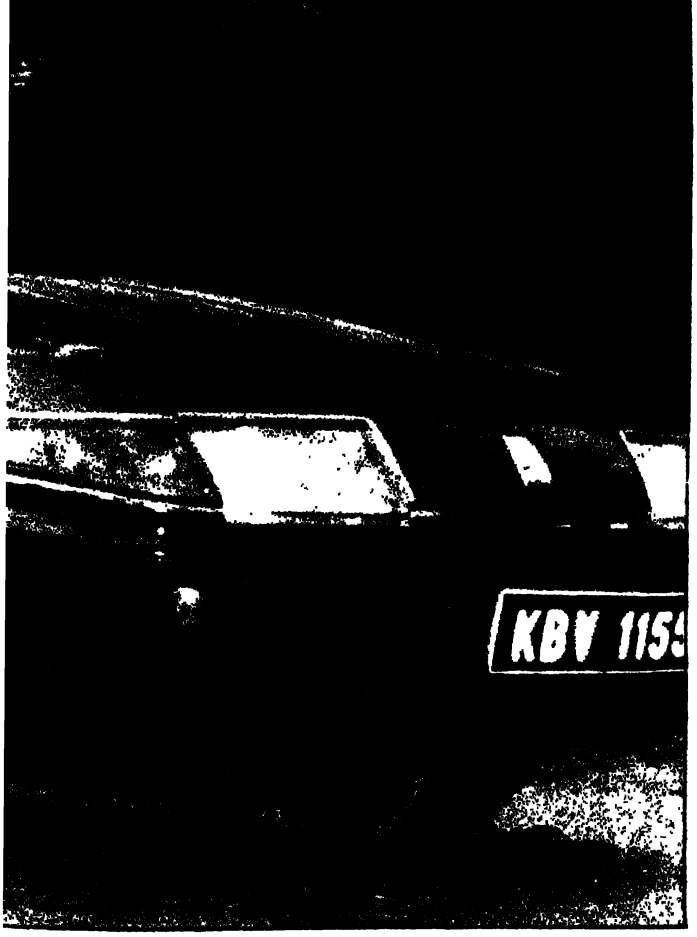
PHOTOGRAPHS: UTPAL SORKAR



The Standard 2000 which she drives with skill. It was presented by the Kerala State Government after her stunning performance in the Seoul Asian Games



Usha in her puja room in her new house



slap of bare feet announces the arrival of a younger sister, on her way to the first floor. You can even hear the tick tock of the clock hanging on the wall.

The mood of the house seeps into you. It is peaceful and quiet but to one who has just completed a 2400 km train journey, assaulted by that relentless clatter of rail on track, the silence in the house is like a harsh shout. There is a droning in my ears. I struggle to clear my brain. Usha struggles to surmount her lethargic mood.

I begin: "You know, there is tremendous interest all over India about your marriage."

"Well, that is the only thing left of interest" comes her quick reply.

"You know, people want to know how you have gone about it. Like how many guys you have seen? How did you make the final choice?"

"Oh my God" she replies, "that is too difficult. It is a private matter. And nothing has been really fixed. There is a tentative agreement of an engagement but everything will only be fixed on March 3rd."

"Yes, but this article is coming out after that. So there is really nothing to worry."

"Are you sure?" she asks. The hundreds of journalistic promises like this, all to be broken the very next morning in the newspaper, makes her wary.

"I promise" I say. She looks at Utpal and me, measuring and weighing the pros and cons Then

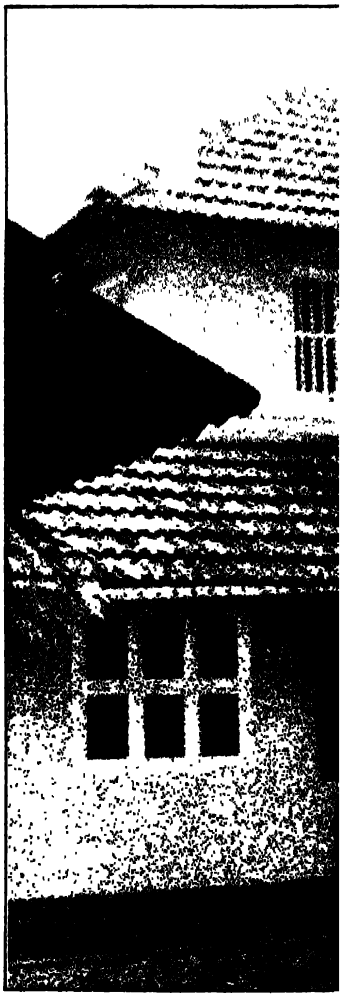
The cup on the right is the first trophy she has won in her career. She was in class seven then. The medal on the left is the last silver medal she won in the Beijing Asian Games. Thirteen illustrious years span the two awards.





Lighting up the diya in her house







Playing chess on the beach in Payolli with sister Suma

she smiles and begins to speak.

Her voice is her most distinctive feature. It is a strong, determined voice. It is a voice that is patently honest. It is a voice that never forgets that she is a small town girl. And yet the voice can suddenly give way to embarassing giggles, and to tremors of excitement. And if you hear and rehear her voice on the dictaphone, you can detect that, at the core of it, there are strands of nervousness. The voice does not indicate the runner.

On the track, Usha is bold all the way. She runs with fluid strength, with utter confidence. Her running style can leave you gasping in admiration. But off the track, her confidence can sometimes flounder. A question about "the positive and negative aspects of fame." has her lowering her eyes to the ground, swallowing her saliva—the Adam's apple bobbing—and then she asks simply, "Could you explain that question again? I can't understand it".

The question is rephrased and then she breaks into a torrent of words, glad,quickly to have a say on the subject and embarrassed that she did not initially understand. Yet her eyes are steady, direct and penetrating. Time after time, she locked eyes with the interviewer, refusing to blink. And later, as the day wore on, and her concentration increased—as did her intensity— the eyes held one with their fierce determination.

ON MARRIAGE

I don't know how many proposals had come but there has been quite a few. In some cases,everything seemed okay but then something was not all right with the family. Or the family was all right but the person was not. For quite a few, they did not have the necessary height. I am 5'7". Then in cases when everything was all right, good family, good job, good height, close relatives of the boy's family said, 'It is not good to be Usha's husband. You will be in her shadow all the time.'

THE FINAL CHOICE

His name is V. Srinivasan. He is about six feet tall. He was a former University level kabaddi player. I could sense immediately that he had a keen interest in sports. That was very important for me. I wanted to marry a man who is simple and gentle and yet liked sports a lot. Srinivasan seems to be like this. At present he is working as a Circle Inspector in the CISF (Central Industrial Security Force) in Rourkela. After our marriage, he hopes to get transferred to Madras and I should also get a posting there. So we intend to start our family life in Madras. He is 28 years old and is one of two sons. His mother died when he was very young



Mother Lakshmi and the younger sister Suma pose with Usha in front of their ancestral home



Children wave at her as she leaves the beach



but he was brought up by close relatives. His father has since married and lives with his second family in Calicut, although Srinivasan is originally from Ponnani in Mallapuram district. The marriage is fixed for April 25th but everything is still tentative at this stage.

The door bell rings. Usha goes to the door. There is another visitor to see her. He is in his early fifties, greying hair, thick spectacles, blue shirt and a crisp white dhoti. Usha asks him to sit down on a chair in the verandah and then comes back once again. She sits down but she is distracted. It takes quite a while to get her going again.

ON FAME

You get a lot of affection from people. From all kinds of people. And that would not have been possible if I was not famous. And it is so wonderful to meet different kinds of people. This has been my greatest joy, to meet such a wide variety of people, each different and unique. But fame can get to you also. For example, I cannot go shopping in peace. If I go to a market, it is just a matter of time before people recognise me and there are whispers of 'Usha.

The family at home: Father Paytal, mother Lakshmi, sister Shoba (at left) and Suma

Usha.' Then they ask for autographs and sometimes take pictures with me. I don't mind it. But then, the result is that I can't shop in peace.

ON HER PRESENT MOOD AFTER RETIREMENT

After the Beijing Asian Games, there has been a complete absence of tension. Normally, when I was an active athlete, there was this ever-present feeling of tension. Now it is no longer there. From a very early age, I used to get up early in the morning for training. There was always this sense of purpose and direction as soon as I got up. I had something to do. Something important. But nowadays when I get up—and even now I get up very early in the mornings—I lie in bed and feel a blank depression. I become moody. There is nothing to do There is a lack of energy. I feel listless. And this mood carries on till the afternoon. But then slowly the mood lifts and by evening, I am back to my high spirits once again. I miss the excitement, there is no doubt about it. But if I start to do something, like write a letter or something, then my concentration returns and I feel better Like I am already feeling better talking to you There is something to do now.

At this point, Utpal interrupts. "Excuse me Usha, but could I have a glass of water?"

"Sure, why not" she says, springing up from the chair.

I look at Utpal puzzled. Her mood was just improving There was animation in her eyes. She was speaking with enthusiasm, in a good flow of words, and then this interruption. "She was in good flow" I accused

"Yes, I know" he replied, "but I had to interrupt for a particular reason. The man who is sitting outside is a journalist and he is taking down all that Usha is saying And Usha is opening up more and more and God only knows where he is going to publish all this? And anyway, it is not a right thing, isn't it?

Usha returns with two glasses of lemonade, and then we tell her why she is interrupted She is non-commital but then we suggest that she finishes off the interview with the other journalist. Usha agrees and calls the journalist in He comes in, smiles sheepishly at us and Usha takes him to the dining table. We drink our lemonade and explore the house.

On the landing leading to the first floor is a room to the right. This is Usha's room. It is simple, bare and unpretentious. The air-conditioner is off The walls are painted a soothing blue. On the table, there is a tape recorder and cassettes of Yesudas and Mohammed Rafi lie scattered about. On the wall, there is a superb picture of the Great Wall of China. There is a double bed with the sheet smoothed down. It is simple and clean. There is nothing else in the room.

We go up to the first floor. On the right is a small puja room. There are two other bedrooms with attached baths. The house is neat; everything in its place.

We hang around; we look out through the window and we can see coconut trees in the distance. A breeze blows; the leaves shake in response. The sunlight streams in through the window and lights up the mosaic floor. Time passes. It is a little unnerving to adjust to nature's silence after the clamour of the city.

Usha calls out. The interview with the Malayali journalist is over. We come down the stairs and again sit down.

"You must have lunch" Usha says.

"Nothing doing" we reply, "we will go to a restaurant."

"No, you have come all the way from Calcutta. You must have lunch here."

"Oh please don't worry. We will manage."

"There is no problem here" she says, "the food is simple and there is enough for everybody"



Relaxation time for Usha now

It was 12 45 in the afternoon and there was still time for lunch

"Why don't we talk some more" I suggest She smiles and sits down.

ON HER HOUSE

After I won five gold medals at the '85 Asian Track and Field championships in Djakarta, the Kerala State government announced a grant of Rs 2 lakhs to build me a house. But by the time the house was completed in late '87, the cost had shot up to Rs five lakhs. So I put up the rest of the money The house was designed by a Government architect and now the whole family stays here —my brother, two younger sisters, my parents and myself. My other two sisters are married and live elsewhere.

ON HOW MUCH MONEY SHE HAS EARNED

I cannot say how much I have earned. But now, people expect me to keep to a certain standard of living. I cannot travel in a bus. Because people will say, 'If Usha has two cars, why does she need to get on a bus?' I have to maintain this Standard 2000. It was given to me by the State Government after my performance in the Seoul Asian Games. I have noticed that people get shocked by the cash awards. But there has been so much of hard work behind the winning of all those international races. It's not easy And after the cash award is announced, you must not forget how much of running around I have to do to get the cheque Sometimes, it takes a whole year before the cheque is in my hands. I guess, you must be knowing how the bureaucracy works here in India.

ON HER HUMILIATION AFTER THE SEOUL OLYMPICS

I was abused and reviled after these Games. For the first time, I deeply regretted that I had entered an athletics career. It was terrible Nobody seemed to try to understand me I am also human. I am also like other people. I was injured and I could not run my best. Why could not people understand that? Even in Payolli, people used to walk past the house shouting abuses. I had come to a state where I was terrified to go out of the house. Posters were put all over the place villifying me I am essentially a sensitive person, so I suffered even more Of course, later I understood that people had such a high expectation of me and they were bitterly disappointed that I had let them down But what I could not understand was how former athletes like Milkha Singh and Suresh Babu joined the abuse wagon. That was too painful. I think, in the midst of all this suffering, there rose the determination to do well once again and to show everyone, especially my critics, what I was capable of

And I did come back strongly in the ATF championships in New Delhi in '89 when I won four gold medals and bettered my records that I had set in Djakarta. That was a fitting reply to my critics.

ON HER FAN MAIL

I receive all kinds of letters. At present, I receive a lot of letters saying that my departure has been a loss to Indian athletics. Some write affectionate letters There are letters asking for money so that they can get married or build a house. It is fun reading them. They come from all over India and I also used to get a lot of letters from the Gulf countries. But now because of the War, there are fewer and fewer letters. It is physically impossible to reply to all the letters. But what is most astonishing is the addresses. Sometimes, there's a picture of me on the cover and underneath is written: P.T. Usha, Kerala. Sometimes the letters are just addressed as The Payolli Express, Kerala

It is 1.30 in the afternoon. Usha's father has just come home from his tailoring shop near the village centre. He is a tall, straight backed man in his early sixties, with a mane of grey hair, a broad forehead and a shy smile His bearing indicates a principled man and one can deduce where Usha inherited her qualities of discipline, hard work and dedication. We talk a little.

A photo session with the family is arranged and Usha's two younger sisters, Shobha and Suma, go into a tizzy about what dress to wear Finally, everyone sits on the steps leading to the house and Utpal clicks away The interaction between the family members is warm and affectionate Suddenly Usha asks, 'Where is Pradeep?'

"He is in the shop," the father replies and so the only brother is not in the family portrait.

After the photo session is over, we go in and sit down. And suddenly we realise that at the rate we are going, the assignment can be completed in a day and not two days as we originally thought



SAIBAL DAS

NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA



Usha with her coach Nambiar

Utpal whispers, "I think we can leave tonight."

Aloud, I ask, "Excuse me, Usha, is Mr. Nambiar around?"

"Yes" she says and moves to the telephone, "he lives nearby".

"Actually the reason is that we want a couple of tickets on tonight's Trivandrum Mail. That was why we wanted to meet Mr Nambiar. Maybe he could arrange it."

"But I can arrange it" Usha exclaims, a rising inflection to her voice, "don't forget that I work in the Railways."

Saying so, she rings up the Station Master at Vadakara. 12 kilometres from Payolli "Hi, this is Usha. Are there tickets available on tonight's Trivandrum Mail?"

Of course tickets are available when Usha is asking. No problem All we have to do is to go to Vadakara to collect the tickets

Usha smiles and says, "Now will you please have lunch."

The meal is simple. There is a mutton curry, beans, another vegetable dish, mango curry and rice and pappad Usha sits with us while her mother and a sister hover around, serving the dishes. We are in fact ravenous and we attack the food. She talks some more on her favourite subject, sport.

ON THE FUTURE OF KERALA ATHLETICS

It is definitely going down. There seems to be a famine now There are a lot of potentially good athletes but they don't seem to be interested in excelling. I went to my former sports school in Cannanore and I could see that the facilities had improved drastically. In my time, we had no beds. We had to join two benches together to make a bed. For 80 students, there were just two bathrooms. But now things have changed but somehow, people don't seem to be interested, as I said earlier, about excelling anymore.

ON KERALA'S REACTION TO HER SUCCESS

Well, here's a simple example. The railway track is nearby. But very few trains stop at Payolli. They stop at Vadakara. But when I won four gold medals after the Seoul Asian Games, the train was forced to make an unscheduled stop at Payolli because there were so many people at the station, who were waiting to greet me. Those times are gone now.

The meal is over and we arrange for another photo session in the evening. Then Utpal and I leave for Vadakara to collect our tickets.

In Vadakara, the tickets were collected with elan, the Assistant Station Master, charming and solicitious and we take the return bus to Payolli. It is the peak of a summer afternoon. There is tiredness in the mind and in the eyes. Both of us fall asleep and by the time we awaken, Payolli is ten kilometres past. We jump off, rubbing the sleep from our eyes and blaming each other. We wait at a bus stop. After a while, a bus comes up in a rush of squealing brakes and screeching tyres and we jump in, only to jump out at the next stop because the bus was not going to Payolli A lone autorickshaw goes past and we are beaten to it by four giggling schoolgirls. We are getting desperate. Time is passing. Suddenly a trekker comes past and we wave it down. It is filled with people. There is no place to sit.

'Are you going to Payolli?' we ask They nod and so we hang at the back of the vehicle, one leg barely managing a toe-hold, the other leg floating in space, our hands gripping the bars of the trekker.

Usha breaks into loud laughter when we tell her our adventures.

"How silly" she says, 'as soon as you got into the first bus, you should have told the conductor that you wanted to go to Usha's place and they would have dropped you at the right stop '

There is no hint of arrogance when she says this. Because it is a fact. Everybody knew where Usha stayed. After all, it is she and she alone who has singlehandedly put the name of Payolli on India's map.

We take some quick pictures inside the house. She dressed in a saree, in her room, coming down the stairs, lighting up the diya, holding her medals. The sun is setting and we have to hurry to the beach before the sunlight vanishes altogether. Usha changes into a red salwar and we get into the Standard 2000. Brother Pradeep drives while Usha and her sister Suma sit at the back. People stare at us as we go down the road. It is like wearing a sign over your head. But Usha is used to it. I take the chance to ask a few more questions:

ON ASHWINI NACHAPPA

I don't want to talk negatively about her. But in our

NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA



Ashwini Nachappa: more known for her clothes

country, we tend to blow up a person's achievement out of all proportions. And then after a while, we bring them crashing down also Ashwini's defeat of me in the 200m at the National Open athletics championships in New Delhi last year was hailed as a great feat. But remember one thing it was not that Ashwini's timings had improved; it was just that my timings had gone down.

There is no doubt that she has talent But she does not put in as much of hard work as is needed In fact, it is her talent rather than her hard work that has brought her so far Although I have my doubts about whether she can be an Asian champion

Look at this by the time I was 20 years old, I had already come fourth in the LA Olympics And also by this time, I was already an Asian Games bronze medallist. Ashwini, who is not a spring chicken now, has yet to win a bronze medal in individual races. I think she has more of a name because of the clothes that she wears rather than because of her performances on the track.

THE QUALITIES NEEDED TO BE A SUCCESSFUL ATHLETE

If you want to achieve anything, you must be willing to work hard. There must be a will to succeed. It is not easy. There is a lot of hardship involved. One should not be discouraged by setbacks but to continue training day in and day out Like, after '88, I could have stopped running but it was determination that kept me going. So despite everything, one must persevere. One should never lose courage but keep struggling on. And then one day success will come to you.

ON WHY INDIAN ATHLETES PERFORM SO POORLY ABROAD

Because they don't work hard Firstly, very few people come to athletics as an end in itself Mostly, they train in order to get a job But once they have got a job, most of their ambitions are over Perhaps a few of them want to get a promotion and so they work a little bit more. And suppose, for example, the athlete comes from a good family. Then he or she is trying to get a seat on the sports quota in the university or for medical or engineering courses Once they secure admission, their interest in sports dies down That is the difference between the other athletes and me For me, excellence in athletics was an end in itself.

We arrive at the beach And suddenly, it is wonderful. The setting sun, the relentless sea breeze flapping our collars about, the roar of the waves hitting the beach Tension seems to dissolve like the foam on top of a wave One felt light-hearted Usha smiles. Utpal begins to get hyper excited The photo opportunity looked superb

Fishermen's children begin to follow us as we walk further and further away from groups of people who had come to experience the evening breeze. Attention is drawn because of her Standard 2000. And now you can see a distinct change in Usha She turns and beckons to me

"See this" she says, pointing at the sand, "it is soft and yet it is hard I used to practise hurdles on this This is the most wonderful place on earth. How I loved training on the beach. Remember, I used to run over the hurdles here and so you can imagine how easy it was for me when I ran on the track This is the best training ground for me. It differed from day to day Sometimes, I went for long jogs Sometimes I did short sprints. Sometimes I practised the hurdles. And I had also to keep an idea of the tides Whether it was high tide or low tide But the best thing was that I was away from people and I could just practise and practise You know, I dearly wished that there was a stadium nearby Then there would have been no need for me to go all the way to Bangalore or Delhi. I could have trained here, my mother would have given me the best food and I would not have suffered from homesickness at all."

She stops speaking and smiles Then she willingly



With her father

listens to Utpal as he instructs her on how she should pose. She sits on a boat moored on the beach, and she looks beautiful. She has such a sense of well-being on her face. And yet, as one watched her as she moved about on the sand, there is a feeling of sadness.

She must realise that now everything was in the past. At an age when other people are just beginning to get a hold on their careers, this talented woman was at the end of hers. Life now was spread out in front of her and there was just blankness. A wrong question: "What are your future plans?"

Immediately a shadow falls across her face. "I really don't know what I am going to do" she says, "I have never thought about it at all. I don't want to be a coach because I have to be full time with the athletes and that will not do justice to my marriage."

I regretted suddenly that I had asked this question. The children stood around Usha, all smiling brightly and Utpal decides to take a picture of Usha with them. Usha's mood changes again. She seemed to have lightning changes of moods. She smiles now and taps the heads of the children around her, in gentle affection.

We reach the car and she tells Pradeep, "I will drive." And with expert ease, she turns the car around and she drives down the narrow road. Again that look of concentration on her face. We reach the main road and suggest that she drop us off at the bus stop.

"Nothing doing" she replies, "first have tea at home and then you can leave." And so we return to the house. Tea is already laid out. Cakes, biscuits, and coconut sweets. It is dusk now and the room is partially in darkness.

A casual question: "How many guests do you have in a day?"

"So many" she replies, "that we lose count. Some days, principles of schools ring up saying that their children are coming to Payolli and they would like to see the trophy case. They make sure that I am at home. Then photographs are taken with the children, and then I sign autograph books. This is official. But people are dropping in all the time, just to talk to me, to listen to me. They are complete strangers but I guess, they feel comfortable and welcome and so the word spreads. Of course, now with the STD facility, we have visitors every Friday to get calls from relatives in the Gulf."

"Why do they have to come here?" one asks puzzled.

"Because you will be surprised to know that I have the only STD facility in this village. And people come here on Fridays because it is a holiday in the Gulf and calls are cheaper for those calling from there. And now the calls have increased three fold because of the Gulf War. To put it dramatically, from Payolli, I am the only link to the Gulf world. This phone was installed because I had specifically requested Arjun Singh, who was then Communications Minister, whether he could arrange to have such a phone installed because when I am in training camps, I used to feel lonely and miss the family. It is only because of this special phone that I could ring up my parents from all the way in Delhi and wherever else I am."

Tea is over and it is time to leave. It has been a long, exhausting and eventful day. There is a sense of weariness although Usha still seems to be in high energy. We get up and I say "One last question. Has luck anything to do with your success as an athlete?"

"Luck" Usha exclaimed, her black eyes widening in emphasis. "luck, luck, luck. Everything has to do with luck. I was lucky to have a coach from the very beginning of my athletics career. I was lucky that when I reached Standard Eight, such a concept as a sports school came into being. I was lucky that I had a talent for running. Of course, it has got to do with luck. Otherwise how can a small town girl like me become an Asian champion. Luck and I believe very strongly that God's support made the difference. I think that without God's blessings, nothing would have been possible!" ●

BETTER LATE THAN NEVER



A sneak preview into some of the important decisions to be taken by the Indian Hockey Federation at its meeting on March 19

THE Indian Hockey Federation (IHF) is trying to turn a new leaf at its executive committee meeting to be held at Bombay on March 19 Several significant decisions, which could have far reaching effects on the game in India,will be taken

The most important decision, is the restriction of tournaments for the top clubs of India The IHF secretary, Mr Gurusewak Singh, had said, "Tournaments in India have mushroomed There are 66 registered all-India tournaments. Besides, there are numerous regional level competitions Our top players get fatigued, playing tournaments all over the country for their institutions "

Shakeel Ahmed Qureshi, an international umpire from Bhopal added, "in Madhya Pradesh alone, there are about 14 tournaments held annually. The significance of renowned and traditional tournaments like the Aga Khan Cup, Beighton, Obaidullah Gold Cup and Nehru Cup had declined as the same teams participate in tournaments all the year round "Top teams like BSF, Punjab Police, Indian Airlines, Punjab and Sind Bank, ASC, Corps of Signals and others play in four-day tournaments at Shamli as well as the major tournaments The glamour has gone from major tournaments of the country.Institutional teams under pressure or with financial incentives participate at random without any discrimination "

Realising that our hockey players are getting stale, the IHF has decided to curb tournament play for the top teams At the Bombay meeting, certain Grade 1 tournaments will be identified Teams will be allowed to participate in a restricted number of Grade 1 and Grade 2 tournaments. The exact number has not yet been worked out However, the federation wants to emulate the All India Football Federation (AIFF) and restrict the top teams to six or seven outstation tournaments each year.

The IHF has stressed that the Federation Cup will always be staged at venues with artificial surfaces





RAJESH KUMAR

Two very popular Indian teams always in the fray for top honours. Picture shows a struggle for the ball between Indian Airlines defender V.B.Singh and Railways' Balwinder Singh in the Nationals

A dozen teams will be identified as the best in India.The criteria for selection is twofold. Teams which regularly win or reach the last four stage of all India tournaments and from which players are chosen for the national team will be considered as an elite group. These teams will be fined if they violate the tournament restrictions

At the Bombay meeting, the format for the inaugural Federation Cup will be finalised. It will be staged at Lucknow from April 8 onwards. An IHF official said, "We have decided that the eight quarter-finalists of the Nationals will play in the Federation Cup. This year, we will also include an IHF Junior XI, to provide our juniors competitive experience." So the participants this year are the Railways, Indian Airlines, Services, Punjab, Bombay, Patiala, UP, and IHF Junior XI. The IHF has stressed that the Federation Cup will always be staged at venues with artificial surfaces

Bombay are likely to stage the 1991 Nationals, as astro-turf there will be ready by May this year The IHF has also approved four more artificial turfs in U.P, at Meerut, Dehra Dun, Gorakhpur and Varanasi.

The Federation wants to emulate the BCCI and become financially viable. They are striving to fill their coffers by collecting about Rs. 1 crore, from tournament affiliation fees, sponsorships and commercial tie-up with *Dev Features*. ITC and MRF are expected to sponsor the fresh Federation Cup at Lucknow.

It has been decided to invite a foreign team for a series of five Test matches with the national team every winter. The USSR and Poland are expected to tour this year. The Test matches will be staged at different venues. The IHF has ambitious plans which hopefully will fruitify and not just gather dust after the historic meeting at Bombay.

Novy Kapadia

Teams which regularly win or reach the last four stage of all-India tournaments and from which players are chosen for the national team will be considered as an elite group.

S.VENKATRAGHAVAN

Guy In A Soup!

An extremely non-controversial character who often finds himself in controversial situations through no fault of his own

SOME people are born great, some achieve greatness, and others have greatness thrust upon them. So goes the saying. Change that a little bit and you get: some people are born controversial, some achieve controversy and others have controversy thrust upon them.

Certainly it can be said that someone like Bishen Bedi was born controversial. As player, as captain and as an official, he has always been in the centre of controversy, much of which he has caused himself. On the other hand, one can hardly call S. Venkatraghavan controversial. And yet, one has lost count of the number of controversies he has been enmeshed in through no fault of his.

The former Indian captain has always been a reserved person. One recalls how the former Indian captain M A.K. Pataudi had to actually push a shy Venkat (then 20) to the front to lead the Indian team into the pavilion after the youngster had taken eight wickets in an innings against New Zealand at New Delhi in 1965. The diffident, reserved and non-controversial image stayed with Venkat till November 1969.

Then the first of many controversies that were to surround Venkat over the next 20 years took place. He was given out caught behind in the Test against Australia at Bombay. The radio commentator said that the bat was nowhere near the ball. Venkat himself hesitated a bit before walking

Moreover, things were not going well for India till Venkat and Wadekar figured in a useful eighth wicket stand which was broken by the umpire's controversial decision. The decision ultimately caused a major riot at the Brabourne Stadium leading to a fire in some stands and play being halted for considerable time. Venkat was not directly responsible for the trouble and the controversy, (it was really the umpire) yet his name is associated with one of the most serious riots seen on a cricket field in India.

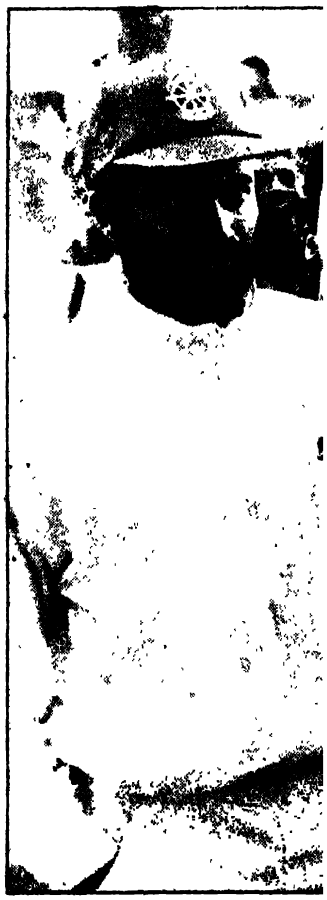
The next year Venkat was promoted, first to Tamil Nadu captain, then South Zone captain and finally vice-captain of the Indian team. Venkat was only 25 then and by no means certain of a place in the national squad. Or so the critics said. Certainly a few senior players too felt that way and saw in his elevation a conspiracy to sideline them. But was that Venkat's fault? It was the selectors (possibly with the backing of the officials) who promoted him after all.

To his credit Venkat always a fighter, not only played in all eight Tests against the West Indies and England in 1971 but also was the most successful wicket-taker with 35 scalps and moreover,was an able deputy to Wadekar.

Roll a few years to December 1974. Pataudi then captain for the entire series against West Indies, was injured. The selectors chose Gavaskar to lead the side, not, as was expected, Venkat. For the second Test at New Delhi, when Gavaskar was injured what did the selectors do? They met on the morning of the match--though there was plenty of time earlier—and selected Venkat as captain. It was certainly not an easy task especially since a loud mouthed official at a banquet the previous night had announced that the captain was Engineer.

Luck had never been with Venkat for a major part of his cricketing career. Against a strong team,India

As manager to the West Indies tour





Venkat with More, Kulkarni, Yadav and Chetan Sharma



lost by an innings in four days. Compounding the luck factor was the fact that India had to bat in their second innings on a rain-affected wicket against Gibbs. Was it Venkat's fault that he was appointed on the morning of the match? Or that the Test was lost by an innings Yet, when the team for the third Test at Calcutta was announced, Venkat was relegated to 12th-man

A few months later during the first World Cup in England came the infamous Gavaskar crawl –not out in 60 overs. And Venkat as captain was asked to explain why Gavaskar batted as he did

Controversies did not stop thrusting themselves upon Venkat even after his playing days were over. When he managed the Indian team to West Indies in 1989 it turned out to be a nightmare with the players going off on an unauthorised tour of the USA, leading to the Board slapping a ban on them.

And now comes the latest example of Venkat being in the thick of a controversy when he really had nothing to do with it. He was one of the umpires in the Delhi-Punjab Ranji tie. When the other umpire failed to turn up,Delhi substituted a home umpire for him. The result? Punjab protested and the Board took away points from Delhi ensuring that the team did not qualify for the knock-out stage.

One is sure Venkat has had enough of controversy. But what can he do if they just follow him?

Partab Ramchand

CALCUTTA

Magic Million XXX Stakes

When Sentouki worked his youthful magic on New Year's Day and won the prestigious Indian Produce Stakes, it was a signal that the Magic Million on February 24 would be quite a race. But not without a hard fought battle at the wire.

At the course, it was the fashionably bred Flying Warrior who garnered the maximum support in a field of seven; the only gelding in the running, Cool Hand Luke, cried off just before the richest ever race in Calcutta, only for three-year-olds. The Magic Million XXX Stakes not only gives a cool half million to the winner alone, there are prizes for the next five places too and includes a bonus of a lakh for the breeder. The Magic Million XXX Stakes, sponsored by Shaw Wallace, had its inaugural run last year and is the brainchild of Haik Sookias of the Royal Calcutta Turf Club.

So it was six colts and a filly (Mischievous by name) who paraded in the paddock and stood at the starting stalls with their eyes on the end of the rainbow, some 1600 metres away. When they were off like so many streaks of lightning, the course favourite, Flying Warrior, was chasing half a dozen tails and half way down found himself hitting a rough patch. Sentouki, on the other hand, with regular partner Nick Connorton, gave him company behind the field, but moved up to second at the top of the home straight One could see that Connorton was doing an encore of his Kabuki run in the Cruickshank Calcutta 1000 Guineas. It was 200 metres to go and Connorton nudged Sentouki for a burst of speed, only to find Aromatic, out on a hattrick chance, also being strongly urged by Saleem Chisty and responding

ANIL GROVER



Trainer Bharath Singh, Amit Gupta, Mr and Mrs Sumit Gupta pose with Sentouki, Nick Connorton up

gallantly. In what was Aromatic's finest race so far, Sentouki was given a run for his half-a-million. The magic moment arrived when the governor of West Bengal, Prof. Nurul Hasan, presented the handsome Rs 25,000 trophy to Sentouki's connections.

That half-length triumph was enough to give Sentouki something exciting to neigh about and put a huge smile on the face of Usha Stud Stud Farm owners and trainer Bharath Singh. Interestingly, Sentouki is the only colt (Treasure Leaf out of Cedar Point) who actually came up from the sale of the Magic Million auctions last year, when it was bought by Mrs and Mr Sumit Gupta and Mrs and Mr Amit Gupta.

So, thanks a million, fella.

Anil Grover

CUTTACK

Inter-State Athletics

A WELL laid out grass track was the main attraction at the Junior Inter-State Athletic Championships held at Cuttack recently. Over a 1000 athletes competed in the championships.

A number of meet records were established over the four-day competition. Orissa, the host State, emerged as the champions, with a tally of 28 medals (12 gold, 8 silver and 8 bronze), as did Bihar in the previous meet at Muzzafarpur.

A few points to be noted about these junior nationals are the blatant cases of over-age participation. Although the AAFI has a medical committee to look into this matter, nothing serious is being done about it. Everything just seems to be a hoax.

Organisers invariably spend too much time merely on opening and closing ceremonies rather than looking after the welfare of the athletes especially by holding the events on time.

The meet was held without any sponsor as ITC (the major sponsors of athletics in the country) said that the money for the junior development programme had already been handed over to the athletics federation and that there was no commitment on their part to sponsor the meet, as stated by the organisers.

International Rachita Panda emerged as the force to reckon with in Indian sprinting with a new record of 12.0 secs in the 100m and 24.9 secs in the 200m

(girls 18).

Kulwinder of Delhi also completed a sprint double in the boys 19, with 100m (10.7 secs) and 200m (21.7 secs), both new records.

Kerala which has been the nursery of Indian athletics failed to live up to expectations. Bobby Aloysius, a Kendriya Sports Foundation beneficiary, cleared 1.65m in the girls 18 high jump to establish a new record.

Jai Kishen of Delhi earned a treble winning the 3000m steeple chase, the 5000m and the 1500m in boys 19.

This meet was serving as a selection for an ambitious programme by the AAFI to build up the national team for the 1994 Asian Games at Hiroshima. Most athletic pundits were impressed by the emerging standards and there seems to be a bright future ahead for Indian athletics. But unless these juniors are willing to persevere and compete with the seniors and gain the experience they need, nothing is going to come about

It has been seen in the past that unless the juniors are willing to shed their skin early, they may land up like most of the past junior national champions who have never gone on to perform at the senior level.

Sunil Abraham

TRIVANDRUM

Electricity Board Basketball

KERALA State Electricity Board (KSEB) emerged the champions in the All India Electricity Board Basketball Tournament held at Thiruvananthapuran recently.

In the finals, KSEB overwhelmed holders, Tamil Nadu Electricity Board (TNEB) 70-46. KSEB, comprising mostly of state players functioned like a well-oiled machine. They led 29-22 at half time. In the second session, Tamil Nadu players went all out in the attack, but left their defences open. KSEB increased

M BALAN



KSEB: winners of the Electricity Board basketball tournament

the lead without much opposition. Their main scorers were Anil Kumar (21 pts) and Suresh.C (16 pts). For TNEB, Vincent Sagayaraj (13 pts) was the top scorer

Earlier in the semis, Tamil Nadu overcame Punjab 55-45, while Kerala outplayed Bakra Beas Management Board (BSMB) 62-45.

In the shootout for third place, Punjab defeated BSMB 66 47.

Sajeev Kumar T.K.

GUWAHATI

All-Assam Bank Cricket

THE State Bank of India won the fifth Girish Chandra Goswami Memorial All Assam Inter Bank Cricket Tournament defeating UCO Bank by 136 runs in the final played at the Nehru Stadium. It is their third successive victory in this tournament. In the final match, batting first, SBI scored up 208 for 3 in the contracted 30 overs, with Prafulla Kalita (n.o 67), N. Purkayastha (53) and Abhijit Bhatta (39) adding to the score.

In reply, UCO Bank could manage only 72 runs when 10.3 overs were still to be bowled, their batsmen never looked consolable against the pace attack of the opponent. Medium pacer Ashis Roy Choudhury of SBI, who was declared the 'Man of the Match', was the highest wicket-taker with a haul of 6 wickets for just 9 runs.

In the first semi-final, defending champions, SBI frustrated UIIC Bank by a margin of 35 runs And in the other semi-final, UCO Bank routed Central Bank by 32 runs.

Pabitra Kr. Deka

LUCKNOW

National Cross-Country Championships

THE 25th National Cross-Country Championships were held at the Sports Hostel, Lucknow.

Though there was a large turn out, unfortunately, the championship was just a road race which served as a selection meet for the World and Asian Cross-Country Championships.

The first race to be flagged off was the men's 12 km race. Much

was expected of the 9 member Services team before the race especially after a tremendous performance at the last meet at Pune. K.M. Suresh of Railways set a hot pace for the first 9 kms, but faded to fifth place at the finish. Shivkumar Shreshta of the Services, more renowned for his accomplishments at the marathon, won the race in style followed by Shiv Kumar Yadav of the Railways. Abhay Singh of the Services was a creditable third.

The following were the results :

Men—12 Kms (I) Shiv Kumar Shreshta (Services) (II) Shiv Kumar Yadav (Railways) (III) Abhay Singh (Services)

Team Championships—Services.

Women—4 Kms (I) Nanda Jadhav (Railways) (II) Poonam Taneja (Railways) (III) Leelamma (Railways)

Team Championships—Railways.

Sunil Abraham

TRIVANDRUM

National Taekwondo

THE Delhi team exhibiting better skill and technique won the overall championship in the 5th National Taekwondo Championship held here recently.

The brilliant performance of the women's team enabled Kerala to finish second while Haryana took the third spot.

Chandrakant Arora of Madhya Pradesh was adjudged the best fighter. About 500 fighters from 19 states and union territories participated in 48 categories.

On the opening day, a demonstration of the game was staged for the audience.

Some important results: Men's Seniors: 55 to 60 kg—Pushkaran (Kerala) bt Jagmohan Rao (AP); Men's Seniors: below 50 kg—Sudeepta Chakraborty (West Bengal) bt Rajeev Chakraborthy (WB), Women's Seniors:—R. Manjula, (Tamilnadu); Women's Seniors A grade (Belt): Syamala (Tamilnadu): Women's Seniors B Grade (Belt): Meera Pattu Rajan (Kerala).

K. Pankajakshan, State Labour Minister, distributed the awards.

Sajeev Kumar T.K.



Action during the National Taekwondo Championships

BANGALORE

State Triathlon

APPACHEN and V.T. Anusuya won the men's and women's titles at the inaugural Karnataka state triathlon championship held here recently around the picturesque Ulsoor lake.



V.T. Anusuya: individual women's triathlon champion

Appachen timed 2 hours, 32.37 minutes in the three events comprising 1.5 km of swimming, 40 km of cycling and 10 km of running. Anusuya timed 2 hours, 38.30 minutes over the same distance.

In the men's team event, the Karnataka police trio of M.S. Bhushan Kumar, L.B. Mali and B.M. Sanjeeva clinched the first place with 2 hours, 3 minutes and 13 seconds. In the women's section Sarala N. Swamy, V T Anusuya and Nethravathi of the Railways emerged triumphant with a timing of 2:34:16.

Deaf Cricket

KARNATAKA retained the title for the third time in the 6th South Zone Cricket league championship for the deaf. Andhra Pradesh emerged runner-up followed by Tamil Nadu.

In the concluding match Karnataka beat Andhra Pradesh by 7 wickets. Karnataka scored 93 for 3 in 23.4 overs, while AP scored 92 in 39 overs.

Karnataka's Jude Hubert, who scored 52 unbeaten runs in the final match, was adjudged the 'best batsman'. Andhra Pradesh's Hyder Hussain was declared the 'best bowler' and P.R. Kumar of Karnataka the 'man of the series'.

Ralph F. Patrao

VARANASI

Vizzy Trophy Cricket

SOUTH ZONE'S emphatic victory in the Charminar challenge Vizzy Trophy cricket tournament underscored the resurgence the game is enjoying in the region. This, notwithstanding the failure of the senior zonal team to even enter the final of the Duleep Trophy this year.

South Zone's Vizzy Trophy win was in large measure due to their batsmen—Rajesh Kamath and Rashid Mohsin in the main. Kamath was in particularly good



Rajesh Kamath: in good form for South Zone

nick in South Zone's first match, against East Zone. He cracked a brilliant 103 (inclusive of 12 fours) off 132 balls. He had scores of 33 and 53 in the final against West Zone. South's bowling honours went to left-arm spinner Srinidhi who bagged four for 46.

Rashid Mohsin, like Rajesh Kamath a Bangalore-based college student was in sparkling form against West Zone in the final. His 140 (with 18 fours and a glorious six) was largely instrumental in South reaching 411 in their first innings of the final. South earned a first innings lead of 115 when West were bundled out for 296.

On a crumbling I.T. Gymkhana (Benares Hindu University) wicket South's second innings reply of 184 meant that West were to get exactly 300 to win. They managed just 156 (MRF Pace Foundation trainee claiming four for 46), leaving South winners by 143 runs.

R. Sudarsanen

CALCUTTA

State Awards

THE Sports Department of the Bengal state government celebrated their sports day on February 22. The day belonged to sportspersons, sports administrators and sports scribes as the state government honoured 66 of them at a grand function at the Netaji Indoor Stadium

Performances in 1989-1990 were the basis for selection for those who were felicitated A citation of Rs 5,000 and a memento were given to each and every member of those felicitated. The state government thus dished out a grand sum of Rs 33,000.

Among the sportspersons honoured by the state were Sambaran Banerjee, the captain of the 1990 Ranji Trophy winning Bengal team, tennis player Zeeshan Ali, Dibyendu Barua, India's second chess grandmaster, Jyotsna Dutta, who won a medal in the Beijing Asian Games in women's weightlifting, football coach from Darjeeling Wangden Lama, women powerlifter Sumita Laha and a host of others.

The best sports scribe award, named after the late Mukul Dutta, was given to the editor of *Aajkaal*, a leading vernacular daily: Mr Ashok Dasgupta. Mr Dasgupta donated his entire citation amount to the president of the Calcutta Sports Journalists' Club for helping ex and needy journalists.

There were many who followed Mr Dasgupta's way. Mr Gopinath Ghosh and Mr Achintya Saha, two of the city's well-known sports administrators donated their honorariums to the development of sports.

Soumitra Bose

Some of the award winners at the State Sports: (From left): Manoj Kothari, Sumita Laha and Dibyendu Barua

Mountaineering Awards

GURINDER Singh Grewal was adjudged the best civilian advanced-course student as the Ashoke Kumar Memorial Award was given to him in the annual awards function of the Parvat Abhiyatri Sangha, a day eagerly



RAJIV DE

awaited by the mountaineers. Grewal belongs to the Nehru Institute of Mountaineering, Uttarkhasi

Naresh Kumar Ray was given the Nandaghunti award for being the second best after Grewal. The best trainee of the Sangha's annual rock climbing course went to Gopal Chakravarty who was conferred the Subhendu Mukherjee award.

The chief guest of the day was the principal of the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute, Darjeeling, Colonel Ajit Dutta. In his speech, Col. Dutta said that the standard of mountaineering was declining in the country and it needed a big boost to revive India's golden mountaineering tradition.

Soumitra Bose

HYDERABAD

Nizam Gold Cup

JCT Mills, Phagwara, lifted the glittering Nizam Gold Cup defeating Tata Football Academy, Jamshedpur, by a first half solitary goal at the Lal Bahadur Stadium. Earlier, on two previous occasions, the cup had eluded them when they were beaten by Mahindra & Mahindra, Bombay and Mohd. Sporting, Calcutta. JCT without taking any chances went about their business right from the word go.

Jasbir Singh, Narinder and Kashmira made forays, while Deepak Kumar, Walia and Harjeet guarded their post well in the absence of the injured Parminder Singh.

It was in the 31st minute that JCT scored the match winning goal, when Satish Kumar (Sr) sent an accurate floater, to Jeet Singh, who used his head to net the ball into the goal.

From here onwards, JCT adopted the right plan against the TFA boys. Instead of slowing down the game, JCT began playing at a faster rate, putting pressure on the rival and this strategy held TFA on tenterhooks.

But no further goals were scored and after an up and down match, JCT Mills emerged the champions.

A Correspondent

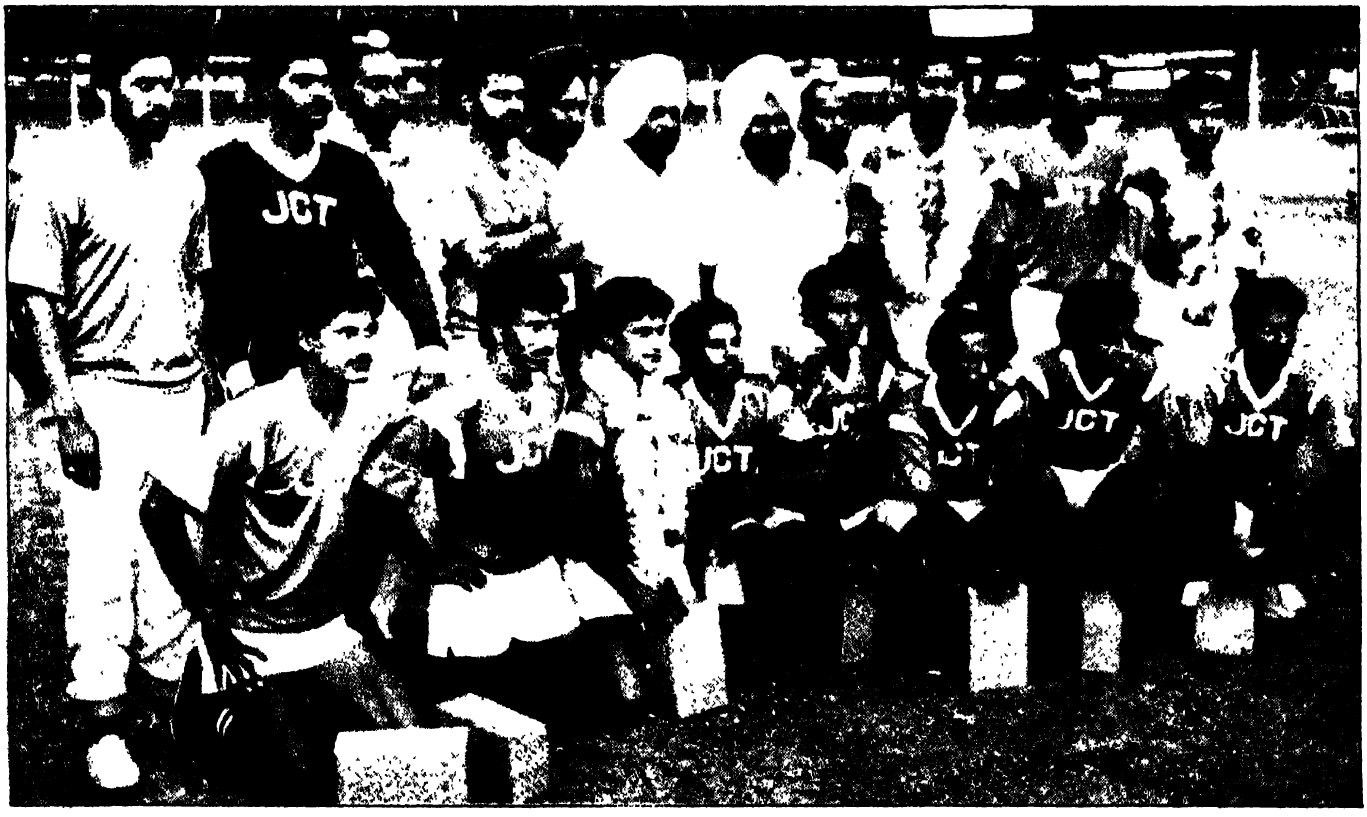
MEERUT

Gujar Mal Modi Hockey

RARELY in a domestic hockey tournament, have the trio of glamour teams, Indian Airlines, Border Security Force and Punjab Police succumbed in their opening match. It happened at the recent 13th R.B. Gujar Mal Modi Memorial Gold Cup tournament at the Sports Stadium, Meerut. Seeded direct to the quarter-finals, the trio were comprehensively beaten.

National runners-up Indian Airlines were routed 0-4 by ultimate winners, Corps of Signals, Jalandhar. Their coach, Naik Sher Singh said, "This was our most satisfying victory as we have never beaten a top team like the IA by such a large margin."

Punjab Police were trounced 0-3 by Haryana State Electricty Board (HSEB). Holders in 1989 and 1990, BSF lost to Army (White), a new team consisting of nine players from the Bihar Regimental Centre (Danapur). To add to the organisers woes, 1990



JCT Mills, Phagwara: the winners of the Nizam Gold Cup Memorial football tournament

runners-up, ASC, Jalandhar lost in the tie-breaker 2-4 to ultimate finalists Northern Railway in the quarter-final.

Punjab Police arrived on the morning of their match. With barely fours hours rest, they played and lost. IA brought a second string side. None of their current internationals were available. They were so depleted that coach Ashok Kumar played as a second half substitute. Such a casual attitude is a discredit to the diligent organisers. Modis spend Rs 5 lakhs on this tournament and the teams are treated well.

This is not to detract from Signal's creditable victory. Their wingers Solomon Horo and Services player, Vijay Kujur are the fastest in the country Kujur performed impressively in all the matches and scored a memorable goal in the final. The IA coach, Ashok Kumar rightly said, "India has to find a new outside-left and Kujur should be given a chance." Kujur had represented India at the Indira Gandhi International tournament in 1990 at Lucknow On the basis of his performances at Meerut, Kujur will be called for the national camp at Delhi in March.

Novy Kapadia



Corps of Signal, Jalandhar were the winners of the Gujar Mal Modi Hockey tournament

MILESTONES

ELECTED: Katrine Krabbe, to lead the first athletics team from united Germany in an international meet in Paris.

CHANGED: The Davis Cup venue for the tie between France and Israel from Marseille to Rennes. It was postponed earlier owing to the Gulf war.

WON: Basad Ali of Calcutta, the Western India Wills Open played in Bombay.

RECORD SET: Katrine Krabbe as she became the first athlete from united Germany to win a medal in an international meet in Paris.

ISSUED: Notices by the Income Tax authorities to 39 footballers, to furnish their incomes and assets at the earliest. Involved in this connection is the Nigerian striker, Cheema Okerie.

CONFIRMED: By Maradona that he was retiring from professional football.

ELECTIONS: Of the Indian Olympic Association to be held on April 28 on an order from the Supreme Court to settle the long standing feud in the apex body of sports in India.

RETIRES: Former Australian captain, Kim Hughes from first class cricket. This announcement came soon after he was dropped from the Natal Province team in South Africa, where he was on a two year stint.

ILL: Sir Richard Hadlee, from Wolff Parkinson White Syndrome that was responsible for the irregular beating of his heart. He requires open heart surgery, the other option being hooked on to theraupatic drugs for the rest of his life.



Anatoly Karpov

SHOCKED: Anatoly Karpov, by Viswanathan Anand in the second round of the Linares International tournament.

EQUALLED: The world record of seven dismissals in an innings of a Test, set by Wasim Bari of Pakistan and Bob Taylor of England, by Ian Smith of New Zealand against Sri Lanka.

DEFEATED: Ben Johnson in his sixth comeback race by Joel Issasi of Cuba in the 60 metres, in an international held in Karlsruhe in Germany. This was Johnson's third defeat

WITHDRAWN: The case filed by Binoj Trehan a member of the Delhi Cricket Association against the BCCI

DOUBTFUL: The exhibition match between Borg and Connors at the Olympic Hall in London, in Apirl. Borg's agent called it 'off' while Connors' agent said it might be 'possible'..

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. 'Holmes' is the middle name of a famous English Test cricketer of yesteryears. Who?
2. Three members of the great 1948 Australian side that toured England were to achieve the Test double of 1000 runs and 100 wickets—Keith Miller, Ian Johnson and which other player?
3. Which country was the first to defeat West Indies in a Prudential Cup match?

ANSWERS

1. Frank Holmes Tyson.
2. Ray Lindwall.
3. India (at Old Trafford in 1983).

CHESS

Anand played superb chess to brush Dreev aside in their candidates match. It was a very combative encounter with five out of six games ending decisively.

The first blow came from Anand who won the opening game. Even though Dreev produced the first surprise Anand reacted with some dazzling knight manouvers to gain a slight advantage. The clock then intervened and the Russian contender failed to maintain the balance in severe time trouble.

White: Dreev Vs Black: Anand Game 1. Butterfly Candidates, Madras, '91.

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 f3 d5 5 a3 Bxc3+ 6 bc3 c5 7 cd5 Nxd5 8 dc5 Qa5 9 e4 Ne7 10 Be3 0-0 11 Qb3 Qc7 12 Nh3 e5 13 Nf2 Nec6 14 Nb3.

Dreev's novelty. Both 14 Be2 and 14 Rah1 are normal.

14—Be6 Qb5?! The start of a series of unfortunate queen moves. White may have thought this would provoke some weakness but the lady is simply badly exposed here.

15—Nd7 16 Be2 Na5 17 0-0 Rac8!. The right rook even though this does not become apparent for another 14 moves Black is in no hurry to recover his pawn, for he has a very comfortable position.

18 Rfd1 Bb3 19 Rd2? White should play the logical 19 Nb4: and complicate Black can't really take the exchange by 19 Bxd1 20 Rxd1 Nxc5 21 Nd5. **19——Be4 20 Qb4** (see diagram).

Here Anand found the excellent idea that won him the game in practical terms. Even though Dreev found the only reasonable reply he had less than a minute per move after his 21st.

20——Nb8!! Now 21 Na6 wins against almost everything. 21 Nxe5? Na6 22 Qa4 Nxc5 23 Qb4 Na6 24 Qa4 b5 is an amusing variation

21 Rb1: Na6 22 Qb2 Bd3 23 Bxd3 Nxc5 24 Bf1 b6 25 c4 Ne6 26 Rbd1 Nxc4 27 Bxc4 Qxc4 28 Qe5 Qb3!

A subtle way to invade the seventh rank. White is clearly inferior now.

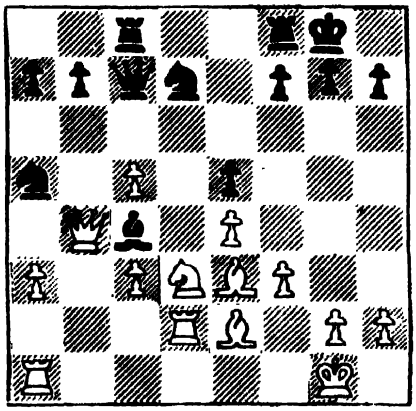
29 Rd3 Qa2 30 Qd5? Yet another unfortunate queen move and now white is lost. 30 Qa1! may just have held on.

30 Qe2 31 Qd6 Rcd8: This wins while 31 Rfd8?? 32 Qxd8+ would turn the tables. That is why black's 17th was so important.

32 Qxd8 Nxd8 33 Bf2 Qa2. Forced to prevent the queen being trapped.

34 Rxd8 Qxa3 35 Bg3 h6 36 R8d7 Rc8. White lost on time. (0-1)

Devangshu Datta



BRIDGE

In my last column I had presented a hand from the last Tolani Masters' final where neither declarer found the winning line but one of them nevertheless brought home his contract by managing to hoodwink his opponent. Another hand from the match was a lead problem:-

The bidding needs some explanation. At both tables,

Dealer North — E-W vul.

NORTH(dummy)
♠ A K Q 8
♡ Q 9 7 5
♢ J
♣ K 8 7 6

WEST
♠ —
♡ 8 6 4 3 2
♢ A K 10 9 3 2
♣ 9 3

EAST
♠ J 10 7 6 4 3
♡ J 10
♢ Q 6 5
♣ 10 4

SOUTH
♠ 9 5 2
♡ A K
♢ 8 7 4
♣ A Q J 5 2

NORTH	SOUTH
2 ♡	2 NT
3 ♠	4 NT
5 ♢	6 ♣
Pass	

East-West were playing the most popular strong club system, Precision. The two diamond opening showed a three-suited hand of 12-15 points, short in diamonds, 5-4-4-0 or 4-4-4-1 or 5-4-3-1 with 4-4 or 4-3 in the majors and 4 or 5 clubs. South enquired with a relay of two no-trumps and North's reply showed specifically a 4-4-4-1 hand with 14-15 points without counting a singleton king or queen or jack. After this South could have bid six clubs right away but both Souths, more out of habit than anything else, made doubly sure that two aces weren't out by using good old Black to reach the seemingly lay-down slam.

With the West hand on lead, only an initial low diamond lead to East's queen could set the slam (of course, once his queen holds East will surely wake up from usual slumber and be *brilliant* enough to return a spade).

Is the lead clear-cut? After all, with every suit breaking badly the slam might go down anyway, so why take the risk of losing the diamond trick if partner is missing the queen? The key to the hand are the five *small* hearts——declarer's side losers, if any, would surely evaporate on dummy's hearts. That is why a low diamond stands out but would the Wests find it? Not to worry, both Wests, Jaggy Shivdasani for HCL and J.M. Shah for Topline, duly led a small diamond to scuttle the slam. Just another flat board!

Shantanu Ghose

SPORTS HALL OF SHAME — BY NASH & ZULLO



DICK TOMEY, COACH OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII FOOTBALL TEAM, IGNITED HIS PLAYERS WITH A BURNING DESIRE TO WIN — HE HAD THEM WALK BAREFOOT OVER A 12-FOOT-LONG BED OF RED-HOT COALS! ABOUT 90 MEN ON TOMEY'S 120-MAN SQUAD TOOK THE FIRE WALK IN 1985 AS PART OF A SEMINAR ON MOTIVATION. BUT THEY DIDN'T GET FIRED UP ENOUGH. THE TEAM FINISHED WITH A 4-6-2 RECORD.



THERE WAS PLENTY OF HOT ACTION DURING THE BOSTON CELTICS-MILWAUKEE BUCKS BASKETBALL GAME IN 1988. UNFORTUNATELY FOR **JOHNNY MOST** — THE "VOICE OF THE CELTICS" — MUCH OF IT HAPPENED ALONG THE SIDELINES WHEN HOT ASHES FROM HIS CIGARETTE FELL AND SET HIS PANTS ON FIRE!

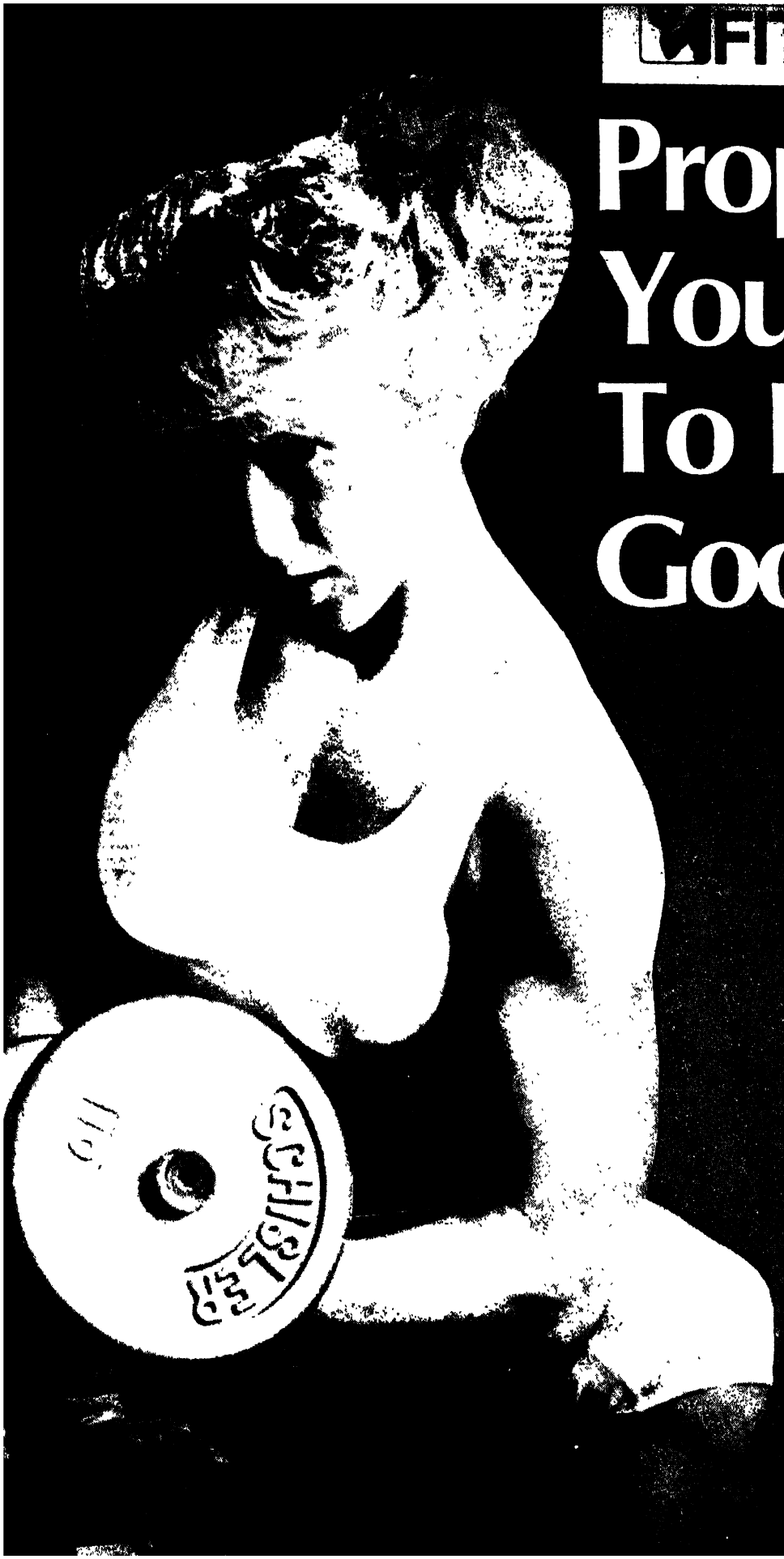


REFEREE **GENE BARTH** WAS A BIG SHOT IN HIS 1971 NFL DEBUT. AS A LINESMAN, IT WAS HIS JOB TO FIRE A BLANK PISTOL AT THE END OF EACH PERIOD. BEFORE THE GAME, GENE CAREFULLY PUT THE LOADED GUN IN HIS BACK POCKET. BUT WHEN HE WITHDREW HIS HAND, HE ACCIDENTALLY PULLED THE TRIGGER AND SHOT HIMSELF IN THE BUTT!



AT THE 1973 SEA PINES HERITAGE CLASSIC, PRO GOLFER **HALE IRWIN** AGREED TO A SLIGHT CHANGE IN THE RULES WHEN HIS ERRANT DRIVE WOUND UP INSIDE THE BRA OF A SURPRISED SPECTATOR. THE RED-FACED WOMAN SAID THE BALL STRUCK HER IN THE CHEST BEFORE PLOPPING INSIDE HER UNDERGARMENT. THE COURSE RULE CALLING FOR THE GOLFER TO REMOVE THE BALL FROM ITS OBSTRUCTION WAS WAIVED AND HALE GRANTED THE HONORS TO THE WOMAN.

Proportion Yourself To Look Good



HOW many of you are happy with the way you look? If you are, you shouldn't be reading this. Just count your lucky stars and strut. If you aren't you're in good company. Cos most of us would like some alterations made to our looks. Either we're too thin. Or too fat. Too tall. Or too thin. Too top heavy. Or cursed with tree-trunk legs.

Fat can be handled. Well, most of the time anyway. Just put yourself on a tough cardiovascular routine and you're bound to loss some of it. Thin, too, can be handled. Just pack in the high-cal food while doing some bulk-building exercise and you're sure to bulk up. Not too much we can do about the tall and thin bit though.

As for the disproportionate look, it just might be you to blame. If you've been born with a noticably lopsided build, there's



nothing much you can do – but try to correct it as much as possible. On the other hand, it just might be you who's to blame. Too much enthusiasm while exercising a certain part of the body can leave you looking horribly lopsided. Spend too much time doing curls and you're going to have huge, muscular arms hanging off a bony frame. The same applies to excessive squatting or high-intensity cycling. Do that and you'll have monster legs blending into an underdeveloped upper body.

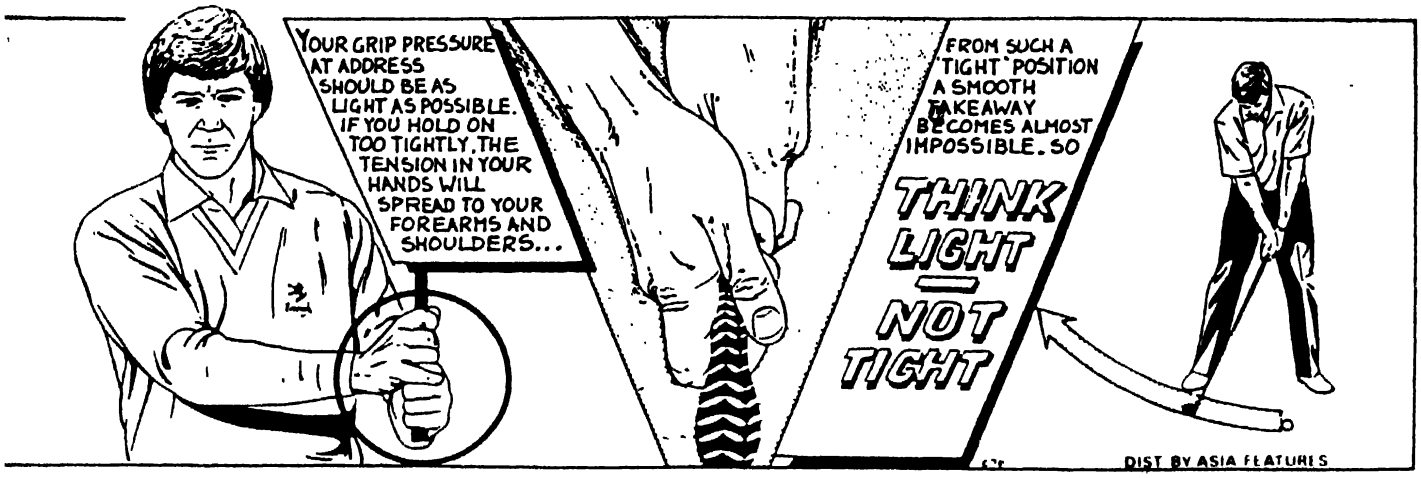
Not only does this type of imbalanced training make you look funny, it could even lead to injuries as the underdeveloped parts might not be strong enough to participate in the strain easily handled by the rest of the body. If you think that's bad, think of the lopsided look you're going to have to sport.

Imagine going through the rest of your life with a huge barrel chest and match stick legs. Or just developing your forearms to monster proportions while leaving your biceps and triceps withered and puny. ●

THE FALDO FORMULA

FROM TEE TO GREEN

Grip Pressure



Cut out Tension

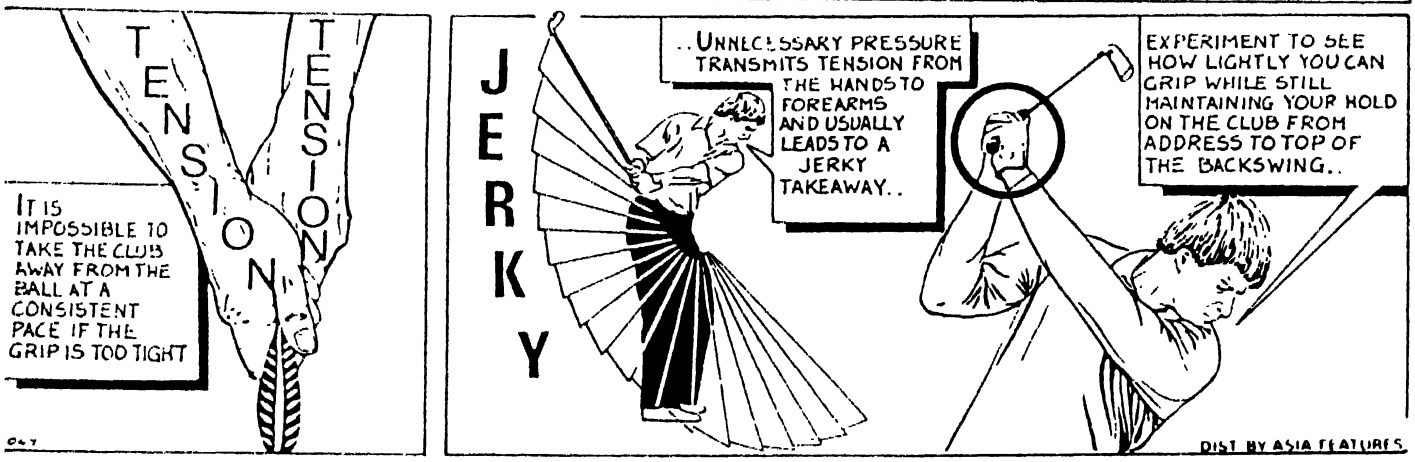
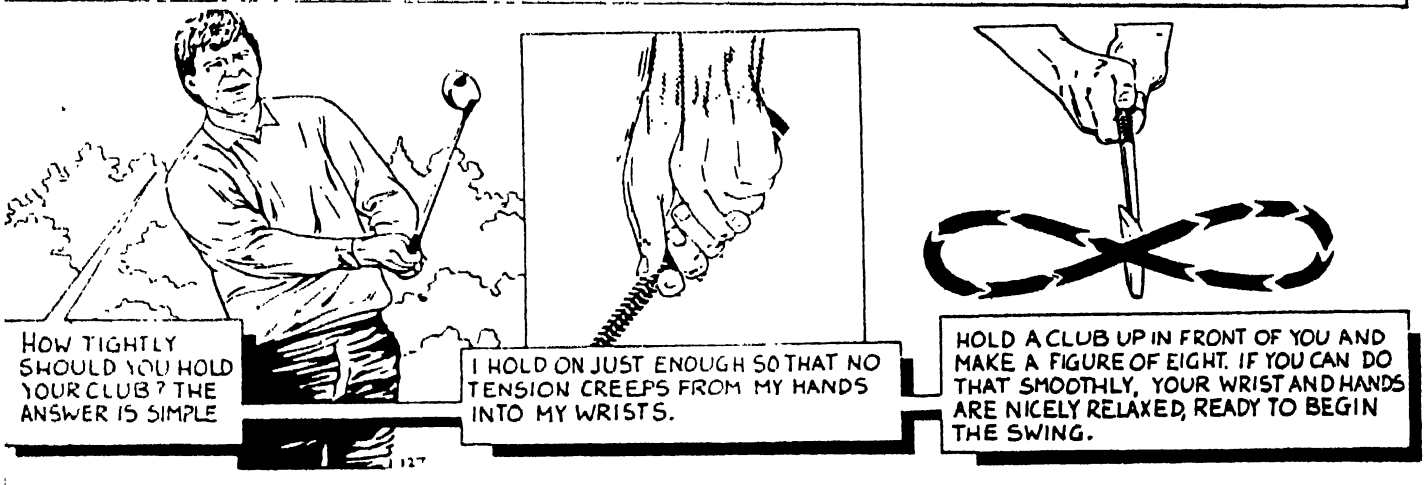


Figure of Eight Test



Contagious!

THE case of missing umpries has always been a common occurrence in local league matches. Nowadays the fever is slowly but surely spreading to the Ranji level too. Cricket umpiring has become a very cheap job these days with umpires elevated to Ranji levels without even the conventional written test. In fact, Ranji cricketers with an appearance record of 30 or more matches are given preference over professional umpires. Umpiring is a job that demands both interest and application. In England the job is taken very seriously by the umpires as it's the source of bread and butter for them. In India umpiring has always been a secondary job as the umpires always have a secured job and hence do not take umpiring too seriously.

Delhi had to move out of the Ranji tie on account of the absence of the umpires. Things cannot be allowed to carry on this way for long. The BCCI would do well to pay a little more attention when they appoint umpires for first class matches.

C.K. SUBRAMANIAM,
Madras.

What's going on?

I AM a regular reader of *Sportsworld*. Do we change the name to Filmworld? Instead of bestowing the images of those film stars, in the issue dated 6—12 Feb, you could have provided rare pictures of few of the eminent and valiant sports personalities. Maybe you could have given us pictures of Azharuddin, Sergio Goychochea, or maybe even Gabriela Sabatini.

There are many magazines in our country to propogate the reputation of film stars. *Sportsworld* is the only magazine which exposes superbly and vividly the sports personas. Please continue to concentrate on sports.

I would always prefer to utter "Mera Sportsworld Mahaan."

SHABNAM THAKURIA.
Dhubri.

Sportsworld

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I, Bijit Kumar Basu, hereby declare that the particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief

1 March, 1991 — Publisher



What a change

THE heavyweight crown of boxing travelled a long way in the year 1990. It went from Tyson to Douglas and then to Holyfield. It was a long journey for Holyfield who was disqualified in the 1984 Olympics. But the question that remains to be answered is whether he can survive in this age of raw power.

Mike Tyson and George Foreman are too powerful for the other modern heavyweights. It will be an achievement for Holyfield if he wins against Tyson and Foreman.

When Ali was in Calcutta recently, I asked him the question, 'If Ali had fought Tyson in his prime, who would have won?' Ali smiled and replied, "He wins whom Allah favours". From the days of 'The Greatest', it was Ali 'The humble'. His greatness made me smile, his humbleness made me think.

FARHAT KHAN,
Calcutta.

Ticklish

I WANT to draw your attention to the issue dated 6—12 Feb. '91, that had Pooja Bedi on the cover. From the commercial point of view I agree that it is necessary for every magazine to cater to public taste. But being a regular reader of the magazine ever since its inception, what hurts me is the particular aspect of our taste that was given 'a tickle' by those pictures.

Sportsworld is and should remain exclusively a sports magazine.

ABHIJIT KUNDU,
Hoogly.

Numero Uno

AT long last Boris Becker has reached the pinnacle that he had been craving to attain...the number one spot. This proves Becker to be the greatest champion of the nineties and further gives credence to him being an all court player. Boris is a well mannered player, who loves and respects the game.

S.SURESH,
Madurai.

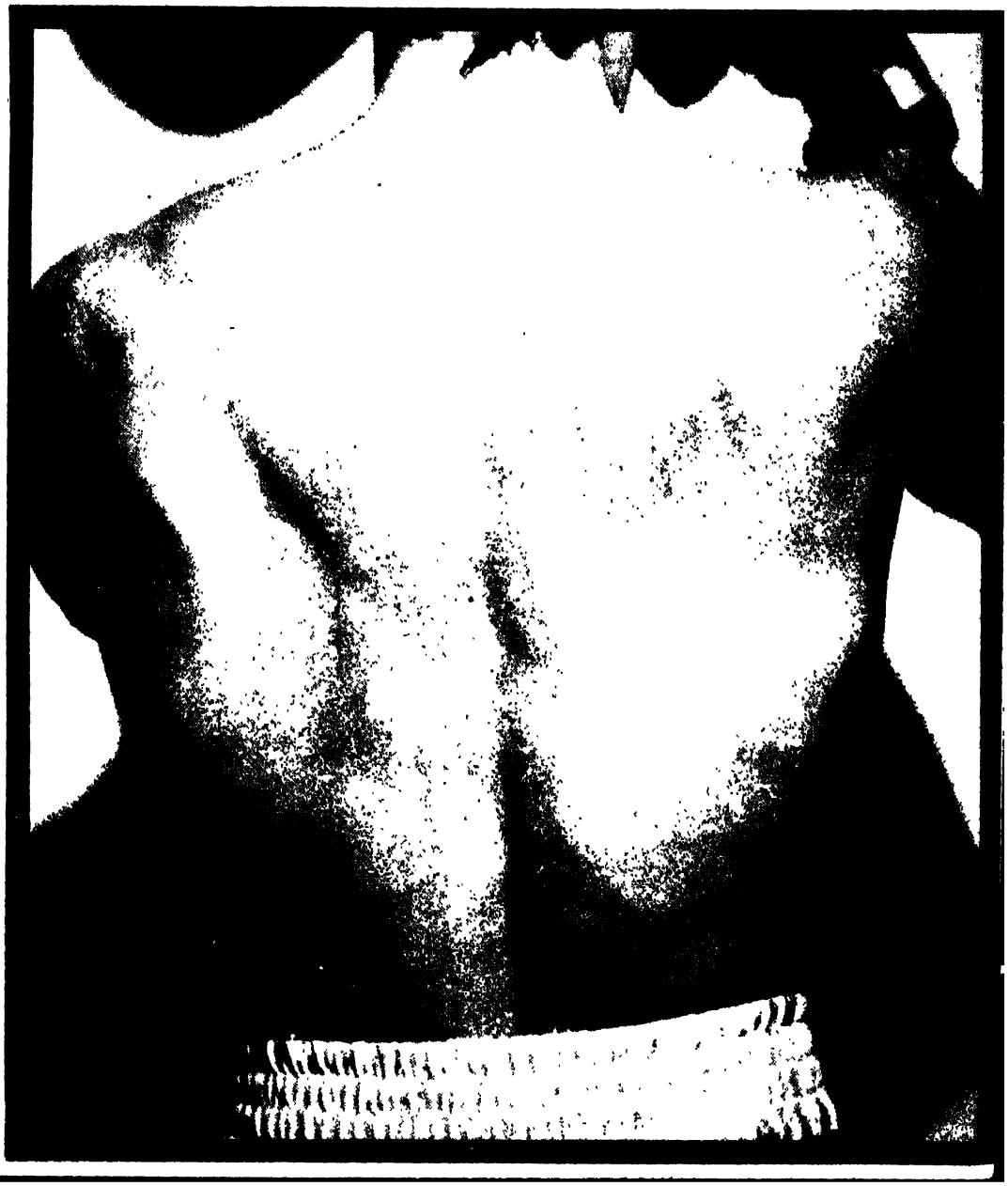
The cover art work of *Sportsworld* 27 Feb-5 Mar and 6-12 Mar '91 was made by Subin Das

THE HEALTH COLUMN

"Oh, if it wasn't for my back." Does this line figure often in your day? Has backaches been the reason for your not doing that 'extra' bit at home and work? Backache is one of the most common ailments that afflict the modern man, in his quest to better his standard of living. It all started the day when man finally decided to use just two of his limbs to elevate himself from the rest of creation.

Most back ailments are the results of undue stress being placed on the spine. Consider these facts. Your spine has to support about half the weight of your body It also houses many intricate nerves that control important body functions. Theories of back pain are as complex as the back itself, but the fact remains that 90 per cent of backaches are the result of man abusing that vulnerable part of the body

A vast majority of back problems are the result of weak and mushy abdominals. So the next time someone tells you that your abs are not firm enough, do something about it, 'cos then you're gonna save yourself a lot of agony Every time you 'freak out' at the dinner table remember that the excess weight you are



going to put around the midsection is sure going to place a lot of stress on the spine.

Weak abs do not relieve the situation and you have a spine that is working overtime to keep. If the abs are firm, they help in maintaining a correct posture that goes a long way in keeping off these pains. On the other hand abs that are mushy lead to an incorrect posture which is responsible for the evil.

Here are a few other causes of lower back dysfunction.

Herniated Disc: An extremely painful situation where the disc gives way and the nucleus oozes out to strike a nerve The pain travels slowly down the back of one or both legs. This condition is often referred to as a slipped disc'

Degenerative Conditions: We, like all living creatures, are subject to the process of aging. It is degenerative because the rate at which the bones break down exceeds the rate of bone growth renewal. As you get older your spine has less lubrication, the muscles weaken, and the ligaments stretch out of shape. The best defence against this is building strong and conditioned muscles.

Damaged Facet Joints: The job of the facet joints are to connect the vertebrae. Worn ligaments, and weak muscles force the facet joints to bear more weight This excess weight push the facets together, leading to nerve irritation and acute pain.

Strained Muscles: Muscles are composed of blood vessels and nerves that cannot take much irritation. If a muscle tears it results in severe spasms. Treat tight and torn muscles with massage, bed rest, light exercise and gentle stretching.

Now that you know the common causes of backaches, why live with it when the cure is only a walk away—the gym? By getting those abs—and back—into top shape you can prevent a majority of aches and pains

Once you reach the gym, go in for slow half abdominal crunches and upper back extension movements. An extension movement is performed by lying on your stomach and lifting your upper body Keeping your back flat, your head and chest down, and your chin against your chest, raise your upper body slowly about an inch or two, hold for a couple of seconds and then lower youself down Proceed to do this 25 times for starters.

Posture and body mechanics also play an important role in preventing those aches and pains. Pay a little attention to all that you have been doing for years, so much so that now these actions are controlled by the subconscious part of your brain. We are talking of actions like walking standing, sitting-notice the way you are slumped on that chair of yours?—and try to perfect them because it eventually leads to a loss of muscle tone in the abdomen and the lower back. Both hunching over and leaning forward are wonderful ways to mutilate that back of yours.

If you work slumped over your desk, get up every half an hour or so, walk around and once in a while stretch that body of yours It won't take you long to feel the difference. When you are driving, remember to bring the seat as close as possible The further the seat, the greater is the curvature of the spine and so is the stress placed on the spine If your job requires you to stand for long periods of time, keep a low stool ready so that once in a while you can elevate one leg of yours This way you are in a posterior pelvic tilt position, and this puts less strain on the spine

Also learn to lift objects properly When you are lifting something you are putting a lot of pressure on your spine So the next time you get up to lift something tighten your abs and back muscles. Keep your hips tucked and your back as flat as possible Bend your knees and use the powerful muscles in your hips and thighs Never lift cumbersome objects from odd angles. Also avoid lifting with jerky motions, and transfer the weight slowly on execution of the lift. You are surely inviting disaster if you lift with your knees locked.

Remember, don't take that back of yours for granted. Treat it right and it will keep you straight and going. ●

BACK UP THE SYSTEM

KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND

CONTINUING with the *kata* we started serialising last week, stay in *kokutsu dachi* while pulling your left hand into your side at waist level. Then, move your left leg out slightly and throw a *jun-tsuki* or side punch with the left hand while looking sideways along the arm. Now, swivel both feet so that you are facing the opposite direction and go through the same sequence of motions performed on the left side (explained last week) and complete it with a right *jun-tsuki*.

(To be continued)

By Shivaji Ganguly

Kyokushinkaikan karate

PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA

Pull the left hand into the waist in kokutsu dachi



Move the left leg out slightly and perform a left punch





Swivel both feet and turn 180° and repeat sequence of arm movements



Complete movements with right leg moving slightly out and throwing right jun-tsuki

CARTOON



A tennis freak lost in the desert is lucky to find a place to rest.... but rules are rules!



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WHERE'S FATIMA WHITBREAD, and what is she doing nowadays? It's a cruel world and as long as she was gobbling up world records, the sporting public knew her and loved her. 'Britain's own child', the banners could well have read, except that she was not of British origin. But that didn't matter one bit—success counted, being an import was irrelevant.

Then enter Tessa Sanderson another import, and Whitbread had company. The fight for the women's javelin top spot had begun—in the field and out of it. After an initial burst of resistance which flickered till Seoul '88, Whitbread dropped out of the circuit with a silver medal and an aggravated shoulder injury. A lesser competitor would have perhaps given up the ghost when a second shoulder operation—following a partially successful first one—appeared finally to have ended a glorious chapter in world sport. Add to that a couple of barbs by a fellow competitor: read Miss Sanderson, and Whitbread realised that she forgot to carry along her oxygen tank when she plunged into the depths of despair...result, asphyxiation!

Sanderson accused Whitbread of coaching an Aussie prior to the Commonwealth Games. It would have seemed okay by anybody's standards. But if you're a Brit and coaching an Aussie! No way Jose.

Despair. That's the word that goaded Whitbread into making a comeback. It has been three years since that silver in Seoul—an eternity in sport—but her resolve to claw her way back to the top has only briefly been in question.

Whitbread admitted: "At times I hit rock bottom when I thought my career was over. I love the sport. If I never throw the javelin competitively again, it will be a sad day because it has been part of my life since I left school.

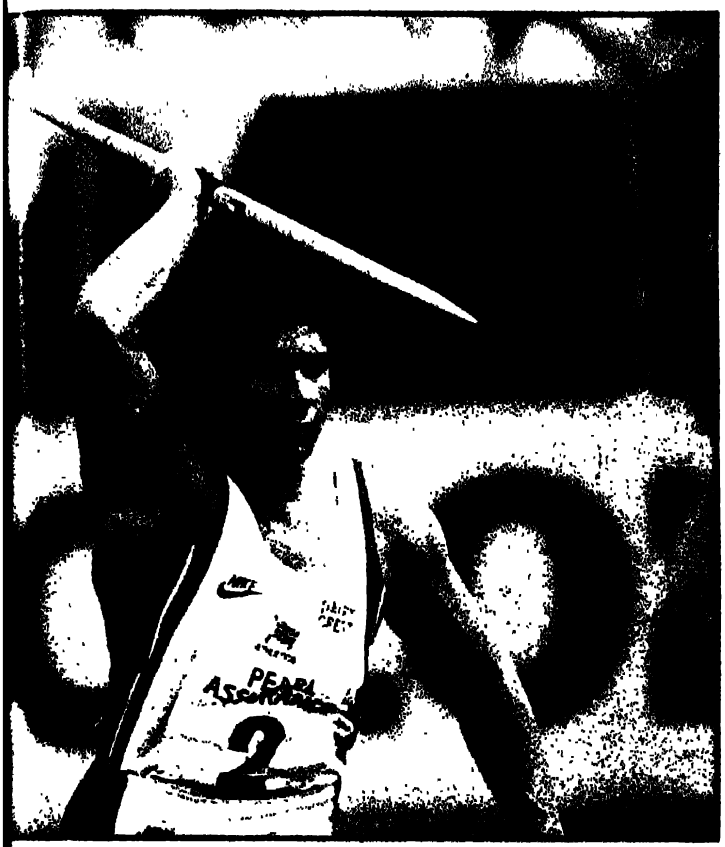
"I try not to think like that and push on thinking there is still a silver lining ahead." But this medically enforced break from athletics has given the female version of Thor a different perspective to sport. "For so long I was blinkered to anything outside athletics after 14



And there's nothing better than golfing around if you want to have a swinging time



A lesser competitor would have perhaps given up the ghost when a second shoulder operation appeared finally to have ended a glorious chapter in world sport. Add to that a couple of barbs by a fellow competitor: read Miss Sanderson, and Whitbread realised that she forgot to carry along her oxygen tank when she plunged into the depths of despair...result, asphyxiation!



Whitbread's ready for the hunt and she might just be making her last kill

started working on behalf of some athletes in the marketing, advertising and promotional fields, and this has played an important part in coping with not competing."

Whitbread now plays squash, golf and swims a little. She views it as a way of getting ready for the day of reckoning. Before the injury forced her out, she played the odd game of squash, but now she lines up the males—several of them county standard—to play against her. She took up golf six months ago. "The golf swing and squash are not far removed from throwing the javelin," she admitted. Her fitness rate has now crept up to around 80 percent and fortunately for her javelin throwers can go on till their mid-thirties.

"I won't know whether I can defend my world title in Tokyo until mid-summer. I plan to take part in some small, low-key meets, hopefully alongside some of the top men," she explains. But nothing less than the thought of returning exhilarates her. To compete among the best and if sheer determination and willpower form part of this exciting package, then she'll be there at Tokyo and throwing her brains out.

COURTESY: ASIA FEATURES
PHOTOGRAPHS: ASIA FEATURES

A little bit of squash helps get Fatima's injured arm into shape



FATIMA WHITBREAD'S

BACK IN THE HUNT

ears as a senior international." This hange has allowed her to develop an interest for nything sporty, but utside the athletic irole. "Playing other ports has made me elaxed and more onfident. Now I realise there is more to life than just athletics, and I know a time will come when I will have to go out into the real world." The truth is, that she's already taken a few faltering steps towards reality.

"In fact, I've already

Often, our biggest challenge i

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OUR GOAL : SHELTER FOR ALL

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THE CHINA SYNDROME



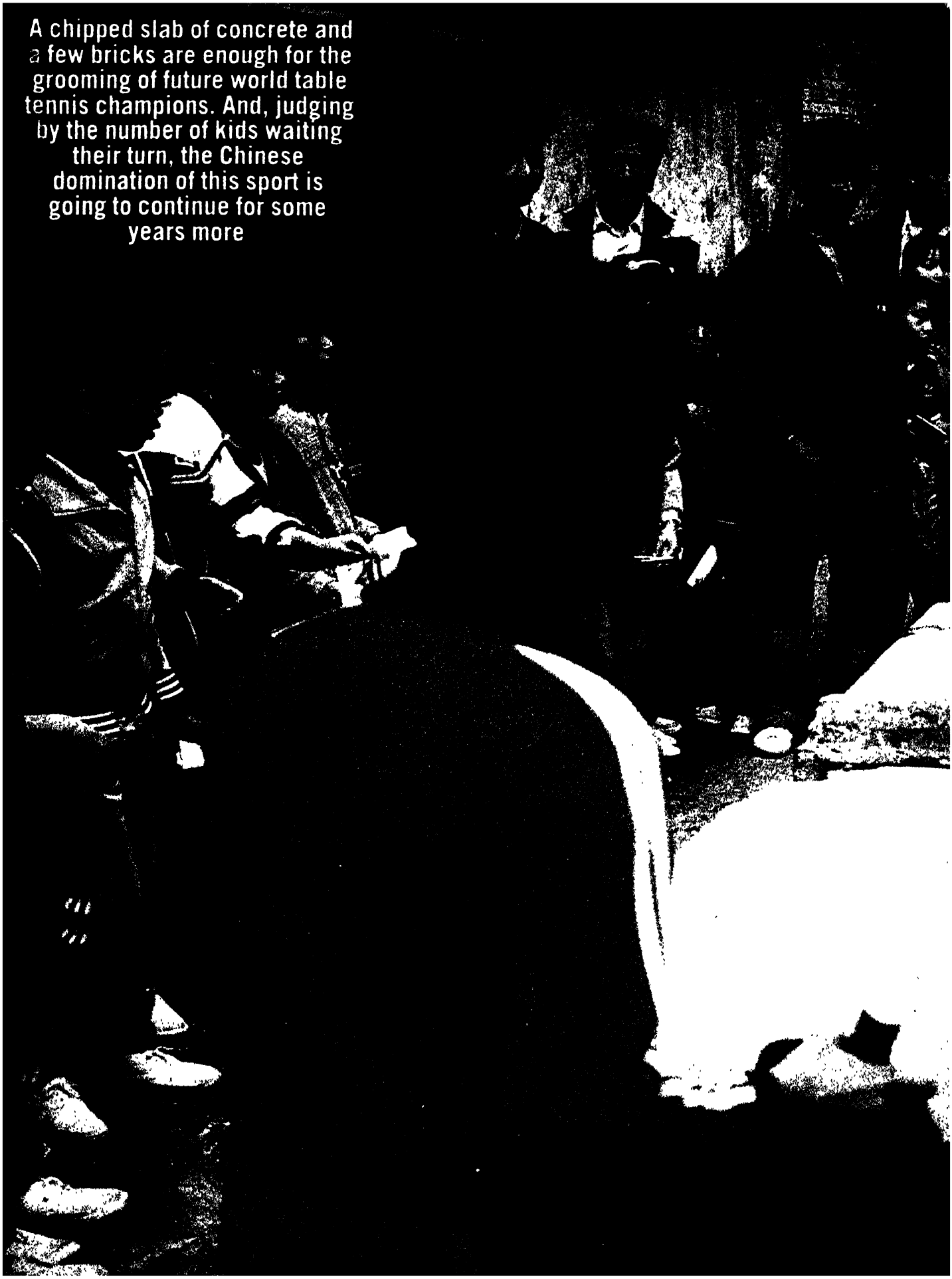
PHOTO FEATURE

Ever wonder why the country of the Great Wall produces so many champions? Here's why...

(Left)
The next time you marvel at a slim Chinese girl pirouetting on some gymnastic apparatus, remember this visual of a child grimacing as she pits her frail self against gravity. The corns and calluses might be painful (inset) but the thought of Olympic glory is incentive enough

(Right)
No, this isn't the latest style in tying shoelaces. It's just a breathtaking example of the standard of fitness the Chinese way of life epitomises





A chipped slab of concrete and a few bricks are enough for the grooming of future world table tennis champions. And, judging by the number of kids waiting their turn, the Chinese domination of this sport is going to continue for some years more

freewheeling

IGNORANCE they say is bliss. But ignorance can also be quite annoying. Take the case of my wife. The other day she rang up saying that some of her colleagues wanted to know how many goals Calcutta had won by. The information she actually wanted was how Bengal had fared on the last day of their Ranji Trophy quarter-final against Karnataka. Now try explaining to someone like *that* how Bengal won thanks to the 'quotient rule' even though they had scored less runs and lost more wickets than their opponents.

Which reminds me of last weekend, when she condescended to sit and watch BBC's hour long programme on the 'Sports personality of the year (1990) award.' She liked the accompaning music she claimed. Bet you, she was waiting for a glance at Gary Lineker's legs.

But what foxed her was how Paul Gascoigne was named the personality of the year. "What did he win?" was her question.

"Oh, his team finished fourth in the World Cup and he did very well in the tournament," I managed.

"But he didn't win anything!" she insisted.

"His team won the fairplay trophy in Italy and he won the hearts of many people." I tried.

"But how can he be the person of the year if he hasn't won anything at all?" she persisted.

Which got me thinking. True. The Yanks love winners...as long as they are winning. But the Brits; oh boy, they just *love* losers. How else can you explain the massive media-hype for Eddie Edwards the skier who's only claim to fame was fear. At the last Winter Olympics he claimed he was scared to death everytime he stood at the edge of the ski jump. The Brits thought it was the greatest thing on earth; admitting his fear and yet doing it.

Or Frank Bruno. The gentle giant who hung around for five rounds against Mike Tyson and walked away a millionaire demi-God.

Or Linford Christie. The sprinter who has more second place finishes than the Beatles had hit records.

He is hailed and heroworshipped in Britain as the fastest man...in Europe and the Commonwealth. Ha, big deal. I bet you couldn't even name three world class European sprinters. So, every time Linford goes up against world class opposition you can bet your pants that he'll finish second. That seems to be his destiny. Why, at the Seoul Olympics although he finished third in the 100m he was awarded the silver medal after Ben Johnson was disqualified. And Linford mind you, is so cheesed off with coming second that the other day when American sprinter Leroy Burrell beat him for the sixth successive time, Christie was so humiliated by Burrell looking back at him that he threatened to kill the American. Burrell was unperturbed. Cos' it wasn't the first time a bad loser, was threatening to kill him.

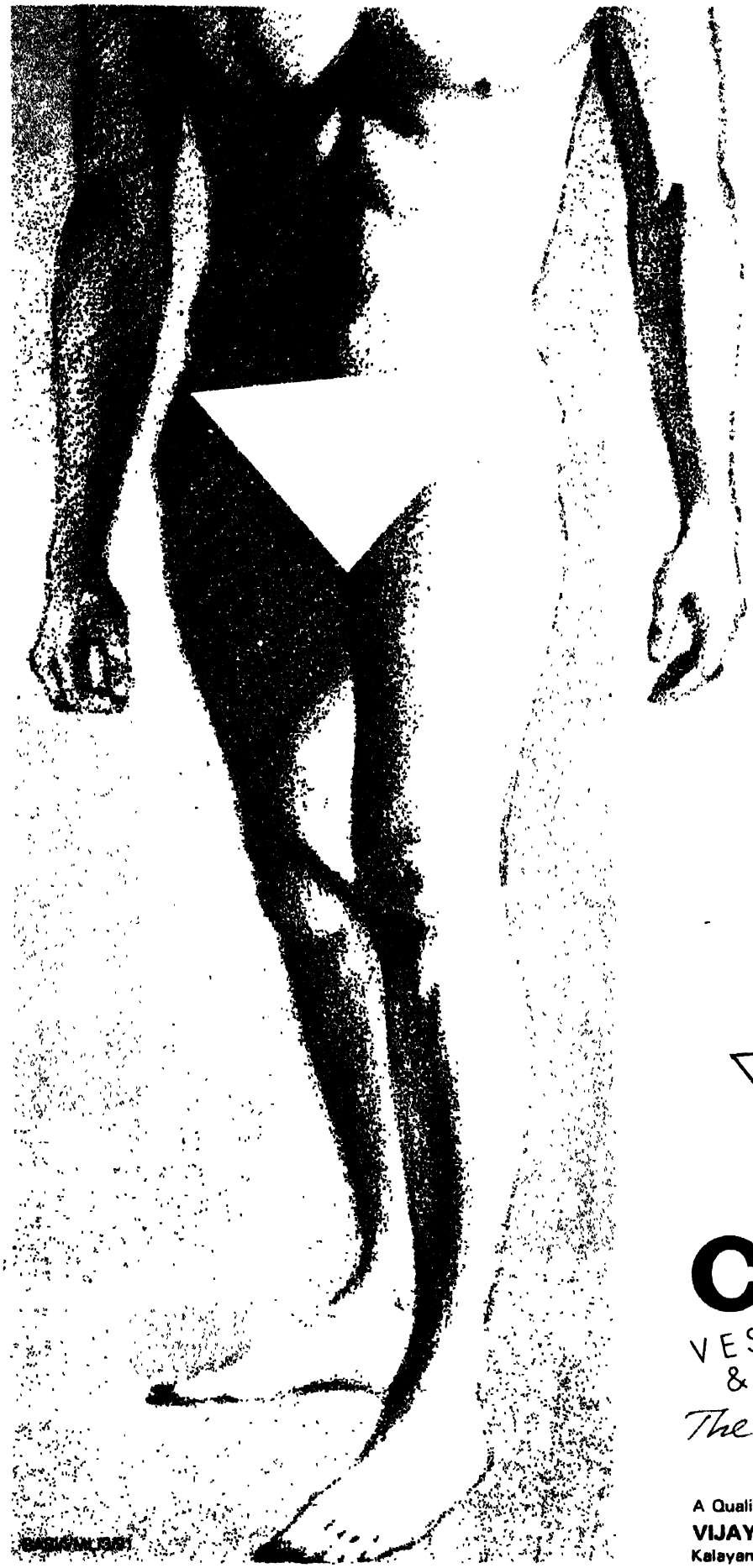
Second again, Linford!

However, rumour has it that Christie's 'deaththreat' has elevated him to even greater starstatus in Britain. And if my wife wants to know why, I've got my answer ready. At least one Englishman's got the guts to take revenge for Salman Rushdie.

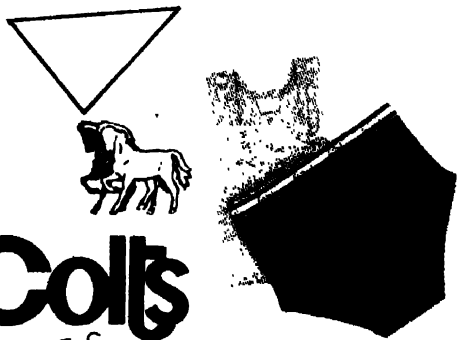
Andy O'Brien

Linford Christie in disguise in Iceland in case he is recognised as the man who always finishes second





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Sportsworld





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FREE POSTER: ALLAN BORDER

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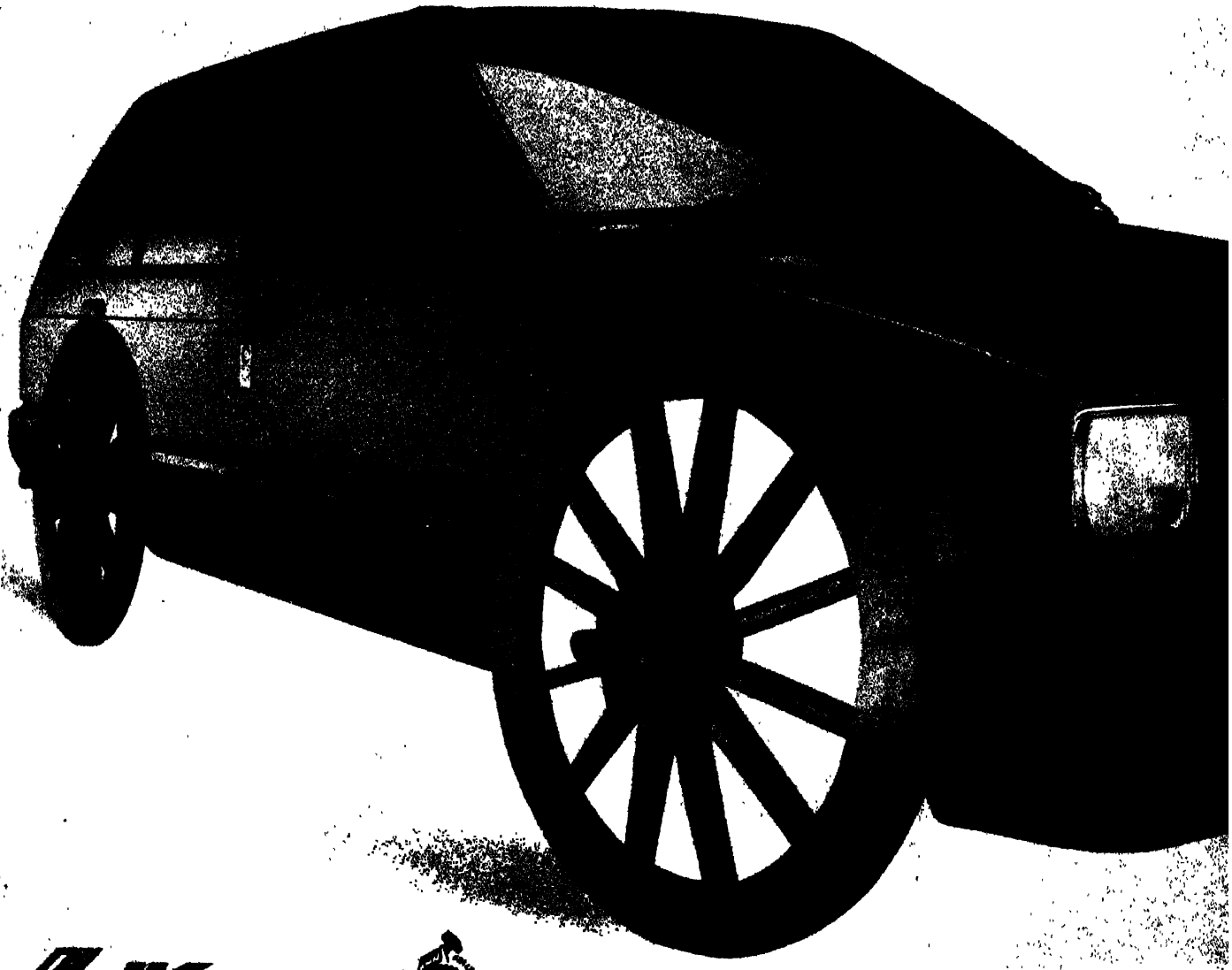
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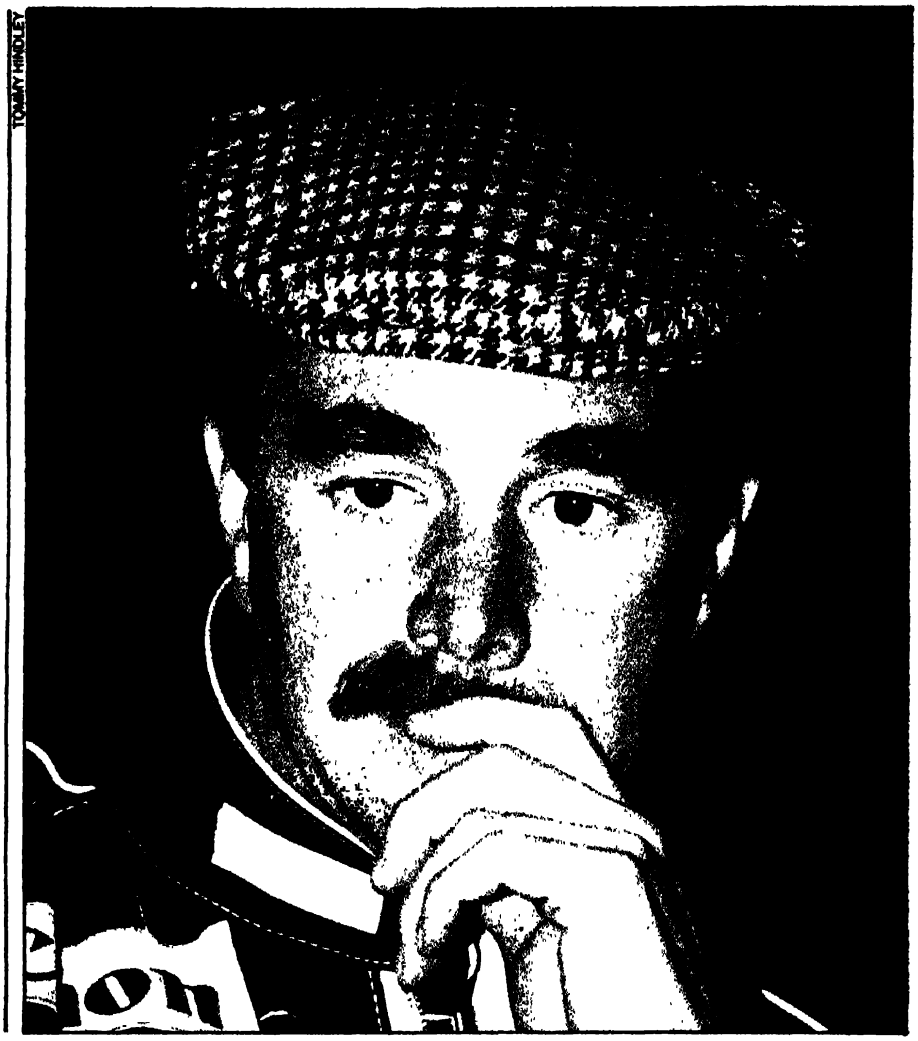
JK TYRE

VOICES

"I have had my fair share of heartaches and disappointments, but I'm going into this season in the most positive way I have gone into a season in recent years. It was an incredible commitment to come back. Everyone thought I was messing them around, but I can tell you that anyone who knows me, knew that I was telling the truth."
NIGEL MANSELL, after he rejoined Williams from Ferrari.

"I feel at times I can control it better than others but I am not going to make any excuses and rationalise it. I can't think of anything positive coming out of my behaviour. It's like smoking cigarettes and you can't stop."
JOHN McENROE, on the emotional tirades that have made him the bad boy in tennis of the decade.

"The other advantage England have got when Phil Tufnell is bowling is that he isn't fielding."
IAN CHAPPELL makes a tongue in cheek review of Phil Tufnell's fielding capabilities.


TOMMY HINDLEY


COLORSPORT

"You fall into a black hole, and I was afraid of that hole. It's horrible. That deep valley after the euphoria, that self destructiveness almost made me prefer staying at No. 2, to having to go through all of that again."
BORIS BECKER, in an interview on his emotional letdown after his oncourt triumph.

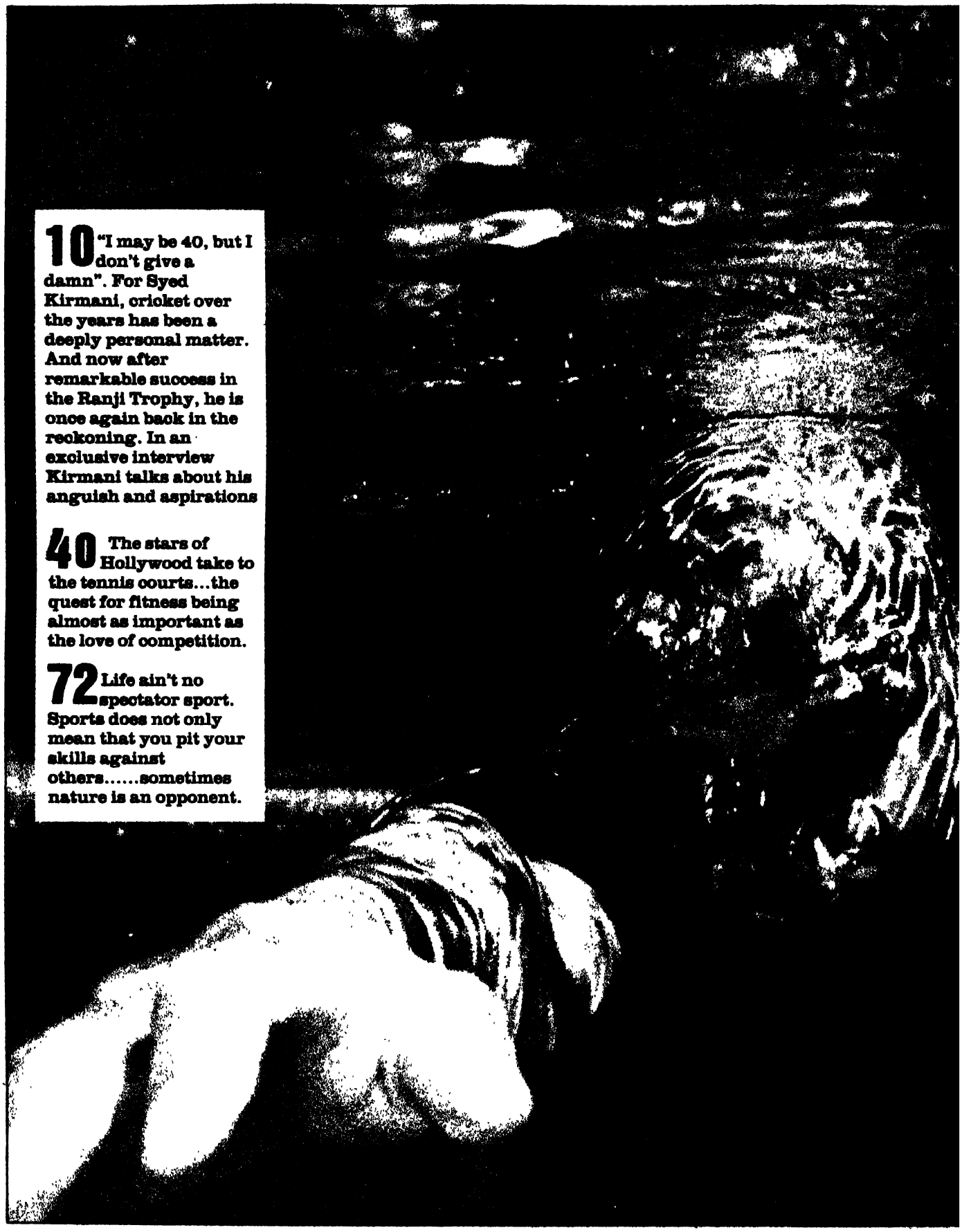
"It is definitely harder to stay at the top than to reach it. My contract with Inter has another two and a half years to run. Barring injury, I shall still be playing when I am 34 or 35. Then I intend to stay in football as a talent scout and adviser, or as a manager."
LOTHAR MATTHAEUS, now on the pinnacle of success, makes known his future plans.

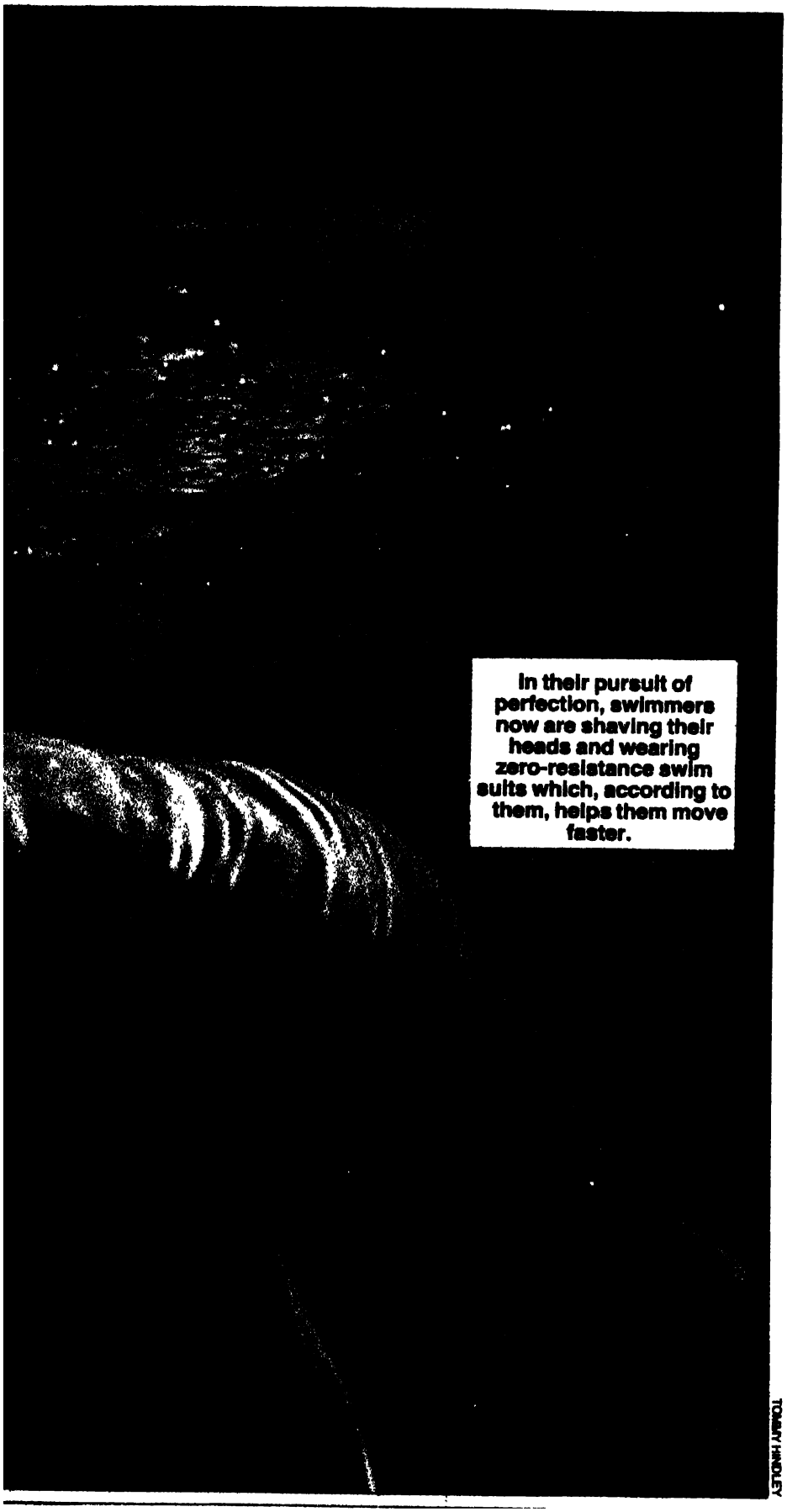
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40 The stars of Hollywood take to the tennis courts...the quest for fitness being almost as important as the love of competition.

72 Life ain't no spectator sport. Sports does not only mean that you pit your skills against others.....sometimes nature is an opponent.





TOMMY HINDLEY

In their pursuit of perfection, swimmers now are shaving their heads and wearing zero-resistance swim suits which, according to them, helps them move faster.

Sportsworld

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NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

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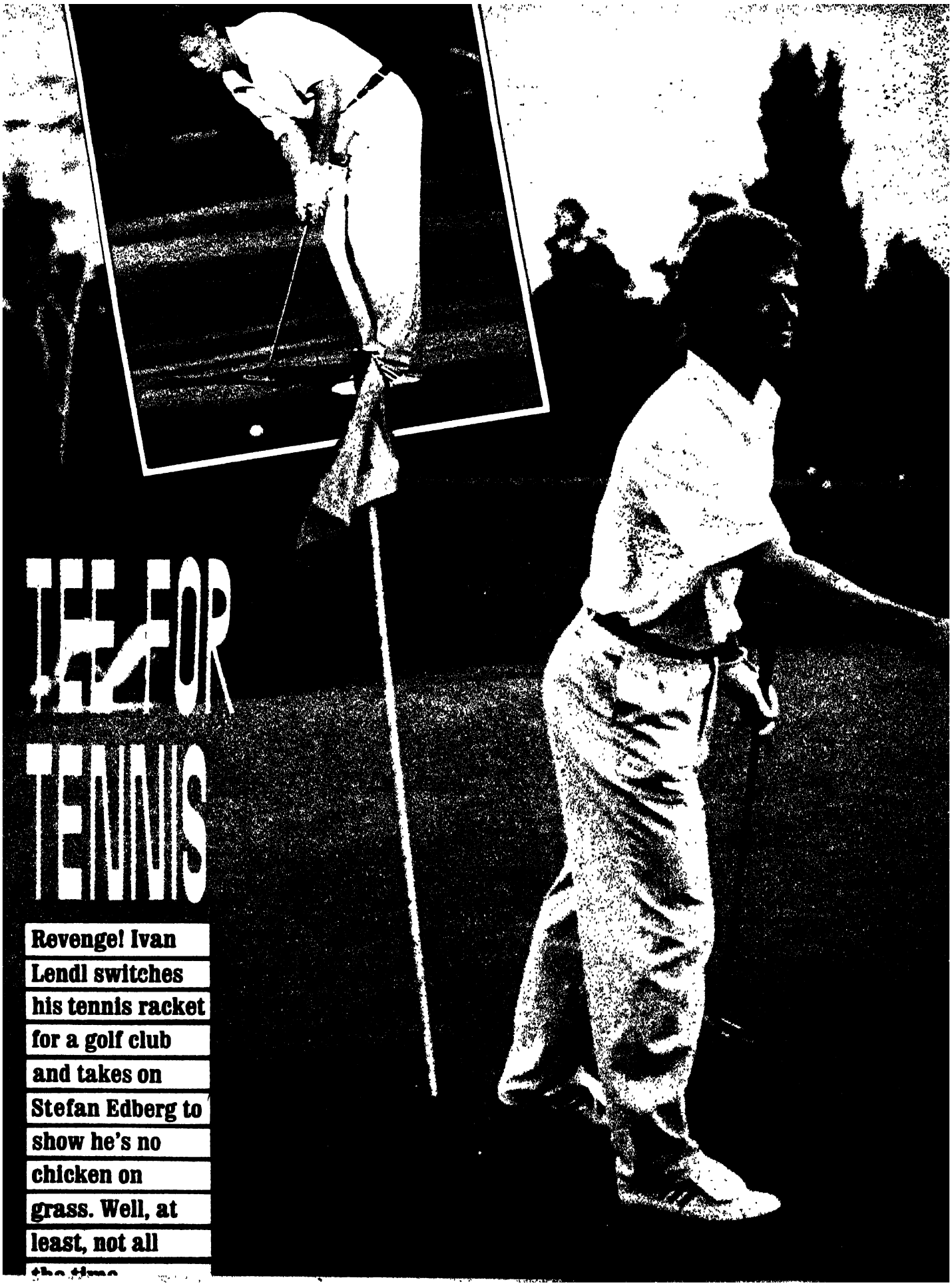
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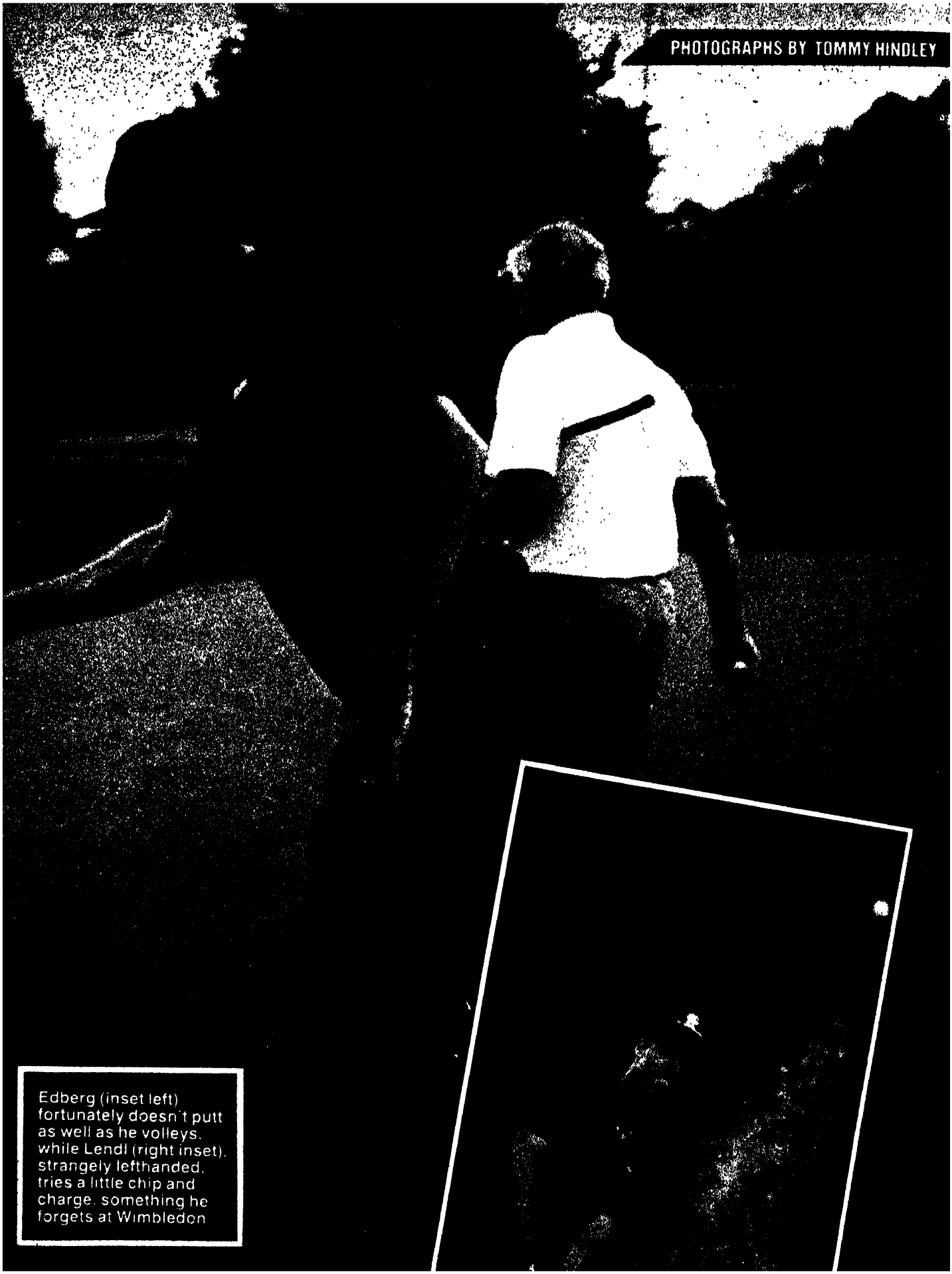
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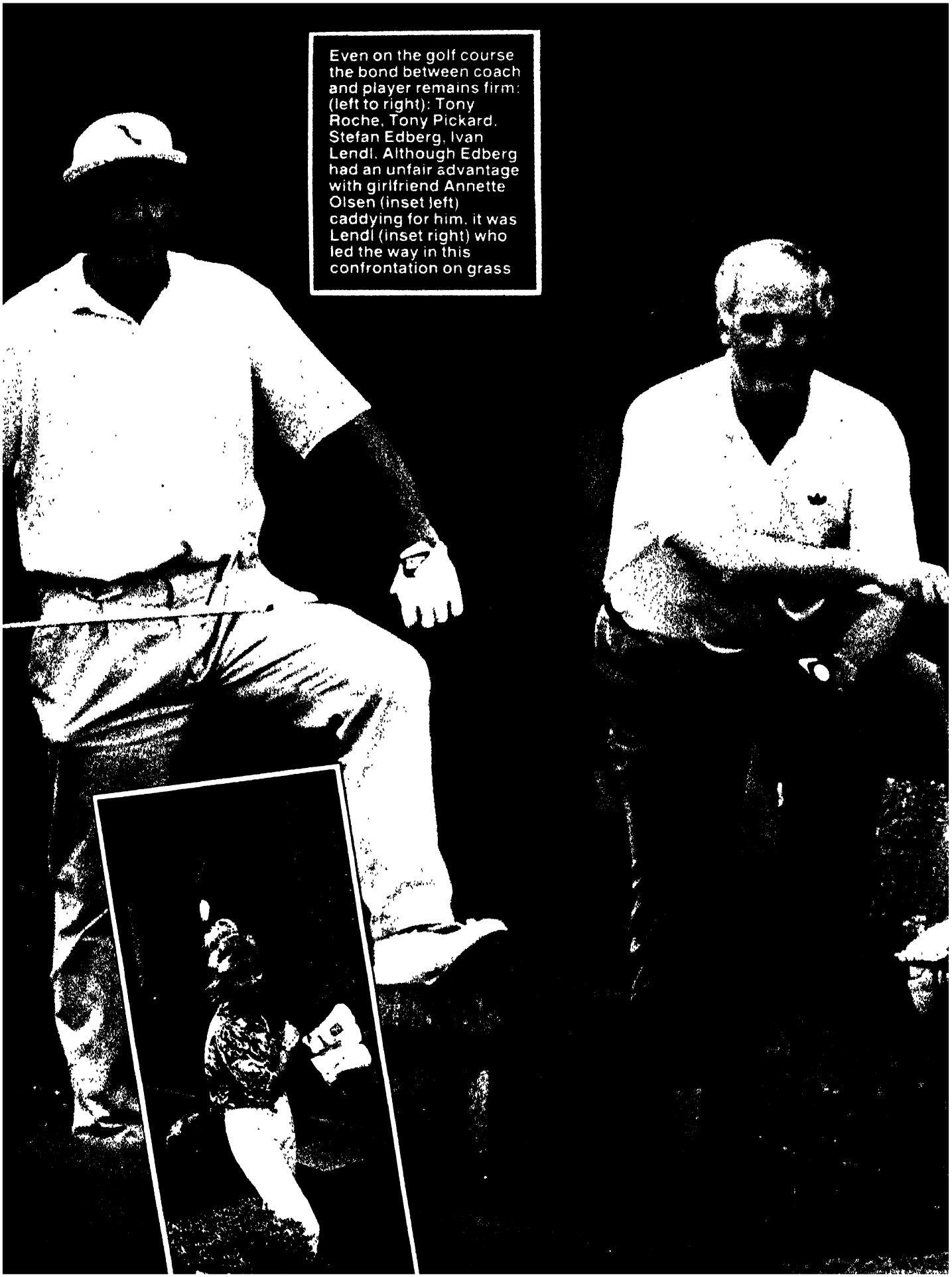
TEE FOR TENNIS

Revenge! Ivan Lendl switches his tennis racket for a golf club and takes on Stefan Edberg to show he's no chicken on grass. Well, at least, not all



PHOTOGRAPHS BY TOMMY HINDLEY

Edberg (inset left) fortunately doesn't putt as well as he volleys, while Lendl (right inset), strangely lefthanded, tries a little chip and charge, something he forgets at Wimbledon



Even on the golf course the bond between coach and player remains firm: (left to right): Tony Roche, Tony Pickard, Stefan Edberg, Ivan Lendl. Although Edberg had an unfair advantage with girlfriend Annette Olsen (inset left) caddying for him, it was Lendl (inset right) who led the way in this confrontation on grass



SYED KIRMANI...

'I MAY BE 40, BUT I

BY SUPRAKASH GHOSHAL

There are few talented people on earth who can reconcile easily to the tragedy of not having lived up to their fullest potential. Especially those who are convinced their enormous possibilities were disrupted in midpassage not by their own incompetence, but injustice, the legacy of which never ceases to hurt...



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

DON'T GIVE A DAMN

LIKE most other people he too is so gently nostalgic, when memory takes him back to his past moments of glory.

But then, as he thinks of his past, almost begins to relish the images of lost splendour, his thinly bearded jaw suddenly stiffens, the nostrils flare, the eyes light up with simmering, suppressed anger, as his listener shares with him a surging gusto of combat. Challenge. Frustration.

There are few talented people on earth who can reconcile easily to the tragedy of not having lived up to their fullest potential. Especially those who are convinced that their thriving careers, their enormous possibilities, were disrupted in midpassage not by their own incompetence but injustice, the legacy of which never ceases to hurt.

And tragically, in the case of Syed Mujtaba Hussain Kirmani, never before did the pain strike more fiercely than it has now, after the remarkable success that he has shown in the recent Ranji Trophy. "Well, it does hurt to realise that there remained a long way ahead of me, which I could not traverse for no fault of mine. As far as my cricket is concerned, a whole range of possibilities remained unfulfilled even though I continued to be just as loyal to my cricket and just as



K. SRIKKANTH: Kirmani has been performing very well of late; so why should he not be eligible to make a comeback? It should not matter if a person is 40. If a player is fit and is scoring runs, taking wickets or keeping well, he should be picked. I personally feel Kirmani has got a good chance of making a comeback. I really don't want to comment on whether he is the best 'keeper in the land or not.



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

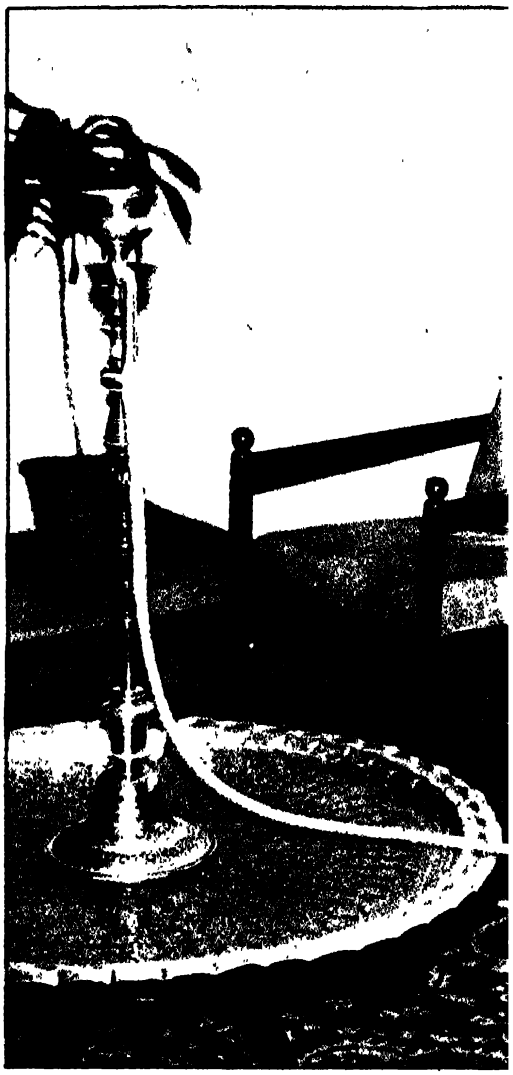


KAPIL DEV: *Kirmani is playing very well. On the basis of his performances he should be selected for the tour to Australia. I have heard and read that he is keeping and batting well and with good consistency. He was among the top 'keepers of the world, so he could make a comeback. Age should not be considered, if a player is fit and is in form.*

effective in my performance as ever before. And yet my cricketing life now faces a rather sad epilogue which it did not deserve."

It is evident that cricket to Syed Kirmani has always been a deeply personal matter, which he always cared for so intimately, as the game in its turn came to evoke in him a variety of emotions. To him cricket over the years has become duty, craft, challenge, enthusiasm. And that is exactly why he could overcome his deep, searing frustrations and managed to keep himself so sternly fit.

For, he has always been so deeply concerned to perform—that guiding light to his life is important, for it explains





the fact that even now hardly anyone ever records him doing his job untidyly, unprofessionally. Even now, at around 40, his esssential strength and coordination are reflected in his almost impeccable wicketkeeping and in his unhurried, but unwavering movements at an age when most men are at least somewhat shaky.

It is sad, though, that he has been so little seen.

Maybe, dignity in cricket does not necessarily depend on the number of years over which one can stretch his career; it is excellence that should always be the leading light, and in that context the sad significance of Syed Kirmani is that he is still the very best wicketkeeper in this country and yet remains banished from the hallowed circle of

BINDU ARORA





BHARATH REDDY: *Kirmani is fit and seems to be performing well. Age should not be a criterion, only fitness and performances on the field. So I feel that even at 40 Kirmani is certainly eligible for a comeback. Whether he is the best 'keeper in the land I really can't say, for I have not seen much of him recently. But he has got runs and from all accounts he has been keeping well. I feel he should make the trip to Australia along with Kiran More as it is a long tour involving many matches.*

top-class cricket.

Syed Kirmani last played for the country on the 1985-86 tour to Australia. The most successful Indian 'keeper, Kiri has 198 victims from 88 Tests and has scored 2759 runs. In one-day cricket he has made 49 appearances, scored 373 runs and has 36 victims under his belt. Only Rodney Marsh (96) and Alan Knott (95) have played more Tests and made a greater name for themselves than Kirmani.

Remarkably consistent in his cricket away from the limelight of the international arena, Kirmani, now poised between frustration and optimism about a possible Australian tour, tells *Sportsworld* of his life in exile and his long, lone struggle for survival and excellence...

Sportsworld: At 40 years of age,

To him cricket over the years has become duty, craft, challenge, enthusiasm. And that is exactly why he could overcome his deep, searing frustrations and managed to keep himself so sternly fit. For, he has always been so deeply concerned to perform---that guiding light to his life is important...

NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA



Kirmani: then and now

do you still hope and think you have a claim for an Indian berth?

Syed Kirmani: I don't give a damn to my 40 years. My date of birth is none of your business. Not anybody's, for that matter. What you should be bothered with is my utility and my performance. And you should also believe in the overriding legitimacy of merit, which means the best gets top preference, no matter how old he may be. You show me another man doing better than I in my job as a wicketkeeper-batsman. If you find none, honestly, you should give the best man his due It's simple If you don't do that then that's unfair,unprofessional.

But how does one get around this age problem? There has to be a cut off point. Ageing is a serious problem in sport, isn't it?

Well, as a professional game, the existing system in Indian cricket is like unfair working conditions. I'll explain. Ideally, there should be one single criterion—quality and competence. Now if you don't believe in that, the Board should have a fixed retirement-age. Otherwise, how do you solve this problem. If you have a fixed retirement age, then you can say, well since this guy is past the statutory age limit, he's out, no matter how good he is. But if you don't have a system like that how can you decide whether a man is too old, especially when his performance remains as good as ever before. If a player's performance betrays his age, shows his declining physical prowess, chuck him out, without hesitation. But if performance is not important to you, and you do not have a statutory age limit on the other hand, then how do you decide just how old is too old in your reckoning? Today, even when I'm performing just as well as ever before, they are saying my 40 years is too old for an Indian berth. But then they could have

'My date of birth is none of your business. Not anybody's for that matter. What you should be bothered with is my utility and performance. You should also believe in the overriding legitimacy of merit'...Kirmani



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

'I should not be talking too much about myself, but it is there for everyone to see that given the circumstances and all the factors involved there should be nothing unusual for a guy like me to make a comeback'... Kirmani

Kirmani's Adversaries

How good are they?

IN all likelihood, two wicketkeepers will be taken to Australia next season, for the simple reason that India's tour Down Under is going to be a long one. And so, even though he is unlikely to be the first choice, Baroda's KIRAN MORE could still make the trip. More's performances over the last 15 months or so have not been top drawer, but his experience (35 Tests and 64 one-day Internationals) may see him through.

The selectors have been giving More a long rope, right from his debut at Lord's in the summer of 1986, though, unfortunately he appears to have used it only to hang himself. Or almost. This writer has seen More on two of his last three full tours abroad—Pakistan in 1989-90 and England last year. To put it mildly, he was disappointing. One understands he was not much better in the intervening tour, to New Zealand, too.

But why has he been persisted with? Because the selectors chose not to look at others. At least, not look hard enough. The benefit of the doubt has always been in More's favour. As one of the selectors recently put it—mind you, not quite convincingly—"Look, More was the sole gloveman in both Pakistan and New Zealand. And that did affect his performances. That's why we took two 'keepers to England."

By this logic, More ought to have excelled. Instead, he allowed Gooch to script history at Lord's. Other English batsman, too, thrived under his generosity.

The pro-More lobbyists repeatedly emphasise that he chips in with useful scores. Fair enough. But isn't wicketkeeping a specialist's job? And, in any case, More has only got five 50s. So, what's the big deal, anyway?

Still, because the selectors have been soft towards him, the 28-year-old More cannot be written off. Not yet. Even though he has provided little cheer in recent times.

BIHAR's SYED SABA KARIM, though only 24, is vastly experienced, thanks mainly to his first-class debut as an under-15 in the early Eighties. But, somehow, he has not caught the selectors' eyes often enough. It's true that he went as More's deputy to the Windies in 1988-89, but got few opportunities there.

While no one is claiming the bearded Bihar vice-captain has the hottest pair of gloves in the country,, the fact remains he definitely merits a better deal. And if getting runs is a plus point, then he has got an advantage. Some weeks ago he struck a double hundred against Orissa.

He wasn't exceptionally tidy in Bihar's recent quarter-final against Hyderabad, but didn't do a bad job on what was a vicious turner. In my notebook, he is very much in the running for the second 'keeper's job.

Delhi's MOHAN CHATURVEDI, now 19, was spoken of only in laudatory terms at the beginning of the last season. But when the arc-lights held him in focus during the Ranji final at the Eden Gardens, Chaturvedi kept so badly that his supporters were totally embarrassed. But for that messy showing in an admittedly needle-game, Chaturvedi, who has kept for India at the colts' level, would have gone to England.

Why Chaturvedi, rated so highly by none other than the



The selectors have been giving More a long rope, right from his debut at Lord's in the summer of 1986, though, unfortunately he appears to have used it only to hang himself...

Asian record-holder Wasim Bari, let himself down remains a mystery. Nevertheless , he should be taken into account as he's regarded as one of the few 'naturals' around.

THE other youngster in the reckoning will be Baroda's NAYAN MONGIA, More's deputy in England. That More also hails from Baroda is a disadvantage for him as opportunities are few and far between. But Mongia capitalised on the openings that came his way last season, and so not many eyebrows were raised when he was picked for England.

Despite the limited exposure, Mongia appeared to have profited from encounters with the legendary Alan Knott. And on the eve of the present season it seemed Mongia would gain from More's lapses in England. But then came the high-profile season-opener, the Irani Trophy in Bangalore, and Mongia fumbled in the presence of the entire selection committee.

Had Mongia done well in Bangalore, he, and not More, would have donned the national gloves in this season's only Test, against the Lankans in Chandigarh.

It is unlikely that any gloveman outside these four can give any competition to Kirmani who undoubtedly is still the front-runner for the berth of the first wicketkeeper of the Indian team for Australia. But, then our selectors have sprung surprises. Who knows, the Five Wise Men may actually stump us all...

Lokendra Pratap Sahi



PATRICK EAGAR

Nayan Mongia: In the reckoning



Saba Karim: vastly experienced

said that when I was 29 years old. It's an absolutely arbitrary and subjective thing to decide how old is too old.

You said there is no one performing better than you. Do you mean the present players, to be specific Kiran More, is not good enough or inferior to you...?
Well, I don't want to be personal. And I would not like to make any comment on this. That won't be in good taste. But I would expect everyone, the selectors, the press and just about any cricket watcher to keep their eyes open and be objective. It is all there for everyone to see. Just be honest and recognise the truth.
You left Karnataka for Railways, because you said your state was using you as a batsman which you did not like. But now your success with the bat in the Ranji Trophy has enhanced your claim for a return to Test cricket...
Oh, yes, it has. But the fact is I see myself more as a wicketkeeper than anything else. I cannot bear it when I see the slightest possibility of sliding down from

Kirmani's comeback hopes are just gossip page masala, nothing more...

SYED KIRMANI's recent success on the domestic circuit with the bat—a century against Bengal in the Ranji quarter final—appears to have seduced the media into believing that Kojak can well make a comeback. Kirmani told the press that he was optimistic. If I was 38 and keeping wickets for a living, I'd be more confident of my son's chances of playing for India than my own. Whatever that means.

Kirmani argued that age should not be a deterrent; he was fit; his ability was still to his advantage and theoretically, why should he not play for India?

If optimism was a horse, then Kirmani would have been riding the Derby. Let's face it, his desperate-to-come-back statements are good gossip page *masala*, nothing more. No malice intended. Reasons: one, age is inversely proportionate to appearances for India and whether one likes it or not, the graph dips alarmingly beyond 35. It is a particularly Indian mentality that youth is the panacea for all our headaches; Raj Singh's policy guidelines of a team for the Nineties and investment in youth cannot have helped Kirmani's insomnia.

Two, wicketkeeping may be a highly visible office on the field but it has few tangible measurements. A wicketkeeper may put in a perfectly normal day behind the stumps, missing nothing while not being required to do anything spectacular either. On the scorecard it wouldn't register at all, as opposed to a batsman whose streaky 50 would be labelled 'useful' and two lucky wickets turning an analysis of 10-3-21-2 into 'vital'.

But for a wicketkeeper there would be fewer black-and-white badges of success; he takes longer to prove; he seldom replaces another wicketkeeper because he is keeping *better*; as a result, the turnover of wicketkeepers is low; a bowler may come and go, but a wicketkeeper stays on a longer-term basis.

The two factors are interconnected in Kirmani's case. If you push him into the Indian team now, you give him a lease of at least a couple of series/years unless he keeps atrociously (unlikely). By which time SMHK would be 43 and going by selectorial allergy for middle-age, they'd have to get rid of him for a 21-year-old from some vague state whose name you would never have heard before. So it always happens.

Sometimes, as it transpires, pure wicketkeeping ability does not remain the sole criterion. Selectors start sniffing for the extra-curricular. If the wicketkeeper can bat, then there's a stronger case for his retention/selection. Indian cricket has taken to the Theory of Utility with a vengeance; more limited-overs specialists



are in circulation now than perhaps ever in the history of this country's cricket; batsmen can bowl a bit, tail-enders seldom have an old-fashioned slog these days, being exhorted to 'build' innings and frustrate the opposition. This limited-overs mentality has made serious batsmen out of wicketkeepers; just a couple of seasons ago, Sambaran Banerjee promoted himself as an opener and hit a century in a Ranji semi-final.

There have been numerous instances of wicketkeepers doubling as successful batsmen. Leslie Ames applied to Kent as a batsman, was refused, was advised to apply as a wicketkeeper instead, made the grade, went on to play 47 times for England, effected 97 dismissals behind the stumps—and hit 8 centuries, average 40.56.

Godfrey Evans retired with 219 dismissals and two Test centuries; Alan Knott bettered the record with 269 victims and five centuries, and was acknowledged as one of the better players of spin bowling in the England team. Rod Marsh made 3 Test centuries and lifted the number of Test dismissals to a new high—355.

Yet the important criterion for getting the Test halo must always be sheer wicketkeeping ability. Choose your best wicketkeeper and rest content the instructional manuals tell us. Australia opted for Wayne Phillips as a stopgap and regretted; Pakistan almost went in for Taslim Arif over Wasim Bari but turned wise; England in the late Fifties experimented with Roy Swetman for the Ashes series of 1958-59 over Godfrey Evans and found the young man dropping catches ad breaking the stumps before collecting the ball.

On the other hand for 'keepers with genuine ability, you have Bertie Oldfield who, when he stumped you, operated as if with an anaesthetic, said Cardus; there was the anonymous Don Tallon, rated by Sir Don Bradman as the greatest-ever; you had the likes of Godfrey Evens who stood up to Alec Bedser so that if the batsman wanted to jump out and drive he would be scared of missing the ball, and if he stood entrenched and tried to play from his eyrie, the batsman - ended up doing something stupid.

Perhaps I sound like a heretic, but one SMHK rubs shoulders with the 'greats' in cricket's hypothetical heaven. The mind's eye can see Kirmani rolling over to his right to catch Bacchus off, who was it, in the World Cup final; catch Gower off Madan Lal in the World Cup series; and stump Walters off Doshi at MCG in 1980-81.

I don't watch enough of cricket these days to be able to say whether the Kirmani of 1991 is still the Kirmani of vintage, but the hunch is that even if he is, the selectors won't let him be. Let us passively toast our memories and be content.

Mudar Patherya

Kirmani argued that age should not be a deterrent; he was fit; his ability was still to his advantage and theoretically, why should he not play for India? If optimism was a horse, Kirmani would have been riding the Derby...

'Forty years is definitely not the end of the world, especially for someone who has the motivation' ...Kirmani

that identity. And that's why I have always been so dedicated to my job, keeping extremely fit, keeping my concentration intact. And still now my whole cricketing dreams centre around my wicketkeeping. The batting success has come as a bonus.

What is the secret of your keeping so fit at this age?

First you please get rid of this obsession with age. Stop this 'at this age, at this age, at this age' nonsense (irritated). Forty years is definitely not the end of the world, especially for someone who has the motivation and who goes regularly through the fitness grind. You watched me play at this Ranji Trophy final for the last two days. Did I look tired, exhausted, as if my knees were creaking? No, definitely not, I'm sure (visibly angry now).

And think of it, they chucked me out almost 10 years ago, when logic says that I must have been even fitter than I am now

Records show that many of the world's greatest wicketkeepers have done quite well late in life...

Yeah, but in India, who cares? I should not be talking about myself too much, but it is there for everyone to see that given the circumstances, and all the factors involved, there should be nothing unusual for a guy like me to make a comeback. ●

Interesting snippets from the world media that we don't normally hear about...

SPORTING TRIVIA

HUNGER STRIKE

FOURTEEN qualified coaches of the National Institute of Sports have launched an indefinite hunger strike in protest against denial of employment by the Maharashtra government.

The State government had denied them jobs since 1983 despite 65 vacancies. They alleged that 14 NIS coaches were recruited, mostly from Satara district, the home town of the sports minister, Sham Ashtekar. The State director of sports and youth services, R Pradhan, said that the selection was done on merit.

And while this dispute is being sorted out the unemployed NIS coaches are going about their normal business, i.e, being hungry!

OVERHAUL THE IHF

KAPIL DEV and his company, Dev Features are diversifying at an amazing rate. The latest venture that has been undertaken is the sponsorship of the Federation Cup Hockey Championship.

Kapil Dev and his associate Lokesh Sharma met the vice president of the Indian Hockey Federation, Mohammed Aslam Khan to finalise the rupees five lakh deal. Kapil Dev has assured the organisers, Aslam Khan and former national coach Jaman Lal Sharma, that they would help out in other matters apart from providing sponsorship for the tournament.

The tournament to be held in Lucknow has run into a little problem because the IHF have yet to approve of the clubs for participation which is a new concept based on the Federation Cup Football format. A very upset Jaman Lal Sharma has had the last word on this matter, he said, "As a cricketer Kapil Dev has done a great thing by sponsoring a major hockey tournament, but mere sponsorship is not going to overhaul Indian hockey....one needs to overhaul the IHF!"

Deepak Sharma

Aslam Khan and Kapil Dev discussing the five lakh sponsorship deal



DEEPAK SHARMA

BOLLYWOOD CRICKET

ALTHOUGH Bombay had a variety of sports from professional golf to some classy snooker, which tournament offered the highest prize money? If you guessed the first two, you are wrong because the highest prize money of rupees two lakh was up for a tennis ball cricket tournament. Crazy, isn't it!

The money for this night cricket tournament came from Bollywood with the main contributor being Mithun Chakraborty. His logic was that he wanted to give his poor fans from Chembur something to shout about.

The tournament which started at seven in the evening and ended at two in the morning was graced by Madhuri Dixit, Dharmendra, Jackie Shroff, Aamir Khan, Mazhar Khan, Govinda and Rahul Roy.



SAMIR SINGHA ROY

Film Star Mithun Chakraborty was the main sponsor of the tennis ball cricket

Unfortunately the Kapoors were absent for this tournament which was held in Raj Kapoor's memory as they were in Pakistan shooting for *Henna*.

The tournament was telecast live over the neighbourhood cable network and around 12,000 people turned up at the Subhash Maidan to see the cricket (or the stars). Two Bombay teams made it to the final and Rahul XI won the tournament and a cash prize of rupees one lakh. Sanjay Manjrekar, who was there during the final was impressed with the standard of the game.

TRACK FOR ONE

IT looks like the first synthetic track of Bombay has been made especially for Zenia Ayrton. Well at least it seems so, because at the inauguration a national level athletics meet was held and Zenia clocked 11.8 sec the State's fastest time in the 100 mts. She has also been seen every day at the track practising for the hurdles with veteran journalist, John Crasto. He has a lot of confidence on his protege and says that she is a very resilient athlete and will achieve a lot in the future.

P.V.J.Kar

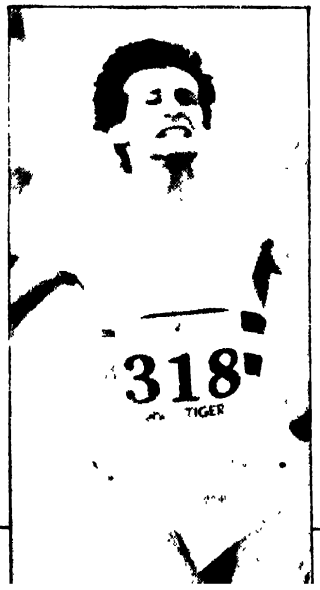
MONEY FOR RUNNING

SEBASTIAN COE, 34, England's double Olympic 1,500m gold medallist, is to come out of retirement to compete in the London Marathon. Coe who quit full time athletics a year ago to concentrate on a political career was lured back by the prospect of raising more than $ two million for charity. Coe who has never run the marathon's 42 km distance before said, "I will be happy to get under three hours, but I will be even more pleased just to finish the course."



VIJENDER TYAGI

Journalist John Crasto is training Zenia Ayrton for the hurdles

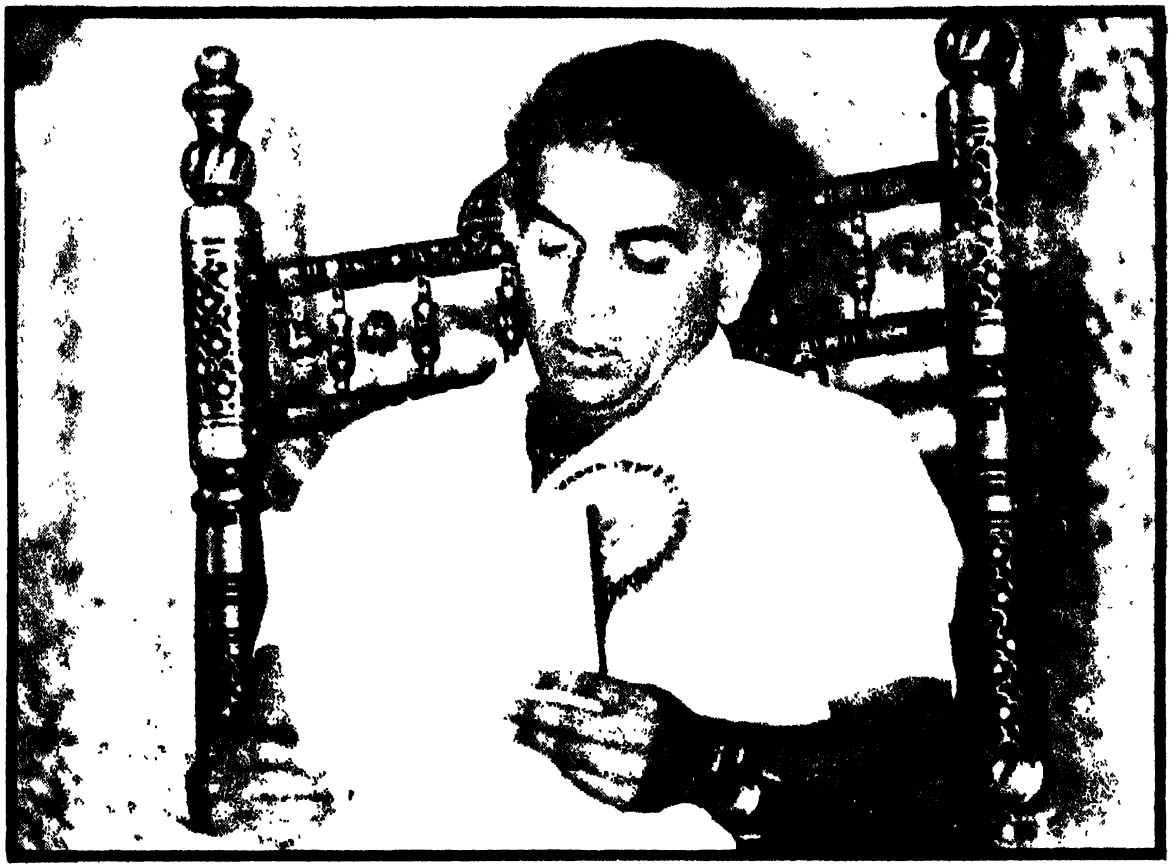


Seb Coe is coming out of retirement to run in the London Marathon

ON ICE

THE ice skating rink in Kuwait city was turned into a mortuary by the Iraqis. The rink, host to Russian ice ballets before the invasion is where the Kuwatis, worried about missing relatives, were sent to look among bodies heaped under blankets.

10,122



When Sunil Gavaskar crossed the momentous 10,000-run mark in Tests, four years ago it was thought to be an unbreakable record. But the Master batsman had admitted then, that if there were batsmen who could erase his record it would be Viv Richards, Javed Miandad, Allan Border and David Gower. Ironically over the last few months all four of these batsmen have crossed major run-getting landmarks, (Javed, Richards and Gower the 8,800-run mark and Border the 9,000-run mark) and moved closer to Gavaskar. What kind of danger do each of these contemporary batsmen pose to Sunil Gavaskar's world record of 10,122 Test runs?

Ahmedabad, March 7, 1987. The third day of the fourth Test between India and Pakistan A delectable late-cut eludes the slip cordon and history is made A smile. A wave of the bat. And Sunil Manohar Gavaskar runs (pardon the pun) into the annals of cricketing folklore.

10,000 Test runs! They said it could never be done. Now they asked, could anyone ever do it again? Sure, felt the hero himself. "Yes, it is possible," Gavaskar ever-graciously admitted, adding "for others like Javed, Gower, Richards and Border to get to 10,000 and beyond "

BY PRADEEP PAUL

A HUNDRED and twenty two runs later, Gavaskar himself was history. The fiery passion that kept his eyes glued to the ball, even when it travelled from wicketkeeper to slip to mid-off and back to the bowler, was flickering The intense concentration that was the bane of bowlers all over the world was wavering. As the man himself put it· "I'm not, hungry anymore".

Why should he be? More runs than anyone in Test cricket; more centuries than anyone in Test cricket; more Test appearances than anyone . and God knows how many more 'mores' or 'firsts'. As Gavaskar undid the straps on his pads for the last time, cricket struggled to come to terms with the loss. Here was a man who had charted hitherto unexplored terrain. A man who set his own goals .only to reset them almost the very next time he went out to bat. His achievements were reserved for the portals of immortality.

Or were they? Now, barely four years later, we are analysing the feasibility of Gavaskar's Test aggregate being eclipsed. Such is the authority with which batsmen like Allan Border, Javed Miandad, Viv Richards and David Gower have asserted themselves that the 10,122 run barrier suddenly appears surmountable. The question is: can they stick around long enough to get there?

In the lead, in this four-pronged race, is the Australian skipper Allan Border. Having just



AP

Border's pugnacious style might not be attractive, but it sure is effective



The lazy elegance of Gower has broken surface...and a small triangular fin is aimed at the 10,000-barrier



Corn

PATRICK EAGAR

crossed the 9,000-mark—9,013 to be precise--during the first Test of the current series against West Indies, he's almost a thousand runs clear of the next runner, David Gower, flying high on 8,081, thanks to a superb Ashes series in Australia. Snapping at Gower's heels, as he is wont to do, is Javed Miandad of Pakistan with 8,064. And finally, Viv Richards the West Indian skipper with 8,053. Four men from four different continents, highly individualistic in style, temperament and approach. Gavaskar's four, if you want to call it that.

Allan Border. Short, stocky and left handed. Gritty beyond belief. Hasn't let poor form or ill health bench him for any of the 118 Tests Australia have played since 1978-79. Hasn't even let a century-famine, that dates back to his last 24 Tests, disillusion him. Instead, he has stuck to the task



THE GAVASKAR SUPERIORITY

APPROXIMATE AGGREGATE IF THEY PLAY 125 TESTS AS GAVASKAR DID

	TEST REQUIRED	APPROXIMATE AGGREGATE
BORDER	4	9500
GOWER	11	9000
MIANDAD	16	9900
RICHARDS	13	9100

Note: The assumption is subject to each player playing two innings of each match on the basis of current form.

RECENT FORM

RECORD IN LAST THREE YEARS

	M	INN	NO	RUNS	AVGE	HS	C	S
BORDER	26	42	10	1639	51.21	113*	1	17
GOWER	18	35	4	1292	41.67	157*	4	4
MIANDAD	17	24	—	1443	60.12	271	5	4
RICHARDS	17	25	1	945	39.37	146	4	6

Note. While the record of Gower and Richards is considered from the 1988 series in England, that of Border and Miandad is taken from the beginning of 1988-89 series in Pakistan. [Updated to before the start of the West Indies - Australia series.]

All statistics compiled by Ravi Kant Srivastav

Will age clean bowl Richards before he gets to the magic mark?

with amazing consistency. the same 24 Tests having produced over 1,500 runs for him. Always leading by example, Border has refused to let captaincy shackle him. This pugnacious approach could hardly be classified as attractive, yet he remains devilishly astute. Clever prods and flicks bring the runs while a watertight defence thwarts anything a devious bowler might toss up. At 35 years and seven months of age, he's certainly not planning on hanging around a cricket field much longer. But current run aggregate, sheer consistency and his exemplary fitness make him the most likely candidate to overtake Gavaskar's landmark. Who knows, maybe the lure of a 1,000-odd runs is enough incentive to keep a greybeard in his flannels a little longer than originally planned!

David Gower. Tall, slim and left handed, the epitome of elegance. Enormously stylish. But frustratingly lackadaisical. Watching him at the wicket, a certain langour permeates through the proceedings. It's almost as if this laid-back attitude is a carefully thought-out ploy to lull tearaway pacemen and fiendish spinner alike. Time almost seems suspended as his blade scythes through a perfect arc to virtually caress the ball to the fence. Timing is what Gower is all about. Going by current form, Gower is certainly a man to watch for the record. Still surprisingly young at 33 years and 10 months, his last 14 Tests have got him four centuries. But for the many Tests he has missed out on—first because of his self-imposed ban on touring with the English team and then due to poor form—there's no saying where he would have been on the rungetter's list. Still, he's back in top gear now...and raring to make up for lost time.

Javed Miandad. Swarthy and right handed. An

HOW CLOSE ARE THEY

TOP RUN GETTERS IN TESTS

			T	I	NO	RUNS	HS	AV.	100	50
1)	S. M. GAVASKAR	(I)	125	214	16	10,122	236*	51.12	34	45
2)	A. R. BORDER	(A)	121	207	37	9,013	205	53.02	23	51
3)	G. BOYCOTT	(E)	108	193	23	8,114	246*	47.73	22	42
4)	D. GOWER	(E)	114	199	16	8,081	215	44.16	18	38
5)	J. MIANDAD	(P)	109	165	18	8,064	280*	54.86	22	39
6)	I. V. A. RICHARDS	(WI)	112	168	11	8,053	291	51.29	24	38
7)	G. S. SOBERS	(WI)	93	160	21	8,032	365*	57.78	26	30

Note: All the four men of our story are in the top seven and will surely move past Boycott at least by the end of the year These figures are updated to the first Test between WI and Australia in Kingston played last week

out-and-out hustler. Paul Newman and Tom Cruise must have watched videotapes of Miandad's antics on a cricket field before filming *Colour Of Money*! Will use every trick in the book—and a few besides- -to get runs. But that cannot deduct from the man's obvious brilliance. Ingenious improvisation, an eagle eye for gaps, and morale-shattering running between the wickets have got him over 8,000 runs from the 109 Tests he has played since his early debut in 1976-77! Even now, having been horribly out of form and carrying a back injury, Miandad still boasts the highest batting average among all contemporary batsmen. This, despite the fact that his last nine Test matches have produced only 370 runs The youngest of the four at 33 years and eight months, and with Pakistan's captaincy awaiting him, this is one guy who is going to be around for some time . if he surmounts injury and his current lean phase And even if he gets beaten to Gavaskar's record by Border, Miandad still has enough cricket left in him to set about reeling in the Aussie captain.

Viv Richards Right handed and all muscle Personifies arrogance And has the talent to back it up Believes the ball, every ball, is meant to be hit...and hit hard. Anyone who has watched him step out in line with first slip and pompously despatch the ball to the square leg fence will testify to his calibre But then, similar displays of arrogance have also done him in cheaply. While there are those who feel that Richards was

PREDICTIONS

TO SURPASS GAVASKAR'S 10,122

	Runs needed	Approx Tests at rate of career Avg.	Approx Tests at rate of current Avg.	Approx years required	Approx age at that time
BORDER	1,140	22	23	4	39 years
GOWER	2,041	47	49	7	40 years
MIANDAD	2,058	38	35	5	38 years
RICHARDS	2,132	42	55	8	47 years

These predictions obviously on all factors remaining constant
Figures updated to before start of current Australia-WI Series.
The Approx are based on the average Test each team plays a year.



Miandad: an out-and-out hustler who might stick it out

incredibly lucky to have his fearsome pace battery aimed away from him, a career average of 51.21 is not to be sneezed at. However, a haemorrhoids complaint grounded him from the Pakistan tour and subsequent lack of form has clipped his wings to a paltry 26.1 average from the last 11 innings he has played. And with his birthday cake on March 7 struggling to balance 39 candles, Richards will be the first one to admit he's running out of time. Still, if that bludgeoning blade is on song, even 2,000 runs won't take too long. As things stand, he's anyway going to be spurred on by the prestige of being the third highest rungetter in Test history by the time the current series is over.

With the high number of Test matches being played nowadays, all these batsmen will be given enough opportunity to have a go at the magic figure. What matters, though, is their ability to stick it out till it comes along. Richards almost certainly seems out of the hunt, given his age and fitness problems. Gower is just too unpredictable. Miandad has it all going for him, provided he can get his back fit again. And Border will need some incentive to stick around for that long.

As for the accusation that some of these batsmen will have it easier than others because of the teams they play for, it doesn't hold any water. Many of the world's leading batsmen have acknowledged that it is more difficult to get runs against a poor bowling attack. Gavaskar himself admitting once that "the competitive edge to one's batting is not quite there as against the more renowned and feared attacks." They all say that the edge which keeps you sharp against the best attack in the world will automatically be dulled when you come up against a lacklustre attack and your first mistake is very often your last.

All said and done, 10,122 runs isn't looking as unsurmountable a target as it did four years back. Somebody—could be either of these four—is going to notch up his 10,123rd run someday. But then, they'll never have the pleasure of having broken the 10,000-barrier first. As Gavaskar put it, "if you permit me to be immodest, let me say that there are many who have climbed Mount Everest but the ones we remember most are Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay." Bingo! ●

Q in QED equals

QUOTIENT

BY RAJU MUKHERJI

FAR too much time and energy is being wasted in Indian domestic cricket on the issue of unfinished matches. Irrelevant logic and atrocious decisions seem to have become the lodestar of the Board's thinking capacity. The Board appears to take special delight in forming new rules every season only to dump them in the following. The revised ones not surprisingly, are no better.

Last year, the Board decided that the number of runs scored, divided by the number of wickets fallen would decide the winner (the team with the higher quotient). Little did they realise that if team A scores 1000 runs for 1 wicket and Team B scores 1 run for 0 wicket, by this rule, the latter team would win on the basis of the infinity quotient!

This year, the Board decided on the 'runs per over' quotient rule. Here, too, the problem of infinity quotient can easily arise if the team batting second does not get a complete over to face. Thus the rigmarole of accusations and counter accusations will continue.

Why can't we go for a solution that is simple and logical? If a match is abandoned before the start or mid way or even is left unfinished at the end of the scheduled duration, whether it be for 3,4 or 5 days, the simplest solution is a cricket solution and not a mathematical one.

And, the simplest would be a replay match of 45 overs each like a sudden death thing. But, mind you, there should be no restrictions of overs for bowlers nor any restriction in the number of fielders close-in or in the deep. In other words, it would be a limited overs match with the rules of the extended version of the game. However, the team for the replay match must be exactly the same as was for the original, unfinished match.

In this way, the mathematical calculation can be avoided. But, then, we must admit there is much to be said in favour of the statistical calculation to determine the winner of an unfinished match. The main defence plea would be that the individual performances of an unfinished match cannot be disregarded and so consequently the statistics of the match must also be counted upon to determine the winner.

The most prudent solution in this alternative case would be to calculate the bowling quotient, which is the runs scored by the opposition divided by the number of opposition wickets taken. Next, to calculate the batting quotient, which would be the runs scored divided by the number of overs batted. Then go for the



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

'combined quotient'. That is, the bowling quotient divided by the batting quotient. The team with the lower figure would be the winner.

However, one extremely important aspect has to be given a lot of thought. In any issue of 'quotients', the problem of the 'infinity quotient' can always crop up. To safeguard against this problem, the remedy is to divide by 11 wickets (and not 10) whenever a team is all-out. This would logically mean adding a wicket to the number of wickets fallen and inevitably give a divisor of 1 when a team loses no wickets. Thus the 'infinity quotient' can be avoided.

The above formula may appear to be somewhat confusing. Actually that is precisely the intention. For otherwise, simple calculation would invariably lead to time wasting tactics to gain an unfair advantage.

"The scoreboard is an ass" is a quote attributed to Sir Neville Cardus. Fair enough, but there is no denying that even the lowly ass has a very important role to perform if one knows how to utilise it. Cricket is luckier than most sports disciplines in the sense that it can utilise the scoreboard information in cases of extreme need to wriggle out of problems. Sports where 'penalty shoot-outs' and 'sudden deaths' take place are not as fortunate.

Bengal beat Karnataka in the Ranji quarters by the quotient rule



A NEW QUOTIENT FORMULA

How quotient should take into account team total, bowling performances, overs faced and wickets lost.

To find team A's quotient calculate:	$\frac{\text{Team A total}}{\text{Overs faced by Team A}}$ = X	and	$\frac{\text{Team B total}}{\text{Wickets lost of Team B + 1}}$	= Y
Then team A's quotient	= X/Y			
Similarly to find team B's quotient calculate:	$\frac{\text{Team B total}}{\text{Overs faced by Team B}}$ A	and	$\frac{\text{Team A total}}{\text{Team A wickets lost + 1}}$	= B
Then team B's quotient	A B			

Whichever team's quotient is lower is the winning team

NOTE: The plus one wicket is to avoid the problem of infinity

Now if we take an example of the Bengal-Karnataka Ranji quarterfinal played last month which Bengal won by the present quotient rule

Karnataka made 790 for six declared off 300 overs

Bengal were 590 for nine off 200 overs

NOTE: To make it simple to understand all figures are rounded off to even numbers)

So with our new formula lets see how it works out:

Karnataka quotient:	X -	$\frac{790}{300}$	2 65	Y -	$\frac{590}{9 + 1}$	59
	Y/Y =	$\frac{59}{2.6}$	19 (approx)			
Bengal quotient:	A	$\frac{590}{200}$	2.95	B	$\frac{790}{6 + 1}$	113
	A/B	$\frac{113}{2.9}$	37 (approx)			

Having a lower quotient Karnataka should have won based on this formula

CLASSIC INDIAN TURF INVITATION CUP, MADRAS 1991

Piggott's Paradise

Cyrus J. Madan writes on the hottest weekend in Indian racing, where Lester Piggott yet again displayed his unparalleled class

MADRAS racecourse was packed to capacity on the first Sunday of March for a weekend of truly Classic racing. Messrs. I T.C. Ltd. were playing the role of Corporate sponsors to the hilt, adding a touch of class to the two most important racedays in the Indian racing calendar and the Madras Race Club was packed to capacity. Few races generate the sort of all India interest that the Classic Invitation Cup produces and add to that the excitement of the Sprinters' and Stayers' Classics and it gives you two days of unparalleled excitement.

More than the equine talent that had arrived in Madras, the cynosure of all eyes was the legendary Lester Piggott, who had flown in to Madras at the invitation of Mr. Vijay Mallya, to ride three horses that belonged to him over the weekend. He was slated to ride Scorpio in the Sprinters', King Air in the Super Mile and Delage in the Invitation. Delage belonged to Mr. Vijay Mallya and Mr. Zavaray S. Poonawalla, and he was trained by Rashid Byramji.

Unlike the Indian Derby where any horse can enter for the race, the Invitation is an exclusive affair. Only those four year olds that are invited can take part. It's a race for the best horses from every racing centre and the winner emerges as the undisputed champion of his or her vintage. Run over the same distance of the Derby, the Invitation is the ultimate test.

Never had the Invitation worn a more open outlook and it reflected in the betting itself which showed that the field was available at three to-one and over.

Eleven horses from all over India were the ones that lined up eventually to face the Starter at the 2400 metre marker. None of them were fillies with the Indian Derby winner Starfire Girl deciding to give the Invitation a pass. But Bombay was still very strongly represented and after all the horses that were from there had



THE STAYERS' CLASSIC

Zara Shah: Champion Stayer

THE strains of *Que sara que sara* filtered through the stands as eight of the best long distance horses in the land made their way to the starting stalls for the second longest race in the country--the Stayers' Classic, run over a distance of 3000 metres. It seemed apt that the band was playing that old time favourite because that sums up racing so perfectly What will be, will be.

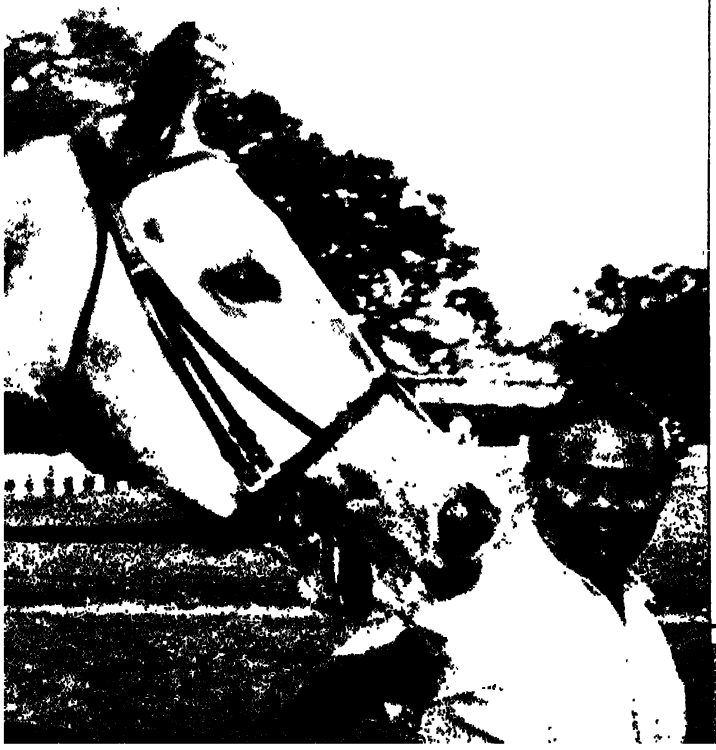
On paper, the race looked to be a one horse race for the Calcutta challenger Ich Dien. If he won he would become the first seven year old to win the Stayers' Classic and what a remarkable feat it would be, coming just forty minutes after another seven year old named Icelandic had won the Sprinters' Classic. He came with an impeccible track record but Lady Luck was obviously not smiling on Ich Dien. In the course of the race Ich Dien went lame and as a result, was eased out of things and eventually had to be pulled up.

But Calcutta was not to be denied. Even as they saw Ich Dien's chances fade, along came the other Calcutta challenger Zara Shah and he came romping home an effortless winner by over five long and easy lengths. Trained by John Stephens and ridden by Paul Burke, Zara Shah had been beaten by seven lengths in his last essay by Ich Dien but with his vanquisher out he produced a superb performance beating the best of the rest from all over the country.

There has been a lot said about Ich Dien breaking down in the course of the race, and his trainer Vijay Singh came in for quite a bit of flak as a result. However the criticisim was quite uncalled for. For one, a lot of people were talking through their pockets when making accusations Secondly if there had been something so drastically wrong with the horse, how come the bookmakers did not know about it With all the rumours that were flying around the place the odds on Ich Dien kept on shortening. Surely they would have lengthened had something smelt fishy. Thirdly, Ich Dien has always had a slight swelling on his joints. He had won a month earlier in Calcutta with the very same joint slightly swollen, which everyone was now looking at, like it had just swollen up. Last, but by no means the least, the track that afternoon at Madras was as hard as they come. A lot harder than anything Ich Dien had raced on in Calcutta. That too must surely have taken its toll.It's easy to be wise after the event but for young Vijay Singh who certainly knows his horses, it was obvious that the joint would not have bothered his horse because otherwise he would have been the first to have pulled him out.

In the midst of all this controversy and argument Zara Shah may not have received all that warm a welcome. But the commentator that afternoon obviously had a soft spot for the blue roan gelding who had just turned six. He called it in the race, "And it's Zara Shah for Calcutta who assumes command" and after that the rest will be history. Owned by one of the most sporting groups of owners in racing today, "the poker syndicate", Zara Shah is represented in ownership by messrs H.H. Sookias, V.K. Chaudhuri, B.M. Varma and Harish Gorsia. The first two named were there in Madras to witness the victory and it must surely have been their happiest moment since Zara Shah dead heated to share the Classic Calcutta Derby stakes two years ago.

Cyrus. J. Madan



Zara Shah, who took the Stayer's Cup

THE SPRINTERS' CUP

Icelandic Heat

A long cold drink with tons of ice would have been something that most people would have given their right eye for on a hot and muggy afternoon at Madras. "Ice" was the operative word which got you out of the heat and into the coolest mood you would ever know. All you had to do was put your money on a chestnut horse named ICELANDIC and your fifty rupee investment would have fetched you a cool grand. Of course, if you had asked the so-called racing pundits about Icelandic's chances they would have thought that the heat had got through to you. At the age of seven he appeared to have as much chance of winning a Sprinters' Classic as Saddam winning the War in the Gulf. Only five people thought that he could win and their judgement was looked upon by one and all as being totally biased. They were the three owners Mrs. P.D.D'Cruz, Dr. Ian D'Cruz and Mrs. Maria D'Cruz. The trainer Bobby Raj and the jockey Conway. The rest of the august gathering did not even know that a horse named Icelandic was running the Sprinters' Classic.

That is not until he shot into the lead about 300 metres from home and then held on gallantly to become not only the longest priced Sprinters' Classic winner since the inception of the race, but also the oldest. At the age of seven an age when most horses are considered to be also rans, well past their best, Icelandic produced his most brilliant performance yet to beat the odds and his younger adversaries in what was his greatest triumph.

The Sprinters' Classic, sponsored by Messrs. I.T.C. Ltd. and run over 1200 metres is for the equine breed what the 100 metres is to a track field sprinter. The ultimate in speed. with a Rs. 1,50,000 prize to the winner, it is the most valuable sprint in the country and only the very best sprinters in the land are invited to participate. Four representatives from each of the five Turf Authorities are invited for the race and this year a field of fourteen lined up to face the starter to determine who was to become the fastest horse on four legs.

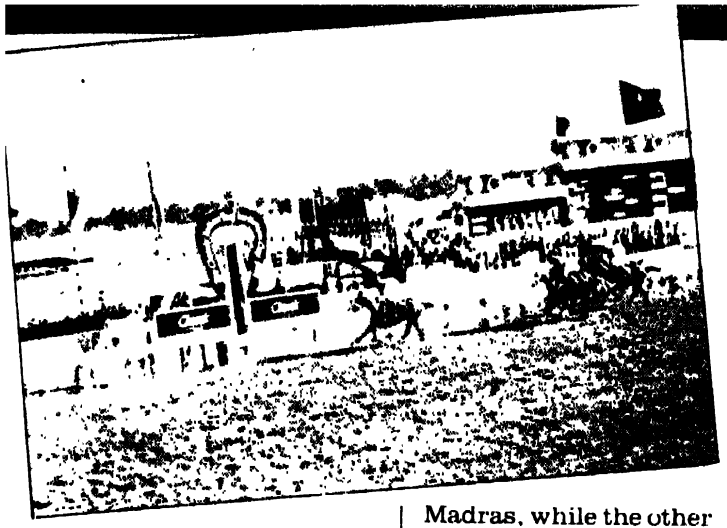
The main three horses in the betting were Sharp Response from Bangalore who was the favourite, Scorpio from Bombay with Lester Piggott in the saddle and Belle Epoque from Bombay who was making her last essay on a racetrack before going off to stud. Belle.Epoque was the first to be eliminated and that too without even taking part in the race. She had a bad fall after being stalled and was withdrawn on veterinary grounds. Sharp Response met with an almost similar fate and fell during the running of the race. Piggott got Scorpio out nicely indeed from a bad draw, but after that it was soon obvious that he was not travelling well and winning for him was out of the question. Eventually the best he could do was finish on the board.

It was in fact, three totally unfancied horses that brought the field into the straight. In front was Easter Sunday, on outside was Icelandic and on the wider outside was Aazish. With about 300 metres to go Icelandic hit the front and a shocked silence engulfed the vast crowd. Only a small pocket of five individuals seemed to be yelling. The five already mentioned. The silence became positively soundproof when another rank outsider Kalamaris detached himself from the rest and finished fast to be a gutsy second. Another 100 metres and he may have won, and that would have been an even greater shock than Icelandic.

Cyrus. J. Madan

Dr.Ian D'Cruz, Mrs.Maria D'Cruz and Mrs.P.D'Cruz receiving the Sprinter's Cup





Delage wins the Invitation Cup

all finished very close to the winner Within a length of her Hence their performance could well be considered on par with Starfire Girl From the host centre, Madras, came two nominees namely Bold Brother, who was actually located in Madras, while the other Captain Eo who won the South Indian Derby was actually from Bangalore In fact it was the garden city that had a very strong contingent. Star Contender who had won the Bagpiper Bangalore Derby in late January, Delage who was narrowly beaten by Contender in that race was also there and both



Vijay Mallaya receiving the Invitation Cup from Tamil Nadu governor Bhisma Narain Singh

were considered to have outstanding chances. Calcutta had Romantic Dancer and Sandbagger both of whom had come down with very high hopes and all in all the eleven that ultimately faced the starter represented the very cream of Indian horseflesh.

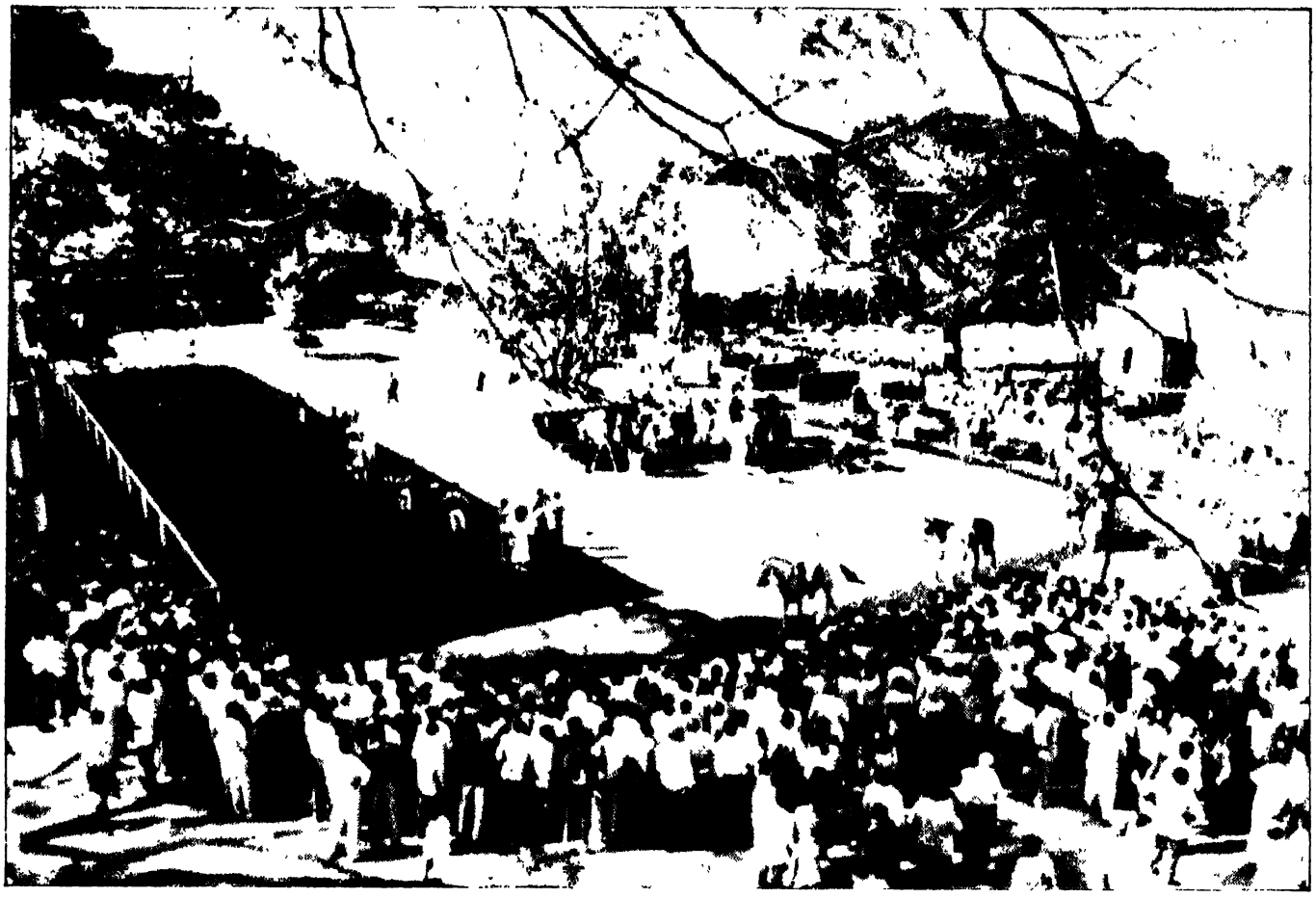
A slight delay in the start of the race led to the horses being paraded in the paddock for a far greater length of time than anyone would have wanted and that might have created a few problems as four or five of the contenders were bathed in sweat by the time they left for the racetrack. Once they got to the gates, loading operations took hardly any time at all and within minutes all eleven were stalled and ready to go

A roar went up as the gates clanged open and the eleven were away and running. Bold Brother was the first to show out setting a scorching pace which was to prove the undoing of many a fancied horse He was playing the role of the pacemaker to the tee. In fact such a strong gallop did he set, that Captain Eo who was the pacemaker for Delage and Starfire Boy could not even get to the front.





Lester Piggott receives his award from the governor



The parade of the prize horses which ran the Invitation Cup

At that early juncture, Delage with Lester Piggott astride was lying last well off the pace, quite unperturbed with the mad scramble that was threatening to run them all off their feet in the early stages. Delage in fact was beautifully settled and Lester sat unmoving on him. Romantic Dancer was just about a few lengths ahead of him while the other fancied runners like Starfire Boy and Star Contender were further up much closer to the leader.

The order remained somewhat unchanged until heads were turned for home and then the entire scenario changed abruptly. Bold Brother



Super jockey Lester Piggott astride champion horse Delage

who had led the contingent into the straight chucked in his hand and it was Ashwamedha who went storming into the lead with Starfire Boy and Star Contender coming up to essay some sort of a challenge on the outside. But neither was going to get to Ashwamedha who looked like he had it all sewn up. It was then that Lester transmitted his message to Delage. He hardly moved on him but Delage seemed to get the message all right and what a magnificent manner he replied. With Lester guiding him through along the rails he came the shortest way home and the stands erupted in deafening applause because they saw the genius of Piggott, and the brilliance of Delage who had responded and produced a performance that was befitting a champion.

Romantic Dancer from Calcutta was second, but he would gone a lot closer to the winner if Bajrang Singh had ridden a better race and of course, if Lester Piggott had not been on Delage.

But you could not take anything away from Delage that day, he was quite simply the very best. Trained by none other than maestro Rashid Byramji, Delage gave stallion Lord Zara his second success in two days. The best though, it seems, is yet to come.

PHOTOGRAPHS:
GEORGE FRANCIS/SCORP NEWS

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. What is common among Imran Khan, Norman Cowans, Allan Border and Sanjay Manjrekar?
2. During the World Cup in 1990, against which country did English goalkeeper Peter Shilton break the record of Ireland's Pat Jennings for most appearances in international matches?
3. What was common among Costa Rica, Cameroon, Republic of Ireland and the United Arab Emirates during Italia '90?
4. To whom is the Charles Solomon Trophy awarded?
5. To whom did Indian tennis ace Vijay Amritraj dedicate his autobiography?
6. What is common among Andre Agassi, Jennifer Capriati, Michael Chang and Mary Joe Fernandez?
7. Which was the first world championship sporting event to be held in India after the country attained Independence?
8. In the Olympics, there is no official record time maintained for the discipline of rowing. Why?
9. Which cricketer's autobiography is titled, "On the rack"?
10. Which tennis player is called the 'Gentle Giant'?
11. In tennis, after the Amritrajs' of India and the Sanchezs' of Spain which other family has three members playing in the professional circuit?
12. Whose autobiography is titled, "Giant Steps"?
13. What is the total duration of a kabaddi match?
14. Name the trophy awarded to the winner of the Asian Table Tennis championships in the women's doubles category?
15. "Coca Cola won over the Parthenon temple". To what event does this sentence refer to?

RATING TEST

Above 14: Wish you were part of our team
Between 11 and 14: You are not too bad
Below 11: Sportsworld reading recommended.

ANSWERS

1. They formed four landmarks in Sir Richard Hadlee's record wicket taking career. Imran Khan was his 100th victim, Norman Cowans his 200th, Allan Border his 300th and Sanjay Manjrekar his 400th Test wicket.
2. In the group match against the Netherlands.
3. The coaches of all these teams were from other countries. The coach of Costa Rica was from Yugoslavia, the coach of Cameroon from the USSR, the coach of Ireland from England and the coach of the U.A.E. from Brazil.
4. It is awarded to the best performer in the World Bridge championships.
5. To his parents.
6. All of them are children of immigrants. Agassi's father emigrated from Iran, Capriati's from Itlay, Chang's parents came from Taiwan and Fernandez's father from Spain while her mother came from Cuba.
7. In 1953, the World Table Tennis championships were held in Bombay
8. Because water conditions vary so much from one games venue to another. Therefore a shorter or longer time may have no meaning
9. Former captain of England, David Gower.
10. Andrez Gomes of Ecuador.
11. The Maleeva family from Bulgaria-Manuela, Katarina and Magdalena
12. Kareem Abdul Jabbar.
13. 40 minutes.
14. The Violet Surita trophy. It was donated by Pearson Surita in memory of his mother.
15. Greek Minister for Culture Melina Mercouri said this after being disappointed at the decision of the International Olympic Committee to hold the 2000 Olympics at Atlanta.

THIS QUIZ IS COMPILED BY:
[illegible]
C/O STANDARD CHARTERED BANK
CLIVE ROW BRANCH
[illegible]
CALCUTTA 700 001

All answers sent in by the contributor

FAMILY AT WAUGH!

Steve Waugh is dropped so that his twin, Mark Waugh, can be picked, and mother Beverley doesn't know whether to laugh or cry. **Trevor Grant** writes on cricket's most unusual family



JUST after the dinner plates had been cleared away and the Waugh family was settling down to a night in front of the TV, son Steve walked in the front door with news of the team for the fourth Test at Adelaide

The conversation between Steve and twin brother Mark went something like this

Steve: 'Well done, you're in the team.'

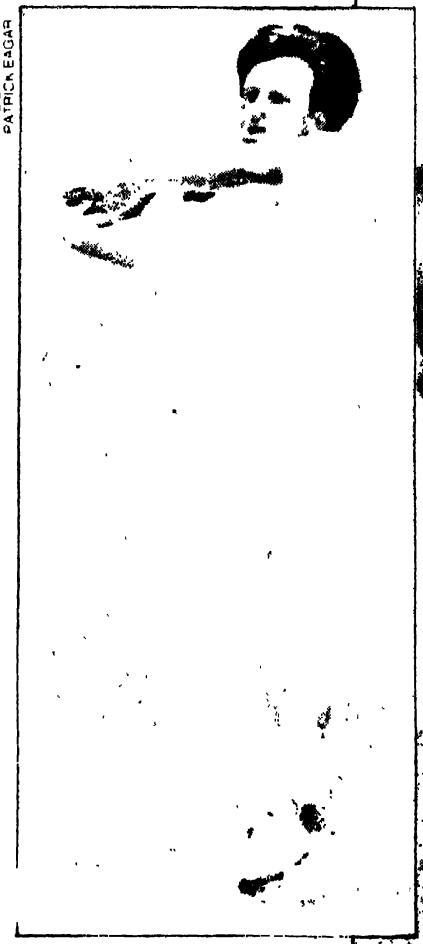
Mark: 'Thanks, but who's out?'

Steve: 'Me.'

It was a moment that the boys' parents had been dreading, and as expected there was a subdued feeling in the household that evening as everyone – mother Beverley, father Rodger and younger sons Dean, 21, and Danny, 15 – came to terms with their mixed emotions

It is something that Beverley and Rodger have had to cope with ever since their four very talented sons started playing cricket. But it doesn't get any easier

ONE day about a fortnight before Mark made his debut at Adelaide, Rodger, a calm, friendly chap who runs a suburban newsagency, wanted to strangle the author of a newspaper story suggesting Steve faced the sack. Beverley was comforting Dean, a NSW Sheffield Shield squad member who had been dropped from his first-grade club side in Sydney, as well as



PATRICK EAGAR

Mark scored a wonderful century on debut while Steve was sitting at home



PATRICK EAGAR

cheering on Mark and Steve in a one-day international at the SCG and Danny at a local ground, where as captain of the Bankstown under-16 team he scored 78 and took 2 for 10 from 12 overs of left-arm orthodox spin

'I don't have enough feelings to go around,' said Beverley 'I was at Danny's game and listening to Stephen and Mark on the radio I was really pleased for Mark (who made his first half-century for Australia), but then there was Stephen (who made only 3) to worry about I couldn't cope with it all In the end I had to go for a big long walk '

The strange situation took another unexpected turn when Mark pushed Steve (who took 42 Test innings to register his first century) further out of contention with his unforgettable debut hundred against England at Adelaide

Waugh's 138 in 237 minutes from 186 balls was an innings of exquisite beauty, in wonderful harmony with its setting at one of the world's most beautiful grounds 'The scorebook indicates it was played at whirlwind pace, with the century coming up just before stumps on the opening day from 126 balls. But in the manner of the most gifted batsmen he exuded a wonderful serenity at the crease which belied the rate at which he scored. There was nothing rushed or even forced about his attack on the English bowling. It was a clam, calculating assassination carried



Steve, no longer the family's Waughlord

out with breathtaking precision and poise Ever so gently, he would wait until the very last second to choose his stroke and then ease the full face of the bat onto the ball, his magnificent timing ensuring it had speared through the gaps and into the pickets before the field had a chance to react

He was not to be put off by the fact that this was a Test match and Australia were 104 for 4 when he came to the crease If the ball presented itself with 'Hit me' stamped on it, he did exactly that Nor was he afraid to loft the ball over the in field, and did so several times with great effect one ball from spinner Phil Tufnell landed over the fence after one bounce near the very long straight boundary From the full range of strokes that was on display, for me the best were the classical drives through the on-side on both the back and front foot. His shot selection, which a few years ago was often haphazard, especially outside off stump, was evidence of the maturity that has come from six seasons of first-class cricket.

Even though the new ball, taken first thing on the second morning, robbed Waugh of the composure he displayed on the first day, his debut will take its rightful place in gold lettering in Australian cricket history

The New South Welshman who took four years to emerge from his twin brother's shadow is the first to acknowledge he still has much to prove Many believe the real examination began in the first Test in Jamaica but sober, detached examinations about his ability to handle a high-octane West Indies attack were not permitted to dampen the celebrations in Adelaide of the overdue arrival of a vibrant new talent

As did Greg Chappell with his debut century in Perth 20 years ago, Waugh's commanding presence provided Australia with a preview of the talent that is waiting in the wings Although Mark Waugh had become understandably frustrated at the length of the apprenticeship he was asked to serve, it can be argued that in the long term it has been far more beneficial.

The intervention of two major crises in Australian cricket in the past 13 years, the advent of World Series Cricket and the rebel tours to South Africa, ensured the end of the traditional grounding most potential Test players received. Steve Waugh was one benefactor sufferer of the new policy, being thrown into Test cricket one season after his first-class debut

Greg Chappell, the former Australian captain and selector who was instrumental in Steve's elevation, knows from first hand experience how much a player can benefit from long-term grooming in the ranks just below Test cricket Starting his first class career in 1966-67, he spent six full seasons four in the Sheffield Shield with South Australia and two with Somerset, before he was summoned, aged 22, to the Australian team in 1970-71.

At the time he had played 99 first-class matches, scoring 11 centuries, 7454 runs and averaging 39 03 Those figures provide an interesting parallel with Mark, who played 100 first-class matches for 7501 runs, 25 centuries and an average of 55. Having missed all but one game in 1986-87 because of stress fractures in his back, he had played four full Shield summers plus two county seasons with Essex

I don't have enough feelings to go around. I was at Danny's (the youngest Waugh) game and listening to Steve and Mark on the radio. I was really pleased for Mark (who made his first half-century for Australia in that match), but then there was Stephen (who made only 3). I couldn't cope with it all. In the end I had to go for a big long walk—Beverley Waugh, confused mother

Steve Waugh:"Well done Mark, you're in the team" Mark Waugh: "Thanks, but who's out?" Steve Waugh: "Me".



MONTOON HAMEED

Steve Waugh: dropped after 42 successive Tests, and replaced by his twin

'I think it is always better to be picked a fraction too late than a fraction too early,' says Chappell, who went on to become the most distinguished and prolific Australian batsman of his era. 'I was disappointed about missing out on the tours of England in 1968 and South Africa in 1969-70, but I knew some time later that I was too young and inexperienced for those trips.

'The wait has done Mark no harm at all. By the time he got there he was very hungry, unlike some younger ones who can get a bit blase about it all.

'At the time we had no choice but to pick Steve. We were rushing a lot of blokes in too early, trying to find some who were capable of handling the Test match pressure. It was a hell of a burden for him and he coped well. But looking back, he was probably picked too soon and perhaps the problems he's now going through signify that.

'It will be interesting to sit back in five years' time and see which one turns out the better. Mark will probably finish up with the better record statistically, because he won't have to experience the hard grind that Steve had to go through.'

The hard grind continues now for Steve, who is likely to have to try to regain his place on what is certain to be a very demanding tour of West Indies.

During Steve's electrifying run in England in 1989, Australian coach Bob Simpson remarked that he appeared to have ice running through his veins. Asked on the eve of his debut what he had running through *his* veins, Mark replied: 'Blood and (Test) runs, I hope.'

Sooner rather than later we discovered he was right.

WISDEN CRICKET MONTHLY

PATRICK EAGAR

Mark Waugh takes his brother Steve's place

Different

The showbiz folks may go for different strokes, but celebrity tennis in Hollywood is no laughing matter

STARS of celluloid and screen flock to ubiquitous weekend pro/celebrity tennis tournaments like lemmings to the sea. "Tennis is still the 'in' sport," says Arthur Ashe, who earned spending money as a college student at UCLA instructing the likes of Dinah Shore and Janet Leigh in the vagaries of inside-out forehands at the Beverly Hills Tennis Club. "Some celebrities want to keep acting just to get invited to celebrity events," says Vince Van Patten, who grew up playing in impromptu celebrity round-robins, still a daily occurrence on his family's two courts. "Their goal in life is to stay in the public eye enough so that they can have those freebie weekends."

Hard-core celebrity hackers gladly jet from La Costa to London's Albert Hall, or from Caesars Palace to Monte Carlo, where they can make their tennis fantasies come true. Even President and Mrs Reagan picked up the ball this year, hosting the first pro/celebrity tournament on the White House tennis court—luring such popular public figures as Brooke Shields and Tom Selleck—to benefit the Nancy Reagan Drug Abuse Fund. Some events, like the Gordon's Gin sports celebrity tournament at La Costa, or the Bombay Gin Hall of Fame Classic, are for former all-star athletes; others, like the Jantzen Cystic Fibrosis Tennis Tournament in Denver, allow home-town backers to "buy" a famous partner for the weekend round robin. Still more, like the Alan King Caesars Palace Tennis Classic or Lake Tahoe's Mita Festival (formerly at Aspen), are full-blown media events with

Cheryl Tiegs cuts a fine figure



Forsythe's courtly manners extend to his weekend doubles tie



Strokes

By KIM CUNNINGHAM

"You get to know some different people under relaxing circumstances rather than sitting across a desk"...Garry Marshall



televised coverage.

All the events raise money for charitable causes, give celebrities a chance to compete before a "live" audience, and to make new contacts. "You get to know some different people under relaxing circumstances rather than sitting across a desk," says Garry Marshall, who produced such TV hits as "Mork and Mindy," "Happy Days," and "Laverne and Shirley" (starring his sister, Penny, who introduced him to the game). "Not that somebody's tennis game would influence me," Marshall adds coyly.

Do the stars play like their public personalities? Mike Wallace, fresh from an afternoon doubles game against Walter Cronkite, snorted at the idea that Cronkite's court style suited his paternal, elegantly aristocratic camera persona. "Aristocratic?" retorted Wallace. "Let's say he

[illegible] seriously and likes to win." Well then, how would the feared "60 Minutes" interrogator describe his own game? "Oh, a dink, a cut, a good serve and the rest of it is junk but it gets the job done," Wallace said, then added, "I do have a good backhand cut."

Charlton Heston considered whether his game suited his formidable acting roles. "So you'd expect me to be overwhelmingly authoritative and commanding?" asked he. Of course. "Well, I'm reduced to rubble on a court."

What of John Forsythe, the powerful and ruthless patriarch of "Dynasty's" famed Carrington clan? "The best way to describe my game is to say I have never broken a string," says Forsythe. "That tells you something about the power and pace with which I hit. But I do get the ball back."

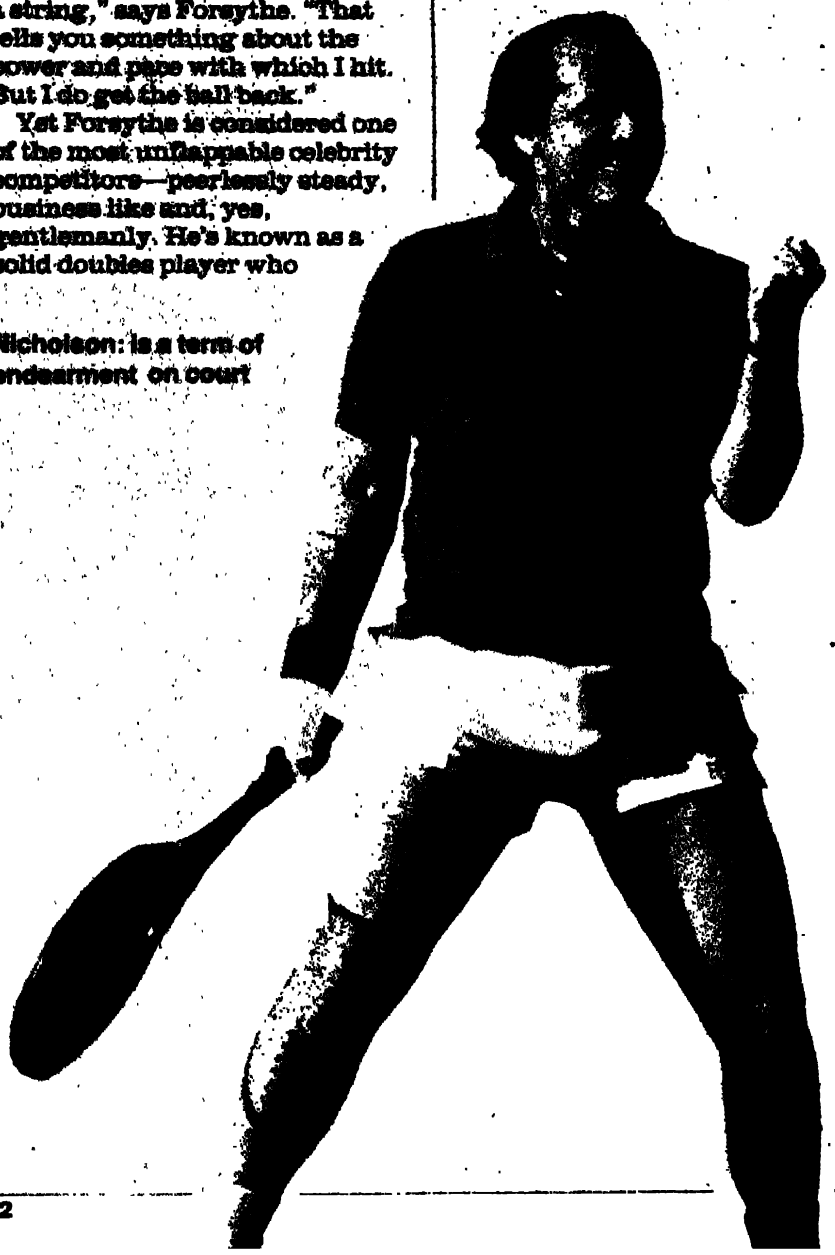
Yet Forsythe is considered one of the most unflappable celebrity competitors—peerlessly steady, business like and, yes, gentlemanly. He's known as a solid doubles player who [illegible] aggressively takes the net and blasts his volleys. He's also won nearly a dozen celebrity events. "You have to win five or six of them," Forsythe says modestly, "or they banish you."

To check out the celebrity tennis titans, *World Tennis* canvassed the stars (and the pros who've played with them) to rate their games. You be the judge of whether the game suits the star.

The Men

Bill Cosby. Played a tennis pro convincingly in "I Spy," and remains a superior athlete from his collegiate days at Temple. A

Farrah Fawcett: athletic by nature



Nicholson: is a term of endearment on court





gamesman at heart, Cosby distracts opponents with clowning or offering advice on how they should play. "A lot of speed but doesn't like to use it," sums up Vince Van Patten, "He'll make the other man run." "He may be the most competitive of them all," adds Cathy Lee Crosby, one of the top women celebs.

Jack Nicholson. "Jack is a term of endearment on the court," says Alan King. "But watching him play is one flew over the cuckoo's nest."

Charlton Heston. Says he has probably hit with more good players than any lousy player in the world. His weekly lessons from Alex Olmedo (among others through the years) paid off in superior return of serve, steady volley, and shrewd court strategy. "His strokes aren't too orthodox, but he's competitive and gets things back," sums up Lloyd Bridges. Heston ranks as the most professional of the celebrities: Known for punctuality, neat attire, and a profound knowledge of the game.

Johnny Carson. Plays a delicate sort of game but bent on improving. Like Heston, he's a student of the game and can recite stories about Bill Tilden or anecdotes from Wimbledon in the 1940s. He often plays on the public courts at Pepperdine University and has taken lessons from John McEnroe. "It was written right into the contract when I bought his house in Malibu," says McEnroe, who has already given him one of the requisite three lessons. "He can hit the ball, and he's a pretty good athlete for a talk-show host."

Rex Ely. Plays like Tarzan: Very big, very strong and has a tremendous serve that one pro says he unofficially clocked at about 100 mph.

Clint Eastwood. Must be a big hitter who goes for broke, right? Wrong. Pushes the ball over the net, but plays steady and keeps the ball in play. Folks say his athletic prowess is better demonstrated on a ski slope.

Mel Brooks. Less a player than a spectacle, easily the most excitable celebrity player. Friends say his scripts must be written on the tennis court. Every emotion comes out: Laughter, tears, even tossing a racket through a window if he loses a point.



Hard core celebrity hackers gladly jet from La Costa to London's Albert Hall, or from Caesars Palace to Monte Carlo, where they can make their tennis fantasies came true...Even President and Mrs Reagan picked up the ball this year, hosting the first pro/celebrity tournament on the White House tennis court...

Evans offers Kirk tips on court [illegible]



Hoffman with his son

Roger Moore. Relative newcomer to the game, picking it up with renewed vigor when he and Vijay Amritraj appeared together in the James Bond movie *Octopussy*. Amritraj says Moore tries very hard, reached the semis at the Monte Carlo annual celebrity event, and is "always elegant."

Lloyd Bridges. As good a player at 72 as you'll find anywhere, says John McEnroe. Combines a good first serve with an agile net game. "He's got a good volley, which is unusual for a celebrity player," notes Heston.

Kenny Rogers. Takes his tennis so seriously he travels with his personal pro, and even designed his home court in Bel Air to rival the Monte Carlo Country Club. With his booming, wide slice serve, Rogers spars with the likes of Bjorn Borg and frequently makes the finals of celebrity doubles events. Many suspect Rogers prefers tennis to music and, next to Alan King, has probably contributed more to tennis than any celebrity. Has sponsored many aspiring professional players and helped finance the Collegiate Hall of Fame at Athens, Georgia.

Dabney Coleman and Robert Duvall. Unanimously the Best Actor Hacker Awards. Both are steady, with ferocious concentration and strong, fluid strokes. Coleman played collegiate tennis and retains crackerjack athletic form. Duvall combines perfect Eastern strokes (he has a beautiful oval backhand swing) with a fighter's dogged determination to win. "He's a tough, New York street fighter at heart," says Nels Van Patten. "If John McEnroe and Bob Duvall had an argument, you'd wonder who would win."

Oleg Cassini. A longtime tennis supporter and enthusiast, has a lot of talent in a lot of departments. Notes friend Bill Talbert: "I've known him 35 years and he always came to the court with a pretty girl."

Robert Redford. A lefty. Great, scrappy competitor. A natural.

The Women

Farrah Fawcett. Picked up a racket a decade ago and what she lacks in skill makes up for in spunk. Athletic by nature and wields a strong two-handed backhand. Manages to be competitive *and* feminine.

Linda Evans. A beginner, and invariably described as a player who's as graceful and elegant as she's portrayed on "Dynasty." "If I got a part on 'Dynasty,' I'd be her personal coach," says Johan Kriek.

Brooke Shields. Granddaughter of former U.S. champion Francis X. Shield; may not have inherited granddad's talent, but got his enthusiasm for the game. Though a beginner, gamely plays in charity events.

Cheryl Tiegs. Seen frequently in the company of tennis pros and an omnipresent supporter of tennis benefits and tournaments. Spent a year in California honing her baseline game. "Still," says one pro, "she looks better on the cover of *Cosmo*."

Cathy Lee Crosby. Has long been the woman to beat on the celebrity circuit, and generally acknowledged to be head and shoulders above the competition. Ranked nationally as a junior, Crosby competed at Wimbledon in the seven months she spent on the pro tour before deciding to go back to school. Still retains her competitive fire, not to mention a wicked backhand, serve and unnerving lob. Often placed in the men's division at celebrity tournaments.

Lynda Carter. An aggressive player who goes for winners and never says die. Prefers to hit with the women pros, most of whom have played in the Lynda Carter Maybelline Tennis Classic. "I will not humiliate myself in front of thousands of people," Lynda jokes of her aversion to celebrity events. "If I win, it's a private victory. If I lose, I don't want to talk about it."

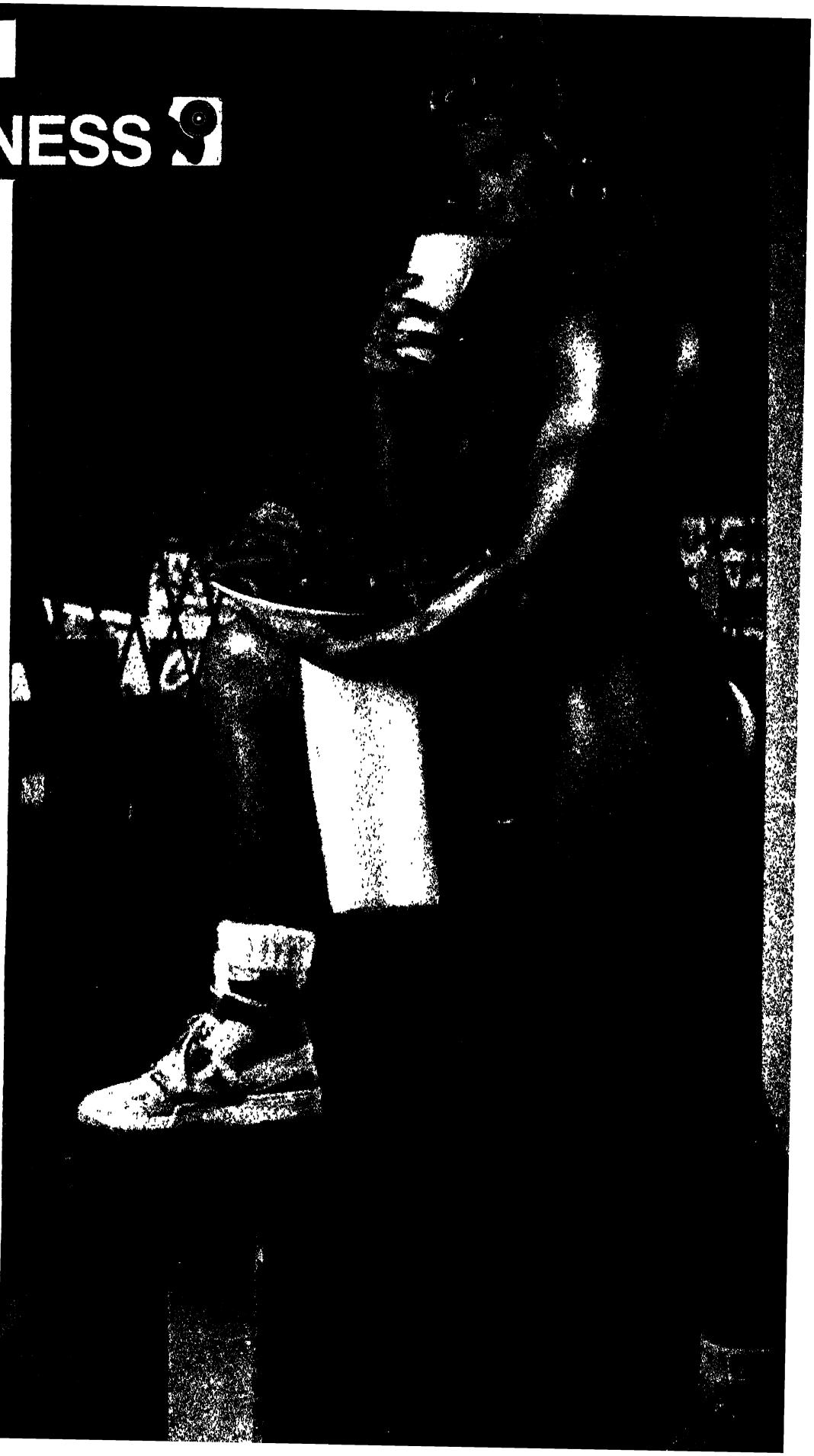
FITNESS

CONTINUING from where we'd left off last week, it's still *proportion* that we're into. If you're going through all that trouble of working out, then you might as well look your best. Pay too much attention to your upper body and you'll get top heavy. Do likewise with the legs and you'll be carting a frail underdeveloped torso around on tree-trunk legs.

And once you really get serious about your body, it's even opposing muscle groups that have to be worked in synchronisation.

As bodybuilding champion Rich Gaspari explains "Muscles work, generally speaking, in pairs—one pulling, one pushing. When one muscle group is much stronger than its opposing muscle group, you have a muscle imbalance. Let me give you a specific example too many guys in the gym are bench-press junkies. Not that there's anything wrong with the bench-press; it's just that that's about all they do! You've seen them—shoulders stooped forward as they walk around.

"This hunching occurs because the front of the shoulders, the anterior deltoids, are far more developed than the posterior deltoids and upper back muscles. So bench-press junkies suffer from asymmetrical deltoid



Build In Proportion

development, postural changes like round shoulders, and become predisposed to shoulder injuries.

"Biceps and triceps, quadriceps and hamstrings, abdominals and lower back are all examples of muscle groups that should be developed together for the best looking and most injury resistant physique."

"It's actually a problem that stems from the comfort factor. If you've got strong shoulders to start off with, bench presses are no sweat. Therefore, every time you walk into the gym, it's straight for the bench you head. On the other hand, if you've got weak shoulders, then you'll avoid the bench like the plague, right? So not only are you weaker genetically on those bodyparts, you actually neglect them too. Small wonder, then, that you're looking a little lopsided.

We also have the tendency to pay more attention to the bigger muscles. Hey, if it's the biceps that draw the attention, then why not pump them a little extra, right? Well, not if you're looking for proportion, buddy. If you're only after impressing the opposite sex, then a couple of extra sets on the biceps won't do any harm. But your body symmetry is bound to suffer.

Give the smaller muscles their share of flex and pump. After all, they're the ones that make the vital difference. Look at it this way: anyone willing to spend a couple of hours in the gym will be able to stretch a sleeve to busting point. But not all of them can proudly tear off that tee-shirt and flaunt his washboard abs or wow the neighbourhood as he struts in his shorts to show off his sculpted calves.

If you're still not convinced, here's a tip from Barry De Mey, yet another bigwig in the world of bodybuilding: "Train your weakest bodypart first, when your energy and enthusiasm are highest. A high degree of training intensity builds muscle, and your intensity can only be great when your energy is high."

Basically, what we're trying to drum into you is that the entire body has to get its fair share of twist, turn, pump, strain, pull, bend and flex. Not only will it provide great proportion, you'll also be staying away from injury.

So don't lay off the weaker bodyparts just because it hurts to work out those muscles. Not only will they suffer in comparison to the stronger areas of your musculature, you'll also look horribly imbalanced. Keep hitting those problem areas and you'll be the one looking better for it. ●



Simon Barnes meets the men who wield power in sport. This week: Jean-

TURBO-CHARGED ECCENTRIC

He is a man of huge passions, huge appetite for work, vile temper and elephantine charm. He is preposterous, naive, visionary, brilliant, shrewd, effective, exasperating and sublimely batty. In other ways he is utterly repelling. All reactions to Balestre are enormous and contradictory.

"THE president will see you now." The president! Not Mr Chairman, not a mere official or boss-person, we are talking presidents, as in President Bush or President de Gaulle. Nothing less. These power-brokers of sport really do see themselves as heads of state: world leaders: masters of the universe

This particular Monsieur le President has an office on La Place de la Concorde. His style of delivery features long, rolling oratorical phrases and dramatic, hanging pauses: a method reminiscent of, perhaps even consciously copied from, General de Gaulle "I have no nationality. I have forgotten my nationality. I am above nationalities. I am truly a world president. I work as best I can for the general good." You can't argue with facts like that

This is Jean-Marie Balestre. He is president of FISA, the organisation that runs world motor sport He is also president of FIA, the world body for all the national motoring associations (like the AA). Both organisations are personal autocracies against severe competition. Balestre is regarded as the most autocratic ruler in sport and also the most deeply eccentric

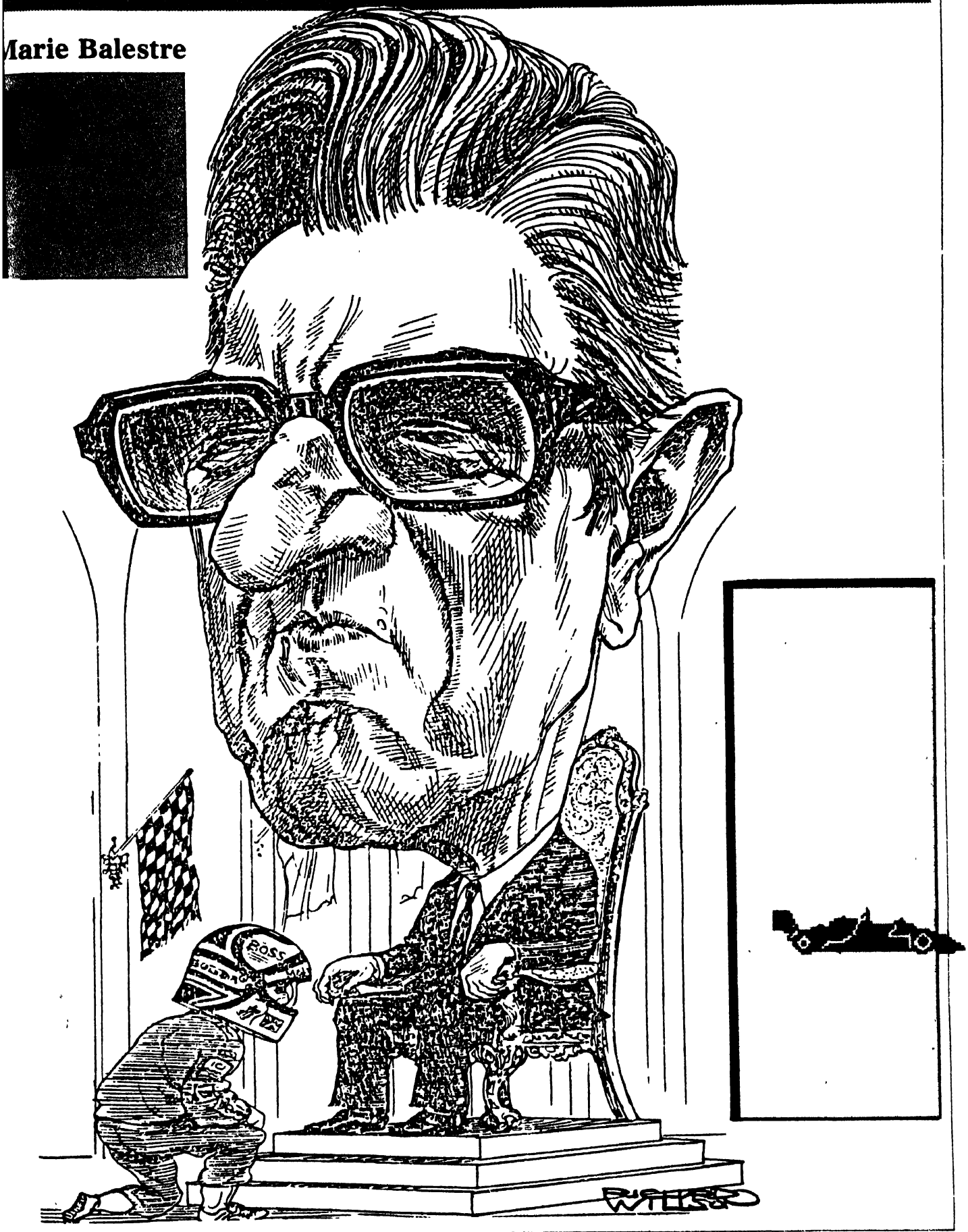
He is a man of huge passions, huge appetite for work, vile temper and elephantine charm. He is preposterous, naive, visionary, brilliant, shrewd, effective, exasperating and sublimely batty In some ways he is utterly repelling: I liked him enormously All reactions to Balestre are enormous and contradictory.

How loathsome it would be to work for him. Our interview was interrupted by a bawling-out of his press secretary and, later, of another president who accidentally intruded, a president who, eminent enough in his own organisation, was just another office boy in Balestre's domain. Balestre is not a man frightened at the thought of making enemies.

His gift for communication is enormous. My own French is not quite black belt standard, but I followed every word he spoke. Indeed, I hung on his lips. He is a compelling man: "*Je suis contre le* star system. *Je suis contre le* show business. I am very much against both these things, and when the journalists write about Formula One as a circus, I am very annoyed. I believe that sport comes above all commercial interests, particularly motor sport."

This is the moment for the smart journalist to interject that Formula One is the most money-obsessed sport in the world. The motor industry is one of the largest in the world, and motor racing is its showcase. The tobacco industry is equally colossal. motor racing is its billboard. But you can't interject when Balestre is talking: as well stop a charging rhino with

Marie Balestre





His egocentricity is so open, so naked, it is almost endearing. If you don't have to work with it. He is a man of phenomenal energy, phenomenal drive, not to mention phenomenal courage. He had a triple bypass operation in 1989, was back at his desk within 13 days. Ill health has not stopped, him, scarcely slowed him down



a well-timed quip Besides, he anticipated the question.

"There are huge budgets in motor sport, hundreds of millions of pounds. Always there is a clash of interest, and the federation must make a stand. Donc: sport must take precedence over money. And so it is the responsibility of the president to establish regulations which must ensure an equal chance for every participant."

Perhaps that means that if you are too good, you find trouble. Certainly Ayrton Senna, Nigel Mansell and also Ron Dennis, of McLaren, might think so. Senna and McLaren will forever feel that Balestre robbed them of the world drivers' championship in 1989 through a disqualification. Balestre's intensely personal style of leadership turns all rows into personal feuds.

His egocentricity is so open, so naked, it is almost endearing. If you don't have to work with it. "It is a very important thing for the president himself to be good To be credible and reliable Trustworthy. If such a thing is established, we can be very successful "

He is a man of phenomenal energy, phenomenal drive, not to mention phenomenal courage. He had a triple bypass operation in 1989, was back at his desk within 13 days Ill health has not stopped him, scarcely slowed him down He was a journalist once, though not like any journalist I have ever worked with

"We began with three people in a small room with £300 in our pockets. We did everything journalism, management, sweeping the floor. We created it with much energy, much work, much intelligence We started with three people and one paper When I left, we had 14,000 employees, including 3,000 journalists, 45 titles, 14 printing shops, three advertising agencies and 50 radio stations And I left to take up the presidency of FISA."

Balestre was involved in the formation of FISA in 1978 He has fought endless wars, skirmishes and duels, most notably with the Formula One Constructors' Association And Formula One still marches from strength to strength after the Olympics and football it is the biggest moneyspinner in sport.

That makes FISA the third most powerful body in world sport. "FISA is my child You are necessarily motivated to look after your child I am very sentimental And I have a great affection for the people who risk their lives The great champions *ils sont les plus pures chevaliers de la jeunesse des temps moderners Traduisez bien ca,*" he added to the interpreter.

JEAN-MARIE BALESTRE: CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Early career: 1939: sub-editor and reporter, *Droite de Vivre* (journal of the International League Against Racism). **1942:** Resistance volunteer. **Administrative career: 1952:** Founder, *Federation Francaise du Sport Automobile* (French Motor Sport Federation). **1964:** joint founder and secretary general. *Syndicat National des Automobilistes* (National Motorists' Association). **1973:** president. French Motor Sport Federation. **1978:** president, *Federation International du Sport Automobile* (International Motor Sport Federation). **Since 1985:** president, *Federation Internationale de L'Automobile* (International Automobile Federation)



Balestre, a man who does not compromise. His intensely personal style of leadership turns all rows into personal feuds. Ayrton Senna can easily testify to that

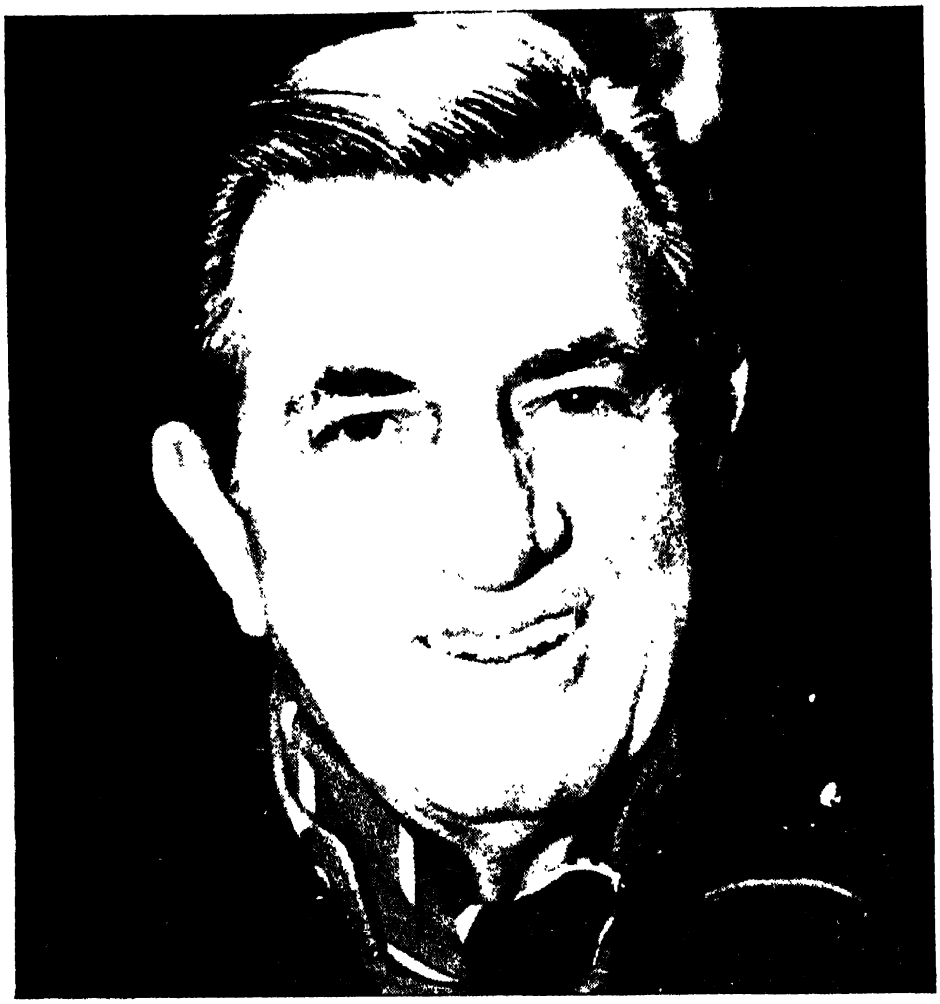
"They are the purest knights of the youth of modern times," she said Doesn't sound the same in English doesn't sound the same when not thundered out by Monsieur le President *'Nous somme sune civilisation automobile,"* he said "The twentieth century is the century of the automobile. Every schoolboy dreams of his first car And Formula One is the spearhead of the industry "

"There are 39 constructors of cars in the entire world There are 36 of them who are members of FISA s commission, and 32 take part in FISA championships. Why? Because it is the great chance to stage grand battles and to win great commercial battles They want victories in championships and to sell cars "

This great contradiction hovers behind the words of all sport's power-brokers. We must keep commercialism out of sport, they say, never failing to add that their sport's income could buy and sell nations Sport provides beauty and excitement to billions of people across the world a cumulative total of 17 billion watched Grand Prix racing in 1990 Balestre says "And on that evidence it is the most important sport in the world " By that reckoning, incidentally, or not incidentally, Balestre is the most important man in sport.

FISA is Balestre's baby and therefore he dreams for it like any parent would. High and lofty dreams

Sport provides beauty and excitement to billions of people across the world: a cumulative total of 17 billion watched Grand Prix racing in 1990, Balestre says: "And on that evidence it is the most important sport in the world." By that reckoning, incidentally, or not incidentally, Balestre is the most important man in sport.



These power-brokers earn their lofty position in the world at large through the popularity of their sport, and the money that popularity can generate But Balestre, like all power-brokers, insists on the need to keep sport free of the sordid business of the market-place The paradox is overwhelming Sport is not about money, no: but power in sport has a very great deal to do with the vast sums of money television exposure can bring in

And there is still more sport has a huge intangible value to politicians as well as to men of business If you seize control of a major sport, you have one of the most satisfactory bases for power and influence readily available in a democratic society—or an undemocratic one.

"I still have dreams", Balestre said "I would like to establish a Grand Prix here in La Place de la Concorde and along the Champs Elysees " The problem is the cobbles. you need to cover the cobbles for the race and then remove the covering after the race. French tradition would not permit anything less

"Second dream. a race in the Red Square in Moscow Third dream: to make the sports car championship as successful as Formula One." He is a restless, insatiable man an unstoppable man, too "One more hope. I hope to do the same interview with you again in 10 years' time " Balestre would then be 78 There are plenty of people to tell him: *vive le president.*

COURTESY THE LONDON TIMES

Next Week: Philippe Chatrier

KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND



Pull right leg back and go into the crane stance





Look right and deliver a yoko—giri and uraken—uchi (as shown in inset)



Step forward with the left leg and perform a left mawashi—uki. Follow this up with two more steps forward, with mawashi-ukis (as shown in inset)

CONTINUING with the *kata*, face the same direction as you pull the right leg back and go into *tsuru-ashi dachi* or the crane stance. Then, look to your right as the right fist is placed on the left fist. Now deliver a *yoko-giri* with the right leg even as the right hand performs an *uraken-uchi*. Bring the feet together and go in the opposite direction with a *kokutsu dachi*. Follow this up with three steps forward, left leg first, while the hands perform *mawashi-ukis* with each step.

By Shivaji Ganguly

Kyokushinkaikan karate

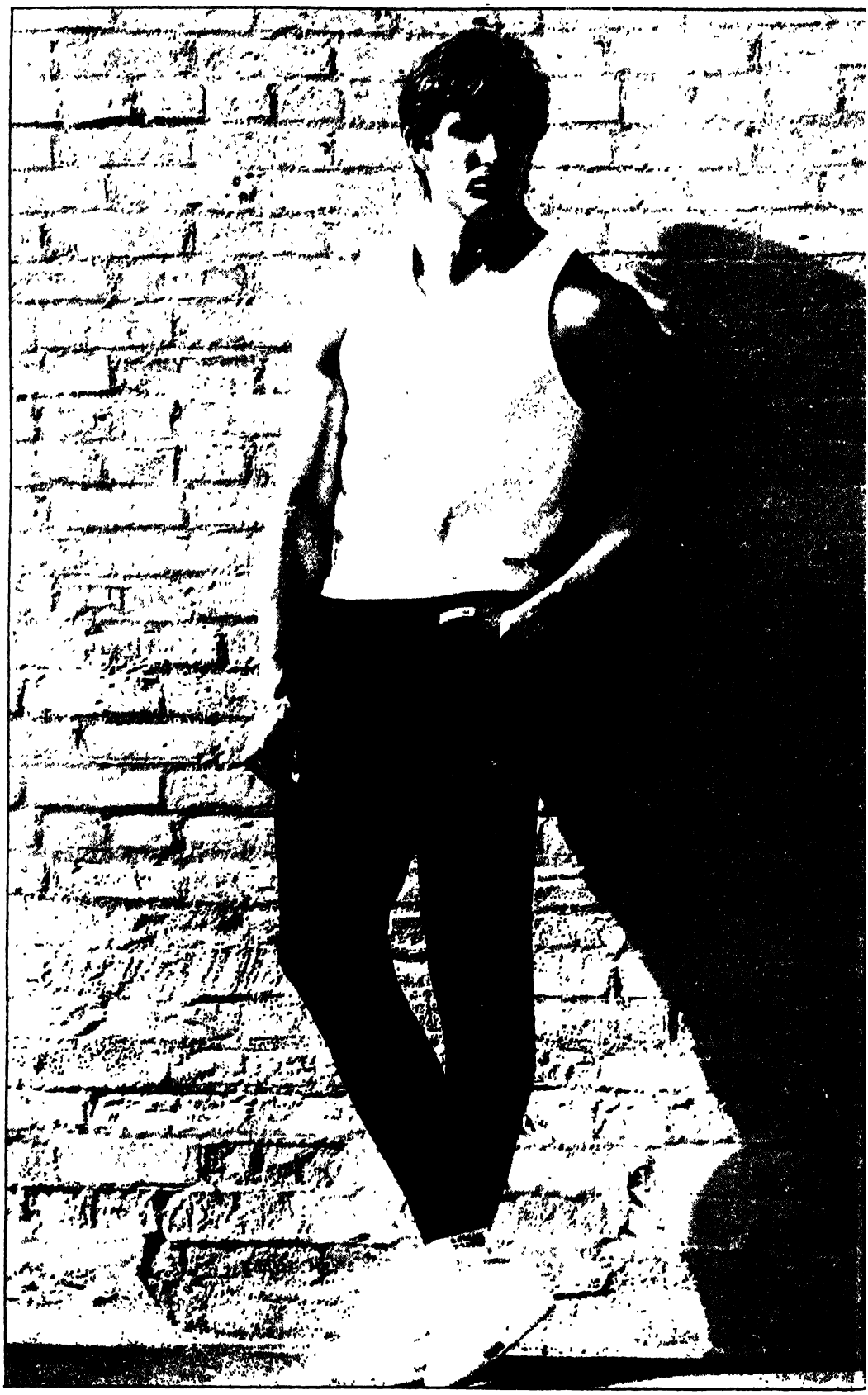
PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA

FIGHT FAT

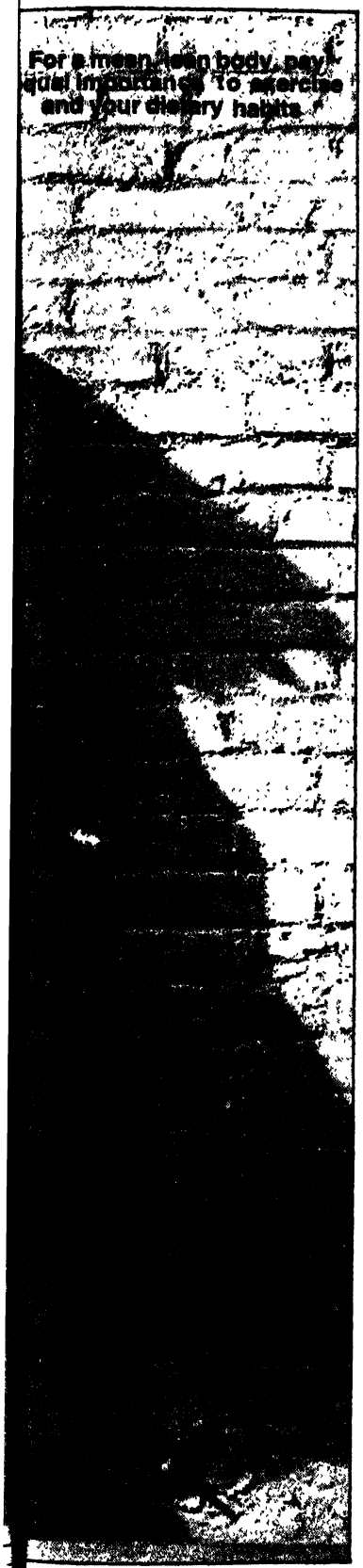
STILL trying to shed the excess weight that you had put on over the year end? Puzzled at how your body is not responding to the seemingly torturous programme you've been putting it to? Well folks, don't lose heart yet. This week we are providing you with all the info you've wanted on how to fight body fat and win....

We suppose we don't have to start all over again, as to how inactivity breeds obesity. But nevertheless a word about how exercise works for the body Exercise generates heat, burns calories, and at the same time, turns on the metabolic furnace. This is why we feel so good after exercising.

In a society where automation is the password, physical exertion has taken a back-seat and the end result is an overweight majority with soft, underdeveloped muscles that are not geared to fulfill the maximum metabolic potential. Contraction of muscles generate heat as hydrocarbons from the food are processed. Oxygen burns the hydrocarbons to carbon dioxide and water, and as a result energy is released The muscles actually convert less than 25% of the energy into mechanical energy. The rest is released as heat. During exercising or strenuous physical activity, blood flow through the skin increases and this explains the healthy flush that accompanies exercising. The skin



AND WIN



THE HEALTH COLUMN

also acts as the natural air conditioner of the body—it lets out sweat, the evaporation of which lowers the temperature of the body.

If the energy used exceeds the calories provided by one's diet, the brain stimulates one to eat more. In this way the brain helps you to maintain a stable body weight. Other than burning calories, exercise also creates a craving for calories to be put in, to replace the calories burnt. Reducing calorie intake shuts down the energy system and decreases heat production.

If both methods (eating and exercising) are used sensibly, then the body maintains a more or less constant weight. If you override the brain's stimulus to eat more, through sheer will power, you will lose weight. If you limit your calorie intake and follow a vigorous exercise pattern at the same time, you will cause a negative calorie balance, and make yourself susceptible to the ills of under-nutrition.

Now to one of the questions that you always wanted an answer to, but never got a satisfactory one. How many calories does an exercise regimen burn? Actually this question has no ready answer because the energy burned for various activities have always been measured over a short time span, whereas real effects on the metabolic balance last much longer.

A good method to estimate the work done during a workout is to use your heart rate. This is closely related to the amount of blood the heart is pumping at a particular time. The goal is to increase the work of the heart, making it deliver more blood to provide more oxygen, to the working muscles. The muscles need the oxygen to act on the fuel (hydrocarbons) to release energy. As your level of fitness improves, you can do more and more work to achieve the same heart rate.

Even a small amount of physical activity will increase the heat production and oxygen usage. How long and how much the energy requirement is increased is totally a function of how long and how vigorous one's exercise programme is. Rookies with a low level of fitness, cannot exercise at a high level for long. As the fitness level increases, the levels of energy requirements after exercise also increase. This is why you see bodybuilders devouring mountains of food and yet not putting on weight in the wrong places.

But if you are inactive and simply reduce the calorie intake then you will lose body protein. Sounds like a novel way to lose weight, doesn't it? But in the bargain you might also end up losing some heart muscle. Frightening?

The only safe way to lose those excess kilos is to follow a regular exercise programme. But exercise done in bits and spurts does no good. Develop an exercise schedule and stick to it. Toil it out and the results will be evident.

Complementing a healthy diet with your exercise programme is equally important. Also make sure that you follow an overall exercise programme so that some muscles do not enlarge at the expense of others that are losing protein. Low intensity exercises like walking is one of the best antidotes to obesity. Don't just try to lose kilos, try changing your body combination to look and definitely feel better. ●

CHARITY BEGINS AT HOME

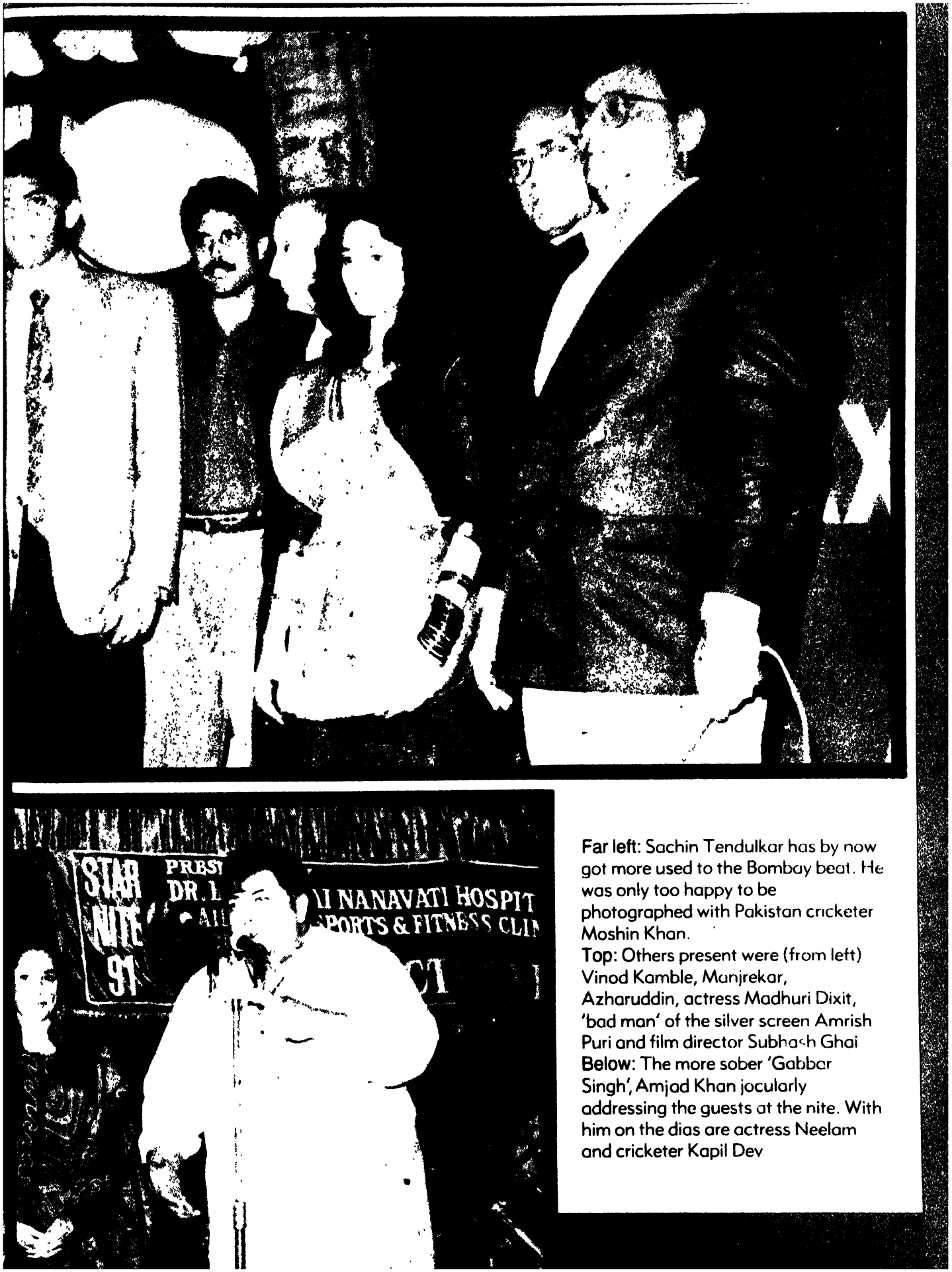




What happens when a Bombay hospital wants to set up a Sports and Fitness Clinic? They rope in the superstars from the sporting arena and the stars from the glitzy world of showbiz, that's what!

Offering all the facilities of a modern gym, an aerobics and yoga room, sauna and steam sections, electrotherapy and pain relief facilities, this will be available to all fitness enthusiasts as well as hardcore athletes





Far left: Sachin Tendulkar has by now got more used to the Bombay beat. He was only too happy to be photographed with Pakistan cricketer Moshin Khan.
Top: Others present were (from left) Vinod Kamble, Manjrekar, Azharuddin, actress Madhuri Dixit, 'bad man' of the silver screen Amrish Puri and film director Subhash Ghai
Below: The more sober 'Gabbar Singh', Amjad Khan jocularly addressing the guests at the nite. With him on the dias are actress Neelam and cricketer Kapil Dev





PHOTOGRAPHS BY
SANTOSH GHOSH

CHARITY BEGINS AT HOME



Top Left: Yet another group who pose in front of the cameraman (from left): Manjrekar, Tendulkar, music director Laxmikant, singer Suresh Wadkar, Maine Pyar Kiya's romeo Salman Khan and singer Manhas Udhas
Below: Sanjay Manjrekar enjoys such shows and is a competent gazal singer. Amrita Singh and Amjad Khan listen attentively
Left below: Discussing a point are organising secretary and Indian cricket team physiotherapist Dr Ali Irani and chairperson Dimple Kapadia who of course needs no introduction



SUBHAS AGRAWAL ON CUE

THERE was Subhas Agrawal—and then there were the others. It was, as simple as that. For once the 57th National Billiards Championship really got going, in Calcutta it became quite evident that there was little the others could do to stop the 42-year-old from winning his third title. Their fight was restricted to the second spot

Yet, the week-long championship produced quite a few surprises and some absorbing billiards There were moments when even the "impossible" might just be achieved--that Agrawal would be relegated down the ladder.

There was defending champion and top seed Ashok Shandilya, lurking alarmingly close, and always threatening to break into the league where Agrawal reigned Then there was Sonic Multani and his voracious appetite for the big breaks and tall scores.

The defending juniors champion and the third seed in the seniors event, Multani, was shocked in his opening match by Irfan Mirza of Railways but came back with a vengeance. He went on to record the highest total (1129), the highest break (253) and the biggest margin of victory (791) in the group-league stage. But in the euphoria, a very crucial trait in his game was being overlooked.

Multani had long stretches between his big breaks and he added almost nothing to his total Every now and then he would slump into these spells of relative inactivity even when he dazzled with his clean potting and delicate top table play. As the matches got longer—three hours in the pre-quarter finals and four in the quarters- this streak of inconsistency became a major hurdle for the youngster from Gujarat. In the quarter finals against Mathew Thomas of Kerala, after getting the ball rolling his way, with a break of 261 on the second visit he lost the

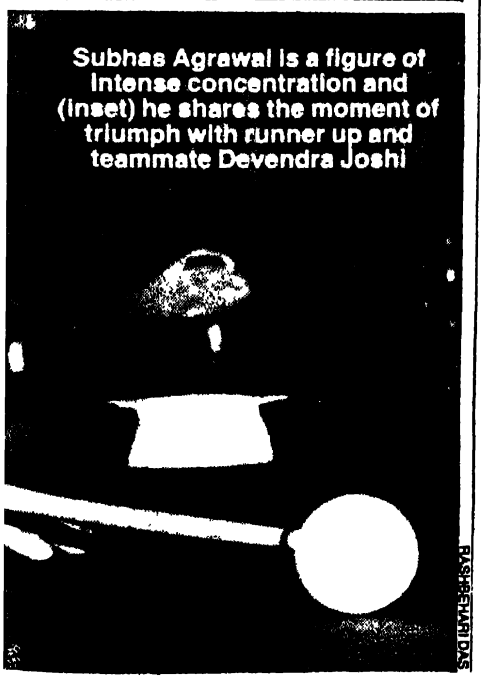


match (1074-1035). The only century break (109) of the match also came from Multani! Multani's dejection was compounded the very next day he lost to Irfan, again, in a 5-8 placings match.

Then, there was Devendra Joshi. In his first appearance in the billiards nationals the 24-year-old beat the out-off-form fourth seed, Arvind Savur, in his first match and then kept improving with every match till he toppled Shandilya in the semi-finals. Many eyebrows were raised after that 888-point (2069-1181) defeat of the top seed but it came as no surprise to Joshi. "Subhas (Agrawal) is in a class by himself, the next four are of the same standard." Anyone can win in a match against them if the ball is rolling his way on that particular day," was all that Joshi had to say about the win.



N MAJUMDAR


RASHBEHARI DAS

Subhas Agrawal is a figure of intense concentration and (inset) he shares the moment of triumph with runner up and teammate Devendra Joshi

In the semi-final, Joshi had Shandilya by the jugular from the word 'go'. Breaks of 114 (second visit), 127 (12th), 244 (22nd), 154 (37th) and 169 (40th) had Joshi going into the second session with a huge buffer of 6663 points (1220-557). Joshi now, quite predictably, got into the spoiling act. As the pot-white-double-baulk was repeatedly resorted to, Shandilya ran out of solution. His game fell apart and he managed just one century break in the four hours of the match--a 110 on the 61st visit. Joshi won convincingly at, 2012-1128.

In the other semi-final, Agrawal just steamrolled past Thomas, winning by a staggering 1377 point margin (2352-975 after 87 visits each). Agrawal set off with a break of 291 from his fifth visit and followed it up a 303 on his 16th and a 125 on the 17th. Before the first session had ended, he had added five more century breaks--118 on the 36th visit, 103 on the 40th, 111 on the 41st, 211 on the 47th and 140 on the 57th. Thomas just buckled under this barrage. The highest break he produced in the match was a 64 on the 77th visit, while Agrawal added another century (119) after the interval.

The final was over as a contest, even before it was one-hour old. Agrawal spent 32 minutes at the table on his fifth visit as he ran up a break of 620 ending it with the pot-white-double-baulk. In a superb exhibition of cue-ball control, Agrawal had Joshi's white glued to the top cushion behind the red spot for long spells as he launched into a series of postman knocking and red potting, only occasionally having to play an in-off to again work into the ideal top-table position. At 376 he had hearts stop for a moment when the red, coaxed with the most delicate of touches towards pocket no. 4, stood tantalisingly on its edges before rolling in.

Joshi, mermerised like the others watching at the YMCA hall, went seven visits after this without a point. Then Agrawal produced a 362 on the 23rd but Joshi showed great character by immediately replying with a break of 415, his highest in tournament play. It was 1362-532 at the interval.

Agrawal continued his prolific scoring in the second session (117 on 28th, 105 on 31st, 166 on 45th) and, though Joshi managed breaks of 133 (40th) and 155 (60th) it was all over bar the shouting.

Even though Agrawal won by a 2442-1205 margin, it was a memorable final in terms of the quality of billiards produced by both.

Among the other surprises in the meet, was also the bowing out of Savur before the knockout stage. The fourth seed overcame Achint Verma of Punjab 619-617 in a nerve raking finish but it became evident by then that Savur was not himself at the table.

Shyam Jagtiani was progressing smoothly before he met Agrawal in the quarters. He could take solace in the fact that he had the most competitive match against Agrawal.

Arup Chatterjee

HOW THEY FINISHED:

1. SUBHAS AGRAWAL (RLYS)
2. DEVENDRA JOSHI (RLYS)
3. ASHOK SHANDILYA (RLYS)
4. MATHEW THOMAS (KERALA)
5. IRFAN MIRZA (KERALA)
6. SONIC MULTANI (GUJARAT)
7. SHYAM JAGTIANI (RLYS)
8. ALOK KUMAR (PUNJAB)

Season Of Protests

The Ranji Trophy season of the year can truly be termed as the season of protests. It also brought to the forefront some aspects that have to be looked into immediately by the admministrators of the game in the country. How can India produce match winning bowlers when the matches at home are played on dead wickets? Any quotient rule will have its ugly repurcussions on the game, whether it is based on runs per wicket or on runs per over. If India has to do well in the international arena, then the wickets will certainly have to be made more sporting, where at least some result can be arrived at.
C. PARTHA,
Bangalore.

Weird!

THE idea of India holding the World Cup soccer (snippets, 20-26 Feb '91) was really weird, and one could not help scoffing at the idea. We should at least try to raise our standards in the Asian level. The drubbing we got from PSV Eindhoven is still fresh in our memories. Secondly even if the final is given to an Asian country, then it should be given to South Korea, for its representation in the World Cup final round. Even USSR is a better exponent of the game. If we bid for the World Cup we shall surely be making ourselves the laughing stock of the world. And the spectators in the country will also have to bear the pain of seeing some one-sided matches.
S. SURESH.
Madurai.

Extraordinary!

AUSTRALIAN cricket has indeed come a long way. In 1983 they even lost to Zimbabwe in the World Cup It has been a long and painful journey for the Aussies and the man responsible for this is none other than Allan Border. He



has moulded a side that, with considerable ease, defeated most of the cricket playing nations in the world, leave West Indies. If they can manage to do so, then surely they will put to rest any doubt about their being the best cricketing nation.
RONNIE GUHA,
Jamshedpur.

Excellent!

THE article on Allan Border, (13-19 February '91) by Peter Roebuck was excellent. One was reminded of Chandrashekhar while reading the article. The series between Australia and West Indies is a closely awaited one, and for Allan Border it will be the fight of a lifetime. Finally, Pataudi's articles, however rare they are, are always welcome.
B.S. VISHWANATH,
Bangalore.

Field Fencing

A NEW game has come into existence in our country, called 'field fencing'. The country witnessed the thrilling spectacle during a recent cricket match, between two top teams in the country. The basic rules of the game are:

1) There shall be two players while some others act as helpers.

2) One player should be properly protected (helmet, gloves, pads, abdomen guard et al).

3) The rest of the players should excite the player with some gentle verbal abuse (sledging), while the unpadded player should play the role of the main stimulant

4) The protected player should be excited enough to make a physical display at the other player who picks up a wooden stick planted in the ground and runs after the first player.

5) The players should leave the whole area unguarded so that the spectators get a good view.

6) Points are awarded for the number of effective blows planted by each player.

7) The whole process is repeated with players exchanging the roles.

The main exponents of this game—Rashid Patel and Raman Lamba—should travel round the country to make this sport popular all over the country. Who knows, this might even replace cricket in the near future?
ROHIT KAPOOR,
Calcutta.

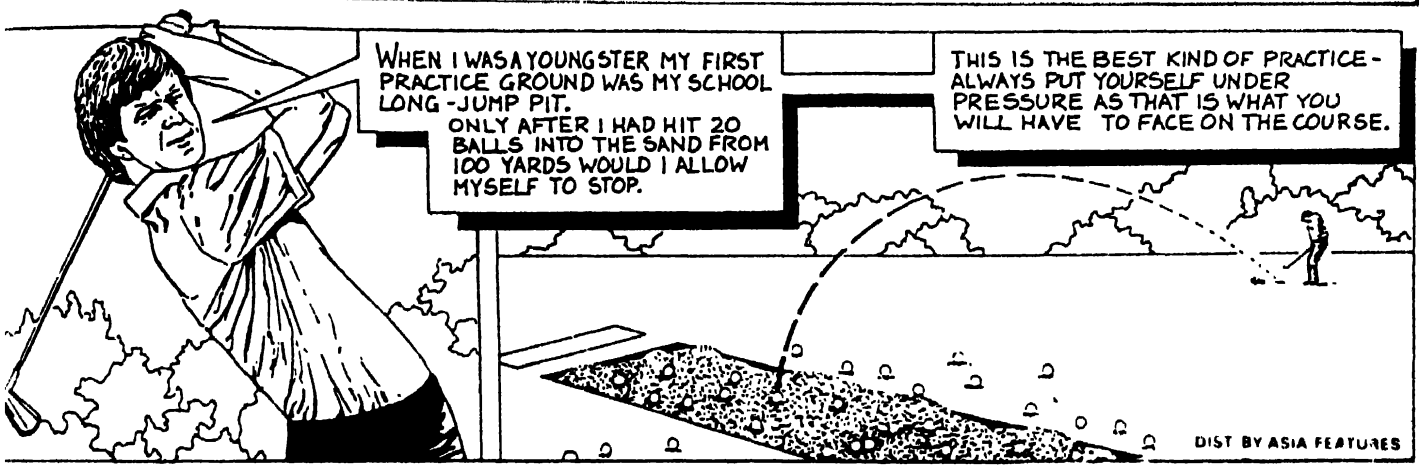
A Correction

Pages 10-11 and 12-13 of our issue dated 6/3/91 were interchanged making the story 'Promises To Keep' appear disjointed. The error is regretted.

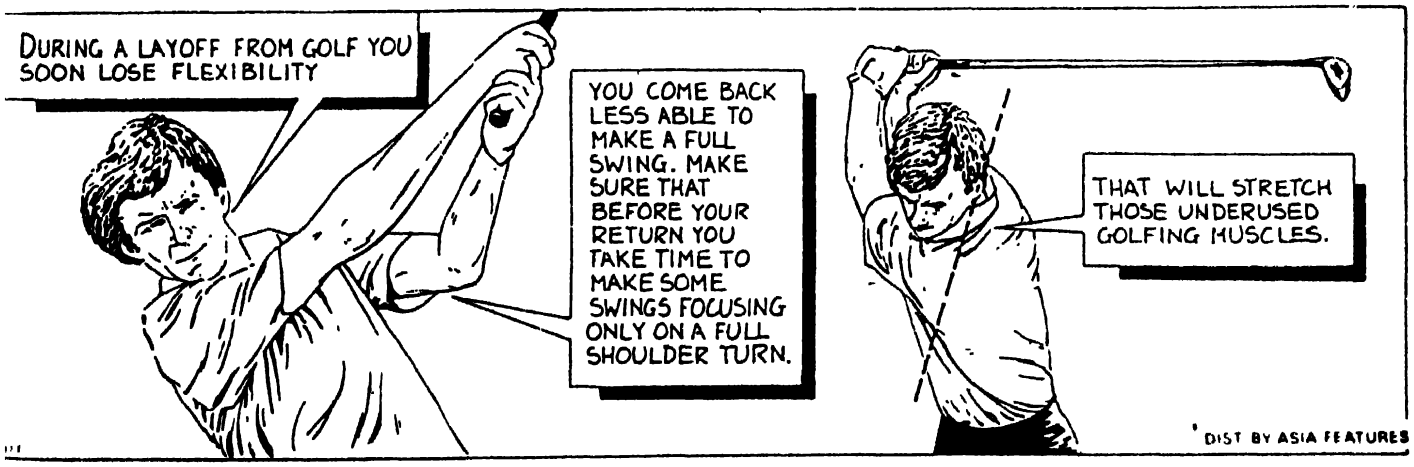
The cover photograph of Sunil Gavaskar on the cover of this issue is by Gautam Patole. The poster photograph is by Moinuddin Hameed.

THE FALDO FORMULA

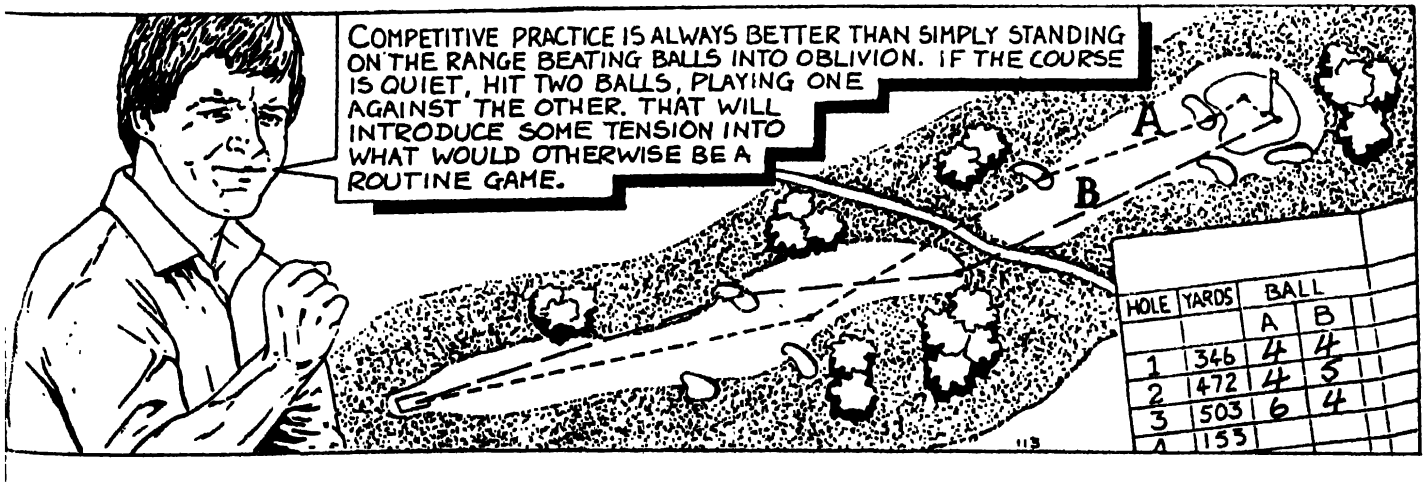
Challenge Yourself



Turn Shoulders after Lay Off



Play One Ball Against Another



MADRAS

National Triathlon

IT's the newest sport gaining popularity in the country and if the conduct of the inaugural National championship at Madras last month is any indication, then triathlon is here to stay.

A combination of swimming, cycling and running, triathlon is already popular in the USA and the headquarters of the International Triathlon Union is in California. In India, it is very much a fledgling sport. The Indian Triathlon federation was formed in late 1989 and the honour of staging the first national championship was given to the Tamil Nadu Triathlon Association (TNTA).

The response was so encouraging that the organisers overshot the Rs four lakhs budget by a fair amount. The TNTA initially expected only around 150 entries, but the final figure was somewhere in the region of 220.

For the meet, there were entries from 15 states, three Union territories and five Service organisations (the Coast Guard, Border Security Force, Indian Navy, Services Sports Control Board and Central Industrial Security Force). Services Sports Control Board and Central Industrial Security Force).

The senior event was an Olympic distance event which consists of a one and a half kilometre sea swim, 40 kilometres cycling and 10 kilometres running. Those participating in the junior and sub-junior events of course had to do much less. In the former category, the distances were one kilometre swimming, 10 kilometres cycling and two kilometres running. And in the latter category, the distances were half kilometre swimming, six kilometres cycling and one kilometre running.

Triathlon is bloody hard work. Imagine swimming in the choppy waters of the sea for one and a half-kilometres, then immediately go off on a 40 kilometre fast cycle ride and right after that run for 10 kilometres. Just thinking about it fires one out, so what about the person who actually tries out this tiring routine? Only the most utterly dedicated and determined youngster can stick to the sport for some time and how many dedicated and determined persons with a singlmindedness of purpose are there in this country? Against this of course in favour of the Triathlon is the fact that the participant could excel in three things.swimming, cycling and running.all as a result of this one sport.



SCOOP NEWS

Karunakaran is all smiles after becoming the men's champion in the national triathlon championships

At the end of the weekend event, two participants emerged as the stars of the show—S. Karunakaran, and Farnaz Engineer. Two very different personalities from two very different social backgrounds. Karunakaran, a 20-year old youth with a bald pate was from the fisherfolk community from Madras. Farnaz, a sprightly 19 year-old-second year commerce student from Bangalore. And yet by the end of the nationals they shared one thing in common—they were both champions.

Swimming is predictably his speciality, but Karunakaran trailed Delhi's Pradeep Rana at the end of the first leg. Nor could he overtake him in the cycle race. But he showed remarkable reserves of stamina to flash past Rana in the road race. He then never looked back and won the combined event in one hour, 59 minutes and three seconds. Rana finished second, six minutes and 30 seconds

behind.

Farnaz's success had a story book touch. She was participating in the inter-University Swimming championship at Trivandrum and only made it to Madras on Saturday night. After a few hours sleep, Farnaz, seemingly bleary eyed, was at the Marina beach along with other participants. Predictably, she trailed Maharashtra's Khushnaz Subedar in the swimming event. She took over the lead from Khushnaz only in the last lap of the cycling event. But in the road race, she encountered a challenge from her Karnataka teammate VT Anusuya. Farnaz however held off Anusuya and finished first in two hours, 24 minutes, 24 seconds. Anusuya finished second, one minute and 33 seconds behind while Khushnaz took third place.

On the opening day, the juniors hogged the limelight. Rajiv Nagpal of BSF in the junior boys; NR Suneeta of Tamil Nadu in the Junior girls, Rahul Ramachandran of Tamil Nadu in the sub-junior boys and C Amudha of Tamil Nadu in the sub-junior girls events took the respective individual titles.

Karnataka who sent in the biggest entry—36 competitors—won the overall team championship with 99 points. The men's team championship was claimed by Maharashtra while the women's team title was taken by CISF. Karnataka won both the junior boys and junior girls team titles.

One last point: The nationals received the corporate sponsorship of five Madras based companies—MRF, Chemplast, Rane group, Shaw Wallace and T I Cycles. Big industrial house generally come forward to sponsor major sporting events and by extending sponsorship to the fledgling sport of triathlon—remember this was the first national championship—the five companies showed that industrial houses have a major role in promoting sport in the country.

Partab Ramchand

Inter-University Basketball

EXHIBITING their superiority in no uncertain terms, Guru Nanak Dev University (GNDU) regained the C B Gupta Trophy, the symbol of supremacy for the All-India Inter-University Basketall Championship. Ten varsities from all over the country participated in the week long event conducted by Madras University.

GNDU romped through their preliminary matches and in the semi final comfortably defeated the hosts Madras, 62-51. They had an equally facile victory in the final defeating South Zone champions Calicut, 64-51.

The final was not all that one sided as the final scores suggest, though there was no doubting the superiority of the GNDU girls.

The Guru Nanak Dev University women's team were the winners of the All India Inter-University basketball

After trailing 25-37 at half time, Calicut inspired by a splendid performance by their tall pivot, Jeena Jose narrowed the gap down to four points (51-55) with two minutes left.

But in those final moments, as the Calicut score stood stationary, GNDU surged ahead with star players Prabhjyot Kaur and Parminder Kaur basketting effortlessly from every conceivable angle.

Calicut had entered the final with a hard fought 59-53 victory over Gandhiji (Kottayam). Hosts Madras ultimately took third sport by defeating Gandhiji 64-56.

Bank Sports Events

THERE was a spate of activity in Madras thanks to the efforts of the Banks Sports Board (Southern Region). In a space of four weeks, the BSB conducted first the Inter-Bank Cricket tournament, then the Inter-Bank Football tournament and finally the Inter-Bank Chess tournament.



RAMANAN RELIANCE NEWS

This should have been followed by the hockey tournament, but because of certain austerity measures adopted by the government on account of the Gulf war, this could not be conducted. Indeed, the chess tournament will be the last to be held under the auspices of the BSB till the austerity measures are lifted.

Several State and national level players are employed by banks and it was no surprise that the fare witnessed in the three competitions was of a high order. In the cricket event organised by Indian Overseas Bank, 16 banks participated and after the preliminary rounds were over, State Bank of India, Canara Bank, Indian Bank and Indian Overseas Bank qualified for the semi fiinals. Here while State Bank of India defeated Indian Bank by four wickets, Canara Bank beat IOB by 31 runs.

The final was a real thriller. Batting first, Canara Bank were all out for 251 in 44.5 overs. It seemed a redoubtable task, but SBI were well prepared for it And they crossed the target for the loss of six wickets in 43.3 overs. There were two notable partnerships. Nelson D'Souza (109 off 101 deliveries with two sixes and 13 fours) and B P Suresh (69) put on 189 runs in 31.2 overs for the first wicket for Canara Bank. SBI's answer was a 130 run fourth wicket stand between P C Naresh (87) and V P Jayasarathi (74).

The football event, held a week later was organised by Central Bank and was a great crowd puller. The University Union ground was packed on almost all the days and with several State and junior India stars among the participants, the standard was equal to that of the State level.

Seven teams took part in the week long event. Indian Bank and State Bank of India topped their respective groups and State Bank of Hyderabad and Reserve Bank finished second behind them respectively

In the semi finals, while State Bank beat SBH 2-1 through an extra time goal, Indian Bank got the better of RBI only through the tie-breaker.

After the thrills of the two semi finals, the final was a rather tame affair with State Bank easily beating Indian Bank 2-0. Both the goals coming in the first half. They thus regained the trophy they won in the inaugural year at Calicut in 1989. They did not participate last year. Reserve Bank too third place with a facile 3-0 victory over SBH

Relatively speaking, the highest standard of the three events was witnessed in the chess event conducted by Union Bank of India, a week after the conclusion of the football event. For, among the 76 participants from 24 banks, there were several International Master and FIDE rated players.

The week long event held at the Soviet Cultural Centre generated tremendous spectator interest as can be expected, Madras being the home of Indian chess and of Vishwanathan Anand. Ultimately, after a tussle for supremacy between the two leading banks in the fray, Indian Bank and Union Bank of India, the latter emerged triumphant. With IM's V Ravikumar and D V Prasad in their ranks, it came as no surprise when Union Bank won with a total of 17 points, a clear 1.5 points ahead of Indian Bank.

Internationally rated V Hariharan and FIDE master Shantharam however kept Indian Bank in the hunt for the title till the end.

Union Bank completed a double when I M Prasad took the individual title with 6.5 points. He finished half a point ahead of his Union Bank teammate and another I M Ravikumar.

Under-13 Cricket

"CATCH them young" is a popular sporting jargon And the BSA SLR South Zone under-13 cricket tournament conducted by the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association at Madras and sponsored by TI cycles, last month gave enough opportunities to the "tiny tots" to display their skill.

Holders Andhra Pradesh retained the title defeating hosts, Tamil Nadu in the final through their first innings lead In the



RAMANAN RELIANCE NEWS

three day final, Andhra scored 148 to which Tamil Nadu could only reply with 117. Andhra batted the whole of the last day and finished with 261 for five.

In the first round matches, played over two days, Karnataka defeated Goa while Hyderabad scored over Kerala. The semi finals were also played over two days and here Andhra beat Karnataka while Tamil Nadu got the better of Hyderabad.

There were several fine performances but pride of place should go to the 295 run stand for the first wicket notched up by Andhra openers, Sameer and Naginikumar against Karnataka. While Sameer from a Kurnool school hit 144, Naginikumar from Vizag scored 125 In the final too Naginikumar scored 97 and seems to be a fine prospect.

Tamil Nadu offspinner Munuswamy was another consistent performer. He was at his best taking six for 30 in Andhra's first innings in the final His consistent performances got him the 'cricketer of the tournament' award for he also shone with the bat.

Other awards presented were: Man of the Final: Naginikumar (Andhra). Best Batsmen of the tournament: Jagdish Singh (Andhra): Best bowler of the tournament: I. Srinivas (Andhra): Best All Rounder: Abdul Rasheed (Hyderabad).

In addition, in a thoughful gesture, the sponsors also gave away colourful BSA SLR cycles to members of the winning team

Partab Ramchand

The Andhra Pradesh team were the winners of the under-13 cricket championships



ROURKELA

All-Orissa TT

IN the All-Orissa Table Tennis Championship held at the indoor stadium, one witnessed the emergence of youth power. Albert Charles Kindo, the 15-year-old son of former hockey star Michael Kindo, stole the limelight of the championship, by winning the three titles.

He not only won the singles and doubles titles in the junior section, but went on to claim the men's singles title also.

On the concluding day immediately after winning the junior boy's single title, Albert Kindo met experienced Ranjan Pathak in the men's singles finals. In an exciting five set final which lasted one hour, Albert beat Ranjan Pathak 21-19, 17-21, 21-19, 12-21, 26-24 In the boy's singles final,he beat Rajesh Chaurasia in three straight sets 21-19, 21-18, 21-18.

Other results of the championship were.

Men's doubles—Ranjan Pathak and Debjit Sinha beat Albert Kindo and Rajesh Chaurasia 21-15, 21-16.

Boy's doubles—Albert Kindo and Rajesh Chaurasia beat M.K. Dwivedi and Srinivash Dash 19-21, 21-15, 21-19

State Body Building

ROURKELA Young Men's Association recently organised a two day's Utkal Shree State Body building Championship at the Civic Centre. This was the first time that the Steel City organised this championship in which around 50 competitors from various districts of the State participated in seven different weight categories.

Puri district emerged the champions in the competition as their body builders walked away with three Utkal Shree title along with two runners-up positions. Rourkela bagged two Utkal Shree titles and four runner -up positions.

Rourkela Steel Plant's Managing Director Dr. S.K. Gupta distributed the prizes on the concluding day.

Satish Sharma

KANPUR

Bank Hockey

STATE BANK OF INDIA, Lucknow Circle humbled the Bhopal Circle 2-1, in the final of the All India State Bank Hockey Tournament played at the famous Green Park Stadium where 14 teams took part.

Lucknow's Bora scored the first goal, but in the 51st minute Iqbal of Bhopal equalised it. It was indeed tough going as both the teams were evenly matched but for the decisive goal scored by Bhandari from Lucknow's side.

Kailash Agarwal

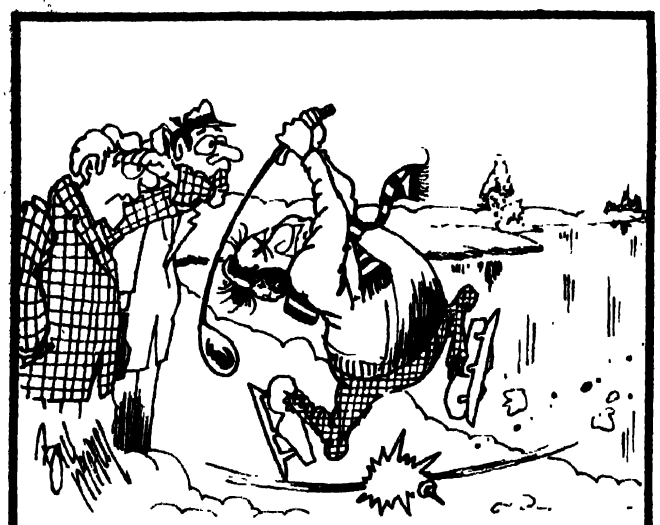
MANGALORE

State Bridge

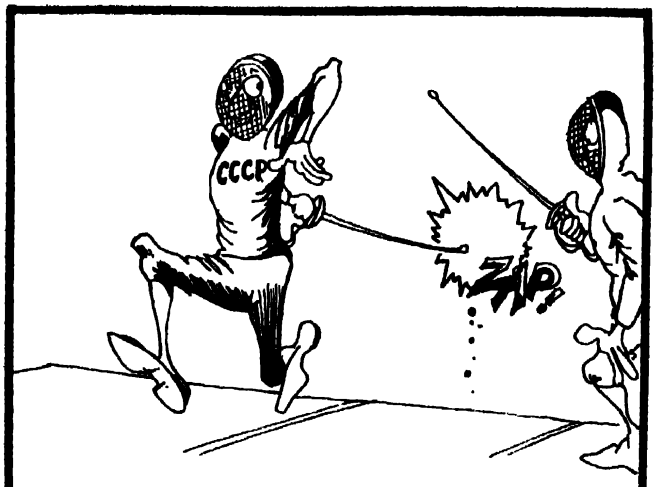
LAWRIE FERNANDES clinched the individual title and Denis Patrao emerged runner-up in the State Level Bridge Championship organised by the Dakshina Kannada Bridge Association.

M.R. Nijsure and V L.K. Swami emerged master pairs beating Rajendra and Durgadas. The championship organised under the auspices of Karnataka State Bridge Association attracted as many as 40 teams from Karnataka and Goa.

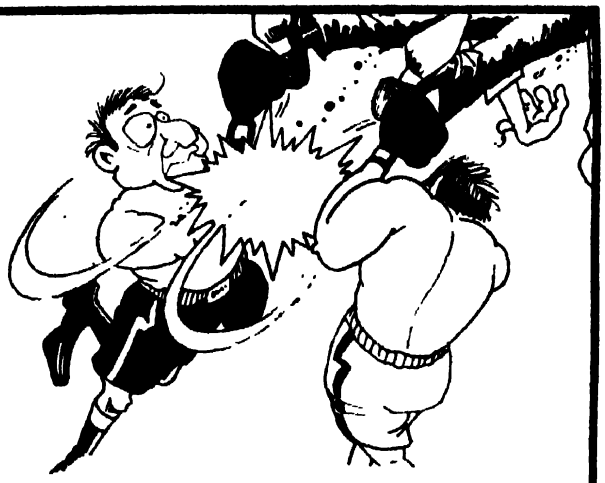
A Correspondent



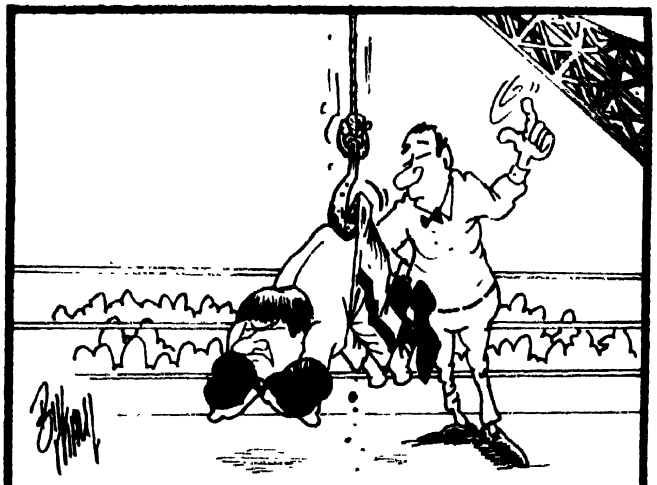
A PAIR OF HARD-NOSED GAMBLERS GLADLY TOOK HUSTLER **TITANIC THOMPSON'S** BET THAT HE COULD HIT A GOLF BALL AN UNBELIEVABLE 500 YARDS. THE ONLY STIPULATION WAS THAT THE BALL HAD TO BE DRIVEN FROM A TEE, BUT IT DIDN'T HAVE TO LAND ON A FAIRWAY. IN THE DEAD OF WINTER, THOMPSON HIT HIS SHOT ONTO AN ICED-OVER LAKE. THE BALL WAS STILL ROLLING AS TITANIC POCKETED HIS MONEY!



DURING THE 1976 OLYMPICS, RUSSIAN FENCER **BORIS ONISCHENKO** WAS SO FAST THAT NO ONE SAW HIS HITS EVEN THOUGH THEY REGISTERED ON THE ELECTRONIC SCORING MACHINE. THAT'S BECAUSE THEY WEREN'T REALLY HITS. OFFICIALS DISCOVERED THAT HIS FOIL WAS WIRED SO IT WOULD SCORE A WINNING HIT WITHOUT MAKING CONTACT! BORIS WAS DISQUALIFIED AND SENT HOME IN DISGRACE.



WELTERWEIGHTS **MIKE DECOSMO** AND **LAURIE BUXTON** EACH RECORDED A KNOCKOUT IN THEIR BOUT— THEY KO'D THE REFEREE! IN A 1948 MATCH IN NEWARK, THE TWO BOXERS KEPT ON FIGHTING AFTER THE BELL SOUNDED ENDING THE FINAL ROUND. REFEREE JOE WALKER THEN STEPPED BETWEEN THE TWO FLAILING BOXERS WHO SIMULTANEOUSLY— AND ACCIDENTALLY— WALLOPED HIM ON THE CHIN.



A KOREAN BOXER REFUSED TO STAND FOR HIS DISQUALIFICATION AT THE 1964 OLYMPIC GAMES— SO HE STAGED A SIT-DOWN STRIKE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE RING FOR 51 MINUTES! FLYWEIGHT **DONG-KIH CHOH** WAS DQ'ED FOR HOLDING HIS HEAD TOO LOW IN HIS BOUT WITH SOVIET FIGHTER STANISLAW SOROKIN. OFFICIALS FINALLY PERSUADED THE PROTESTER TO LEAVE THE RING AFTER NEARLY AN HOUR.

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. What is 'layout' in gymnastics?
2. With what sport is 'flash cut' associated?
3. He became the first black West Indian to play in a Test match for England, ironically against the West Indies. Who?
4. Who became the first player to score a fifty and take four wickets in the same World Cup match?
5. In the historic Kanpur Test against Australia J.M. Patel took nine wickets in the first innings. Who took the other wickets?

ANSWERS

1. A straight and extended position of the body in vaulting, swinging or somersaulting.
2. Basketball.
3. Roland Butcher.
4. Duncan Fletcher (Zimbabwe) vs Australia in the 1983 Prudential World Cup
5. C.G Borde who bowled Norman O'Neill out for 16

CHESS

Anand reestablished the lead with a virtuoso performance in the fourth game of his match He really loves the white side of e5 French Systems be it the Classical Variation or the Advance

Dreev played an unusual line involving quick queenside expansion as in the Sicilian. Anand made an interesting over the board pawn sacrifice to retain the initiative and eventually switched to allout attack winning the house.

White: Anand Vs Black : Dreev 4th game. Butterfly Candidates, Madras, '91.

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 Nf6 4 e5 Nd7 f4 c5 6 Nf3 nc6 7 Be3 a6!? Unusual More common is 7-- cd4 or 7--Qb6 as in the 6th game.

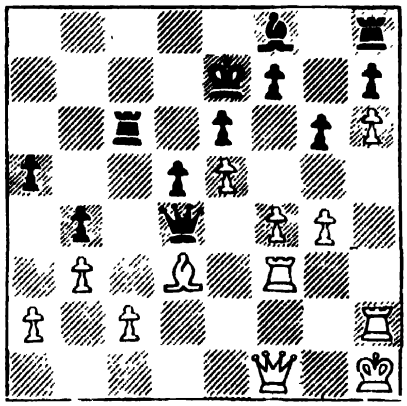
8Qd2 b5 h4 Bb7 10 h5 b4 11 Na4 cd4 12 Bf2!? Anand did not want to allow the various exchanges that result after 12 Nd4 Nd4 13 Bd4 Qa5 14 b3 Nc5 etc when black has a good position. Now the black pawn on d4 acts like a self block. Black could try 12--Qa5 13 b3 Nc5 14 Nxc5 Bxc5 15 Bd3 when white should have a lot of play for the pawn.

12 Qc7 13 Bd3 Na5 14 Nxd4 Nc4 15 Qc1 Bc6? This move looks doubtful. In fact the whole idea of regrouping the queenside minor pieces just loses time for black.

16 Nxc6 Qxc6 17 b3 Na3? Probably dropping back to b6 makes more sense **180-0 Rc8 19 Qe3 g6 20 Qh3 Bh6 21 Be3 Nb5 22 Rf3! Nc3 23 Nxc3 Qxc3 24 Raf1 Qc6 25 Kh1 Bg726 Bd4 Nc5 27 Bxc5 Qxc5 28 g4.** White can afford the luxury of regrouping his pieces for optimum effect before making the decisive break. The opposite coloured bishops just increase his edge. **28--Rc6 29 Rlf2 Qd4 30 Qf1 Ke7 31 Rh2 a5 32 h6 Bf8.** (see Diagram). **33 f5! gf5 34 gf5 Rg8 35 fe6 fe6 36 Bxh7 Rc3.** If black goes 36--Rh8 37Rf then 37 Rf7+ is deadly.

37 Bxg8 Qe4 38 Rhh3 Bh6 39 Qg2 Qe1+ 40 Qg1 Qe4 41 Qa7+ (1-0). White has a mating attack in addition to his material advantage

Devangshu Dutta



BRIDGE

In a cricket Test at Lord's in the twenties, Australia's Charles McCartney, who was dropped on two, went on to score a century before lunch. Even patriotic Englishmen were heard saying, "Thank God for the spilled catch, we got to see a scintillating inings" Today's hand from the last British Masters' Pairs reminded me of the incident:-

Have you noticed the apparent error in the layout? On this auction North should be declarer but he is marked as dummy. That is where we got lucky, West had

NORTH(dummy)
♠ K J 5
♡ 4 3
◇ A J 10 9 3
♣ A J 4

WEST
♠ 10 9 8 4
♡ 9 2
◇ 2
♣ Q 10 9 8 3 2

EAST
♠ 2
♡ K 10 6 5
◇ K 7 5 4
♣ K 8 7 5

SOUTH
♠ A Q 7 6 3
♡ A Q J 8 7
◇ Q 8 6
♣ ----

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Rose	Coyle	S'stone	Sheehan
Pass	1 NT	Pass	2 ♡ *
Pass	2 ♠	Pass	3 ♡
Pass	4 ♣ **	Pass	4 ◇ +
Pass	5 ◇ **	Pass	6 ♡
Pass	6 ♠	All Pass	

* Transfer, 5+ ♠ s
** cue-bids
\+ mark-time

his singleton diamond on the table in a flash....and, before East or South could say a word, North had tabled his hand! Thank god he did, or else another gem of purest ray serene would have lain buried in the dark, unfathomed caves of obscurity.

At two other tables where South was declarer on the same lead, South had finessed at trick one, hoping West did not have a singleton, and suffered immediate defeat. Sheehan had no such doubts about the lead and found an elegant play to bring home his slam even though the hearts did not break. He won the lead with the ace, taking care to drop the queen from hand, cashed king-jack of trumps, finessed a heart, drew the outstanding trumps and led a diamond to dummy's nine. This left East in a Morton's Fork; if he ducks, declarer pitches his losing diamond on the club ace and takes a second heart finesse to bring home the suit with one loser while if he wins, dummy's diamonds provide South with necessary discards.

Yes, I know there is another way of making the contract, but apart from the fact this line was slightly superior, would you not rather say 'nirasa tarubara' than 'sushkang kasthang'?

Shantanu Ghosh

BAHADUR PRASAD

Is A Tormented Man These Days

FLASHBACK: October '90. Beijing Asian Games. 1500m.

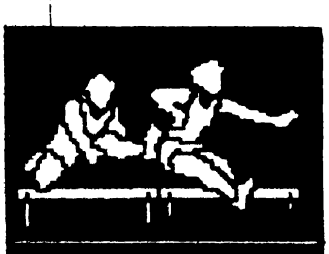
The gun cracks and Bahadur Prasad moves into the lead straightaway. The other runners fall behind him quickly in single file and the race is on. Prasad moves with swift, clear strides, a look of confidence on his face. But this way only a brief flourish. Prasad was straining while the runners behind were running at a cool, comfortable pace. At the bell for the last lap, while Prasad had shot his bolt, the others, especially Mohammed Sulaiman of Qatar just pressed the accelerator and zoomed past the fast fading Prasad who finished a dismal fifth.

FORMER Chief Coach Joginder Singh Saini called Bahadur Prasad 'a terrorist' and a 'sex maniac' after this dismal performance. The Indian media pilloried him after he returned, for becoming India's great disaster. And Prasad, a simple bloke from Agra did not know what hit him. For months he moved about in a daze, unable to understand the reasons for the vituperation against him. And slowly his motivation and love for running began to disappear

'I am the most hated runner now' says Bahadur Prasad, 'because the Indian coaches now see nothing good in me.' Prasad is doing off-season endurance training at the Karnail Stadium but he has no coach nor a systematic training programme. As a result, he has to miss the Inter-State athletics championships because he is not ready.

The Indian coaches have ignored him but world renowned coach Harry Wilson thinks otherwise. In a letter to Prasad, (see box) he stated that he would be willing to send him a training schedule for the future. And here is the clincher: 'Please, you must keep trying at athletics, as you have too much talent to let it go to waste.'

It is strange that when Harry Wilson thinks so highly of Prasad, that he is being ignored? And not been giving the right direction. What in God's name is SAI doing in this matter?



It is strange that when Harry Wilson thinks so highly of Prasad, that he is being ignored? And not been given the right direction? What in God's name is SAI doing in this matter?

Meanwhile, a depressed Prasad is thinking of training abroad. 'I can' he says 'improve upon my best timings of 3:41.93 in the 1500m which I set in the Belfast international last year. I think, if I have about six months of training, I can bring down my timing to 3:40.

This is a most crucial time for him. Unless drastic measures are taken to save his career, Prasad is going to be consigned to the dustbin of oblivion, another victim of the coaches' vindictive syndrome.

Harun Riaz

LETTER TO BAHADUR PRASAD FROM HARRY WILSON

Dear Bahadur,

Thank you for your card—as you can see, I have a new address. I am sorry to hear that you have not improved and I was told that last year was a disaster for Indian middle distance running. Of course, I will try my best to help you. Do you want me to send you training schedules? What has happened to the man who used to coach you? Assuming you want me to send schedules, will you please tell me:-

a) What training you are doing at the moment?

b) Have you any competition arranged between now and the end of March?

c)What are the dates of your major competitions this year?

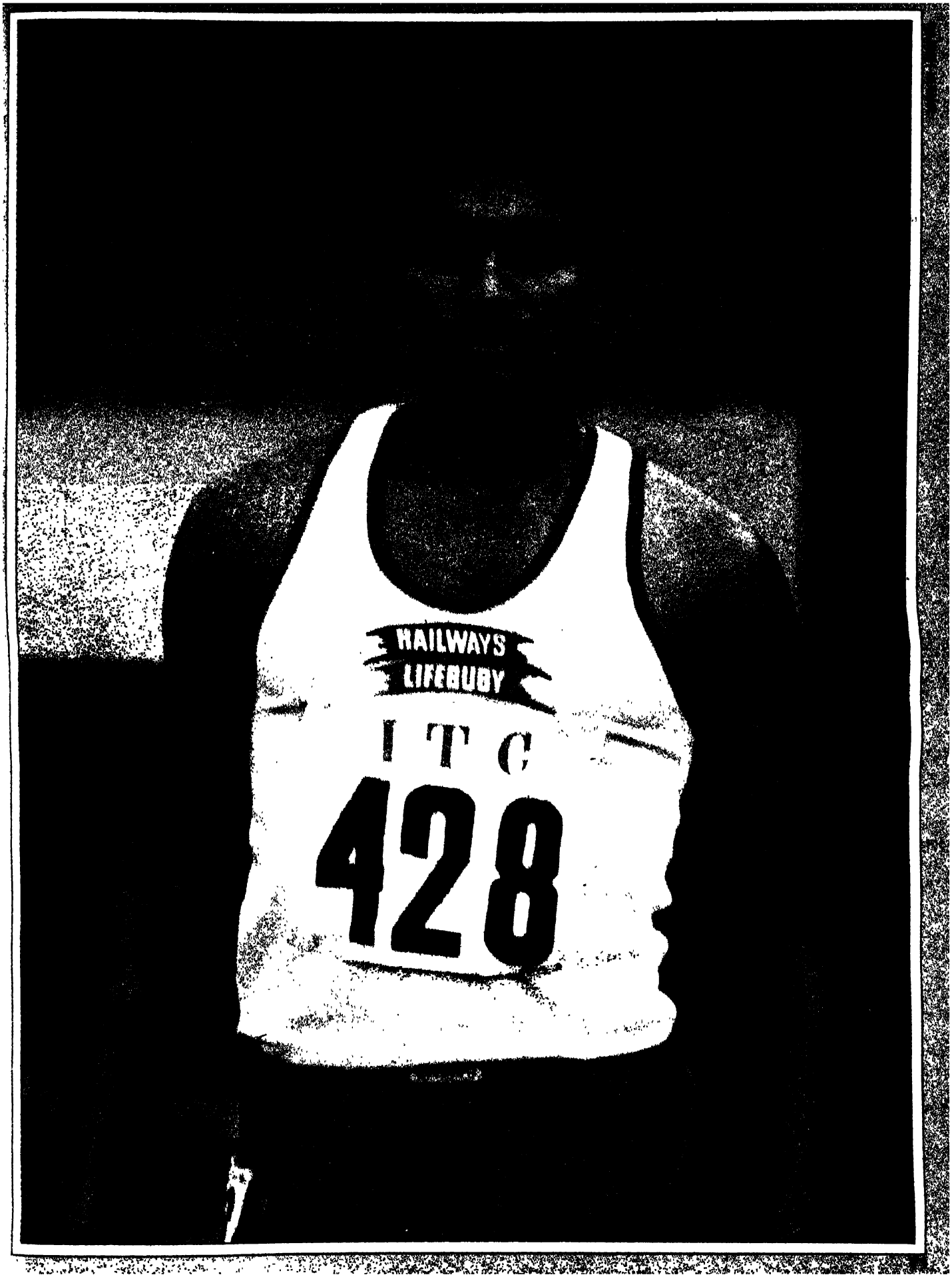
When you tell me the information, I can plan a programme and send training schedules. Please you must keep trying at athletics as you have too much talent to let it go to waste.

Best wishes for 1991.

Yours sincerely,

Harry Wilson.

Harry Wilson is the world renowned coach of former Olympic champion Steve Ovett. He had been invited to India to train Indian middle distance runners and Bahadur Prasad flourished under his training. Then, owing to the politics in the athletics fraternity, his contract was terminated and he was forced to go back home to Britain


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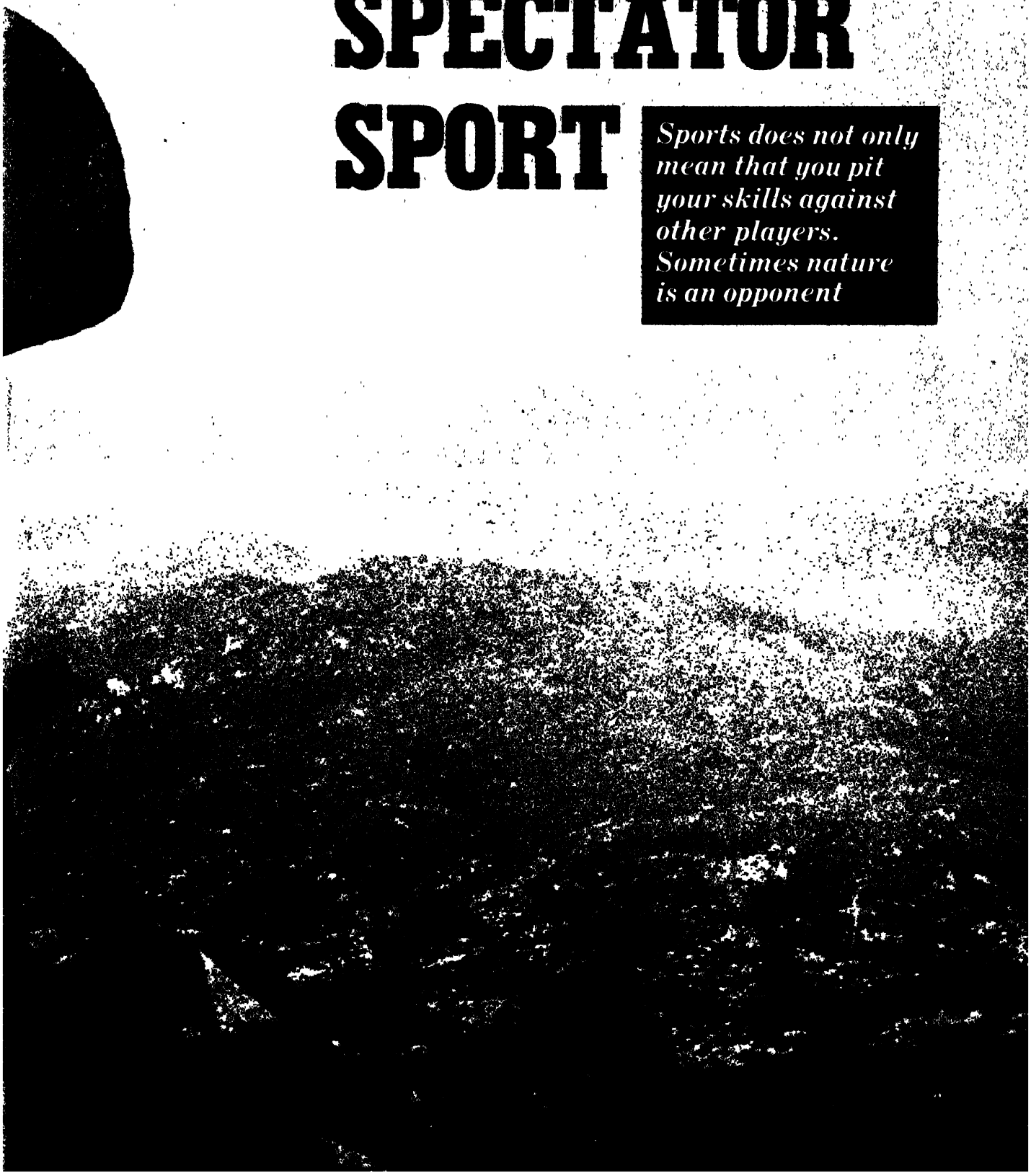


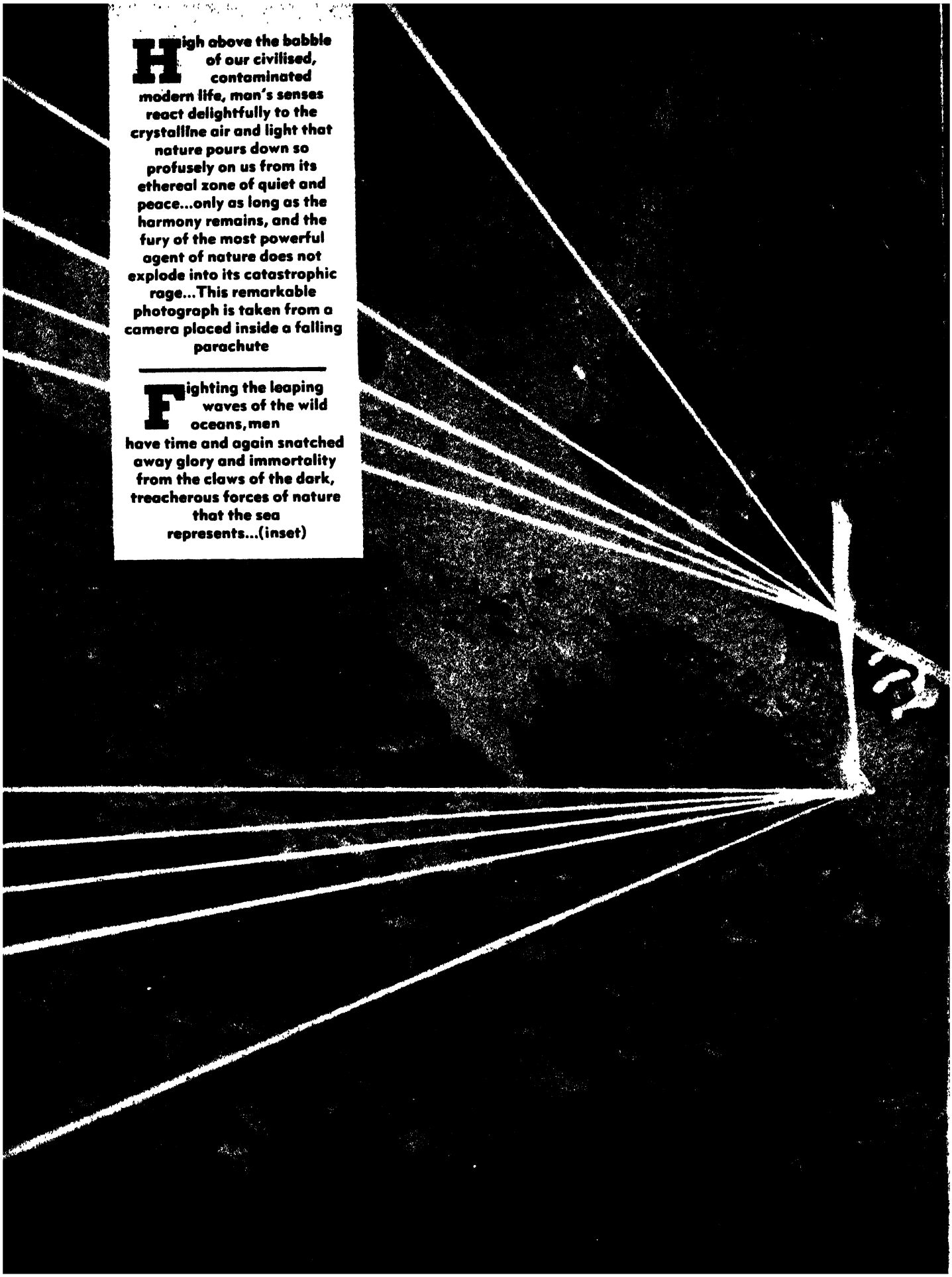
For the heights of man's aspirations, only the sky holds the limit. As for his originality of adventure ideas, even climbing these bizzare, precarious and scary rocks does not belong to the realm of the impossible

PHOTO FEATURE

LIFE AIN'T NO SPECTATOR SPORT

Sports does not only mean that you pit your skills against other players. Sometimes nature is an opponent

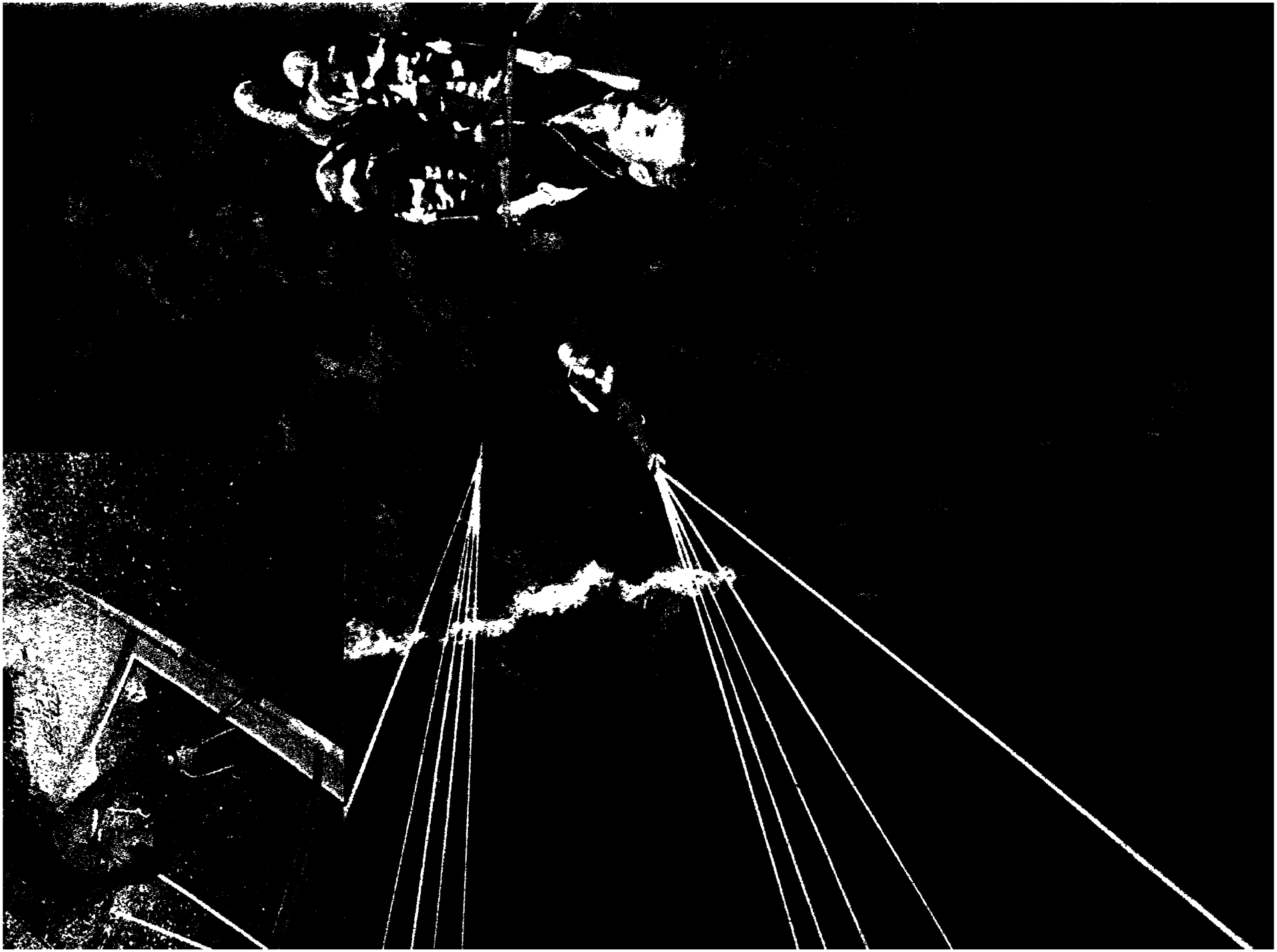




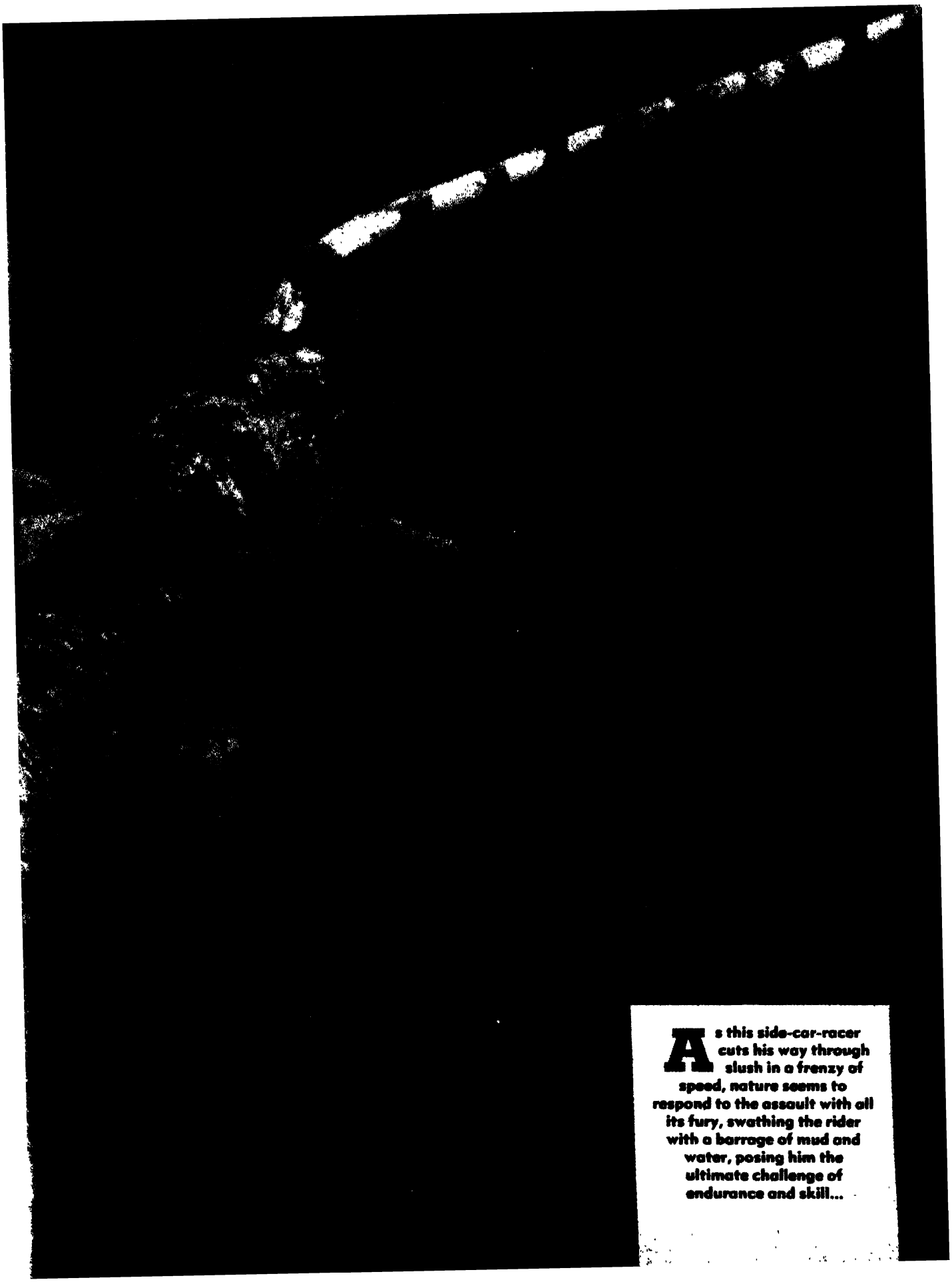
High above the babble of our civilised, contaminated modern life, man's senses react delightfully to the crystalline air and light that nature pours down so profusely on us from its ethereal zone of quiet and peace...only as long as the harmony remains, and the fury of the most powerful agent of nature does not explode into its catastrophic rage...This remarkable photograph is taken from a camera placed inside a falling parachute

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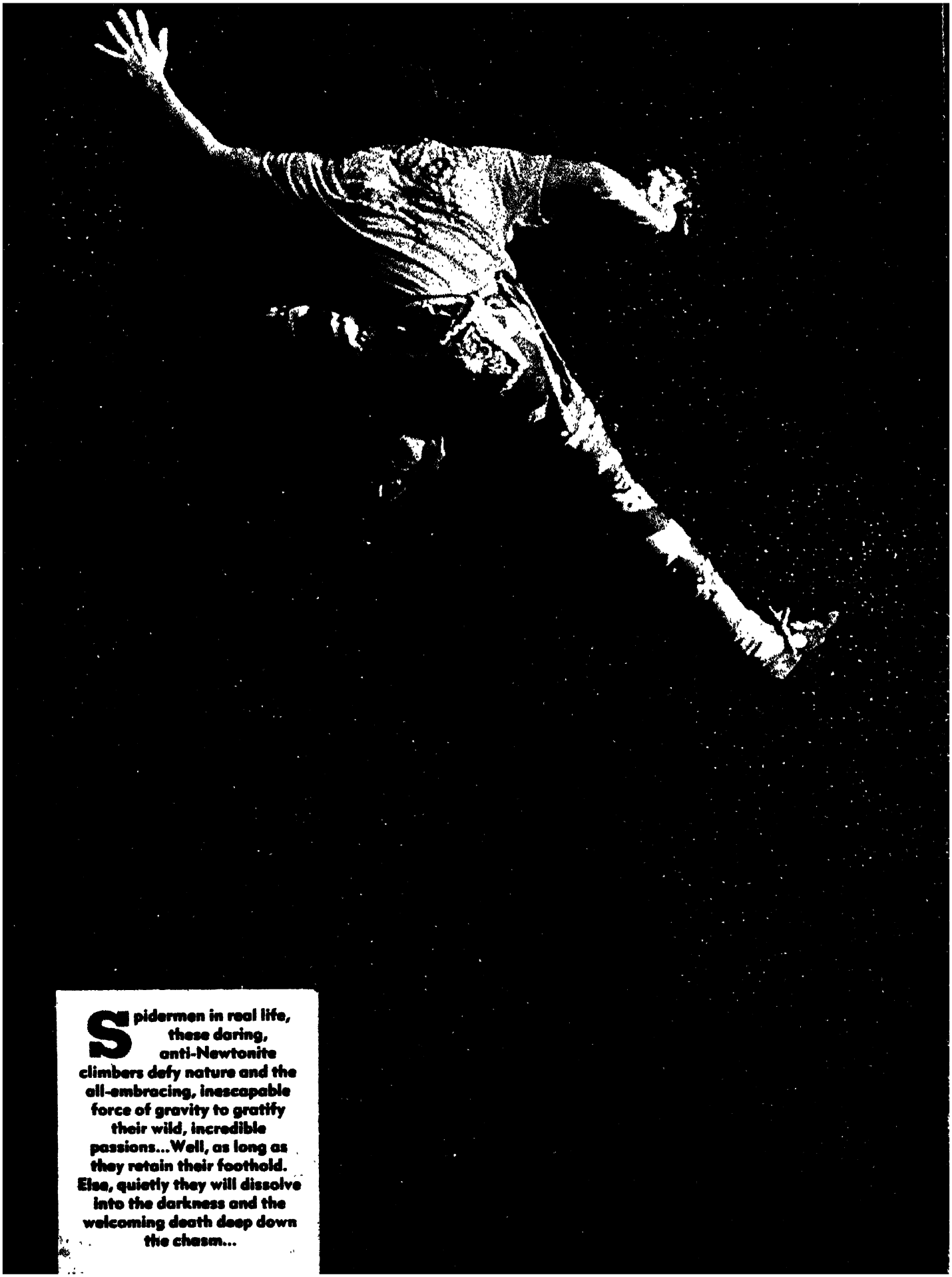
Fighting the leaping waves of the wild oceans, men have time and again snatched away glory and immortality from the claws of the dark, treacherous forces of nature that the sea represents...(inset)







As this side-car-racer cuts his way through slush in a frenzy of speed, nature seems to respond to the assault with all its fury, swathing the rider with a barrage of mud and water, posing him the ultimate challenge of endurance and skill...



Spidermen in real life, these daring, anti-Newtonite climbers defy nature and the all-embracing, inescapable force of gravity to gratify their wild, incredible passions...Well, as long as they retain their foothold. Else, quietly they will dissolve into the darkness and the welcoming death deep down the chasm...



FROM ETERNAL GROUCH

To bratty prankster



Tyson with Don King: so what's cooking?

GOSH! Has Mike Tyson changed! Our sleuths in America took a break from CNN and gave us the latest on the ex-champ. Tyson is more at ease with himself than ever before. A once-upon-a-time eternal grouch he is now able to actually laugh at his previous follies (read: due to susceptible mood swings). "I feel very comfortable with myself," he disclosed. "As time goes by, it just happens—you get more relaxed."

Relaxed he is but his sense of humour has not undergone any major transformation. It remains as bratty and mischievous as ever. He is upto all sorts of pranks as his close friend and bodyguard, Anthony Pitts, would testify.

Team Tyson created a yarn—at the cost of Pitts—that Tyson was on the verge of marrying a woman dear to his aide. So disheartened was Pitts when Tyson told him of the ring he intended to buy for his betrothed, that he stopped the car in the middle of traffic and tried to disuade his master from marrying *his* sweetheart. Later that day at the gym, even the mythical wedding date was announced much to Pitts' great discomfiture, and it was only much later that the truth was revealed.

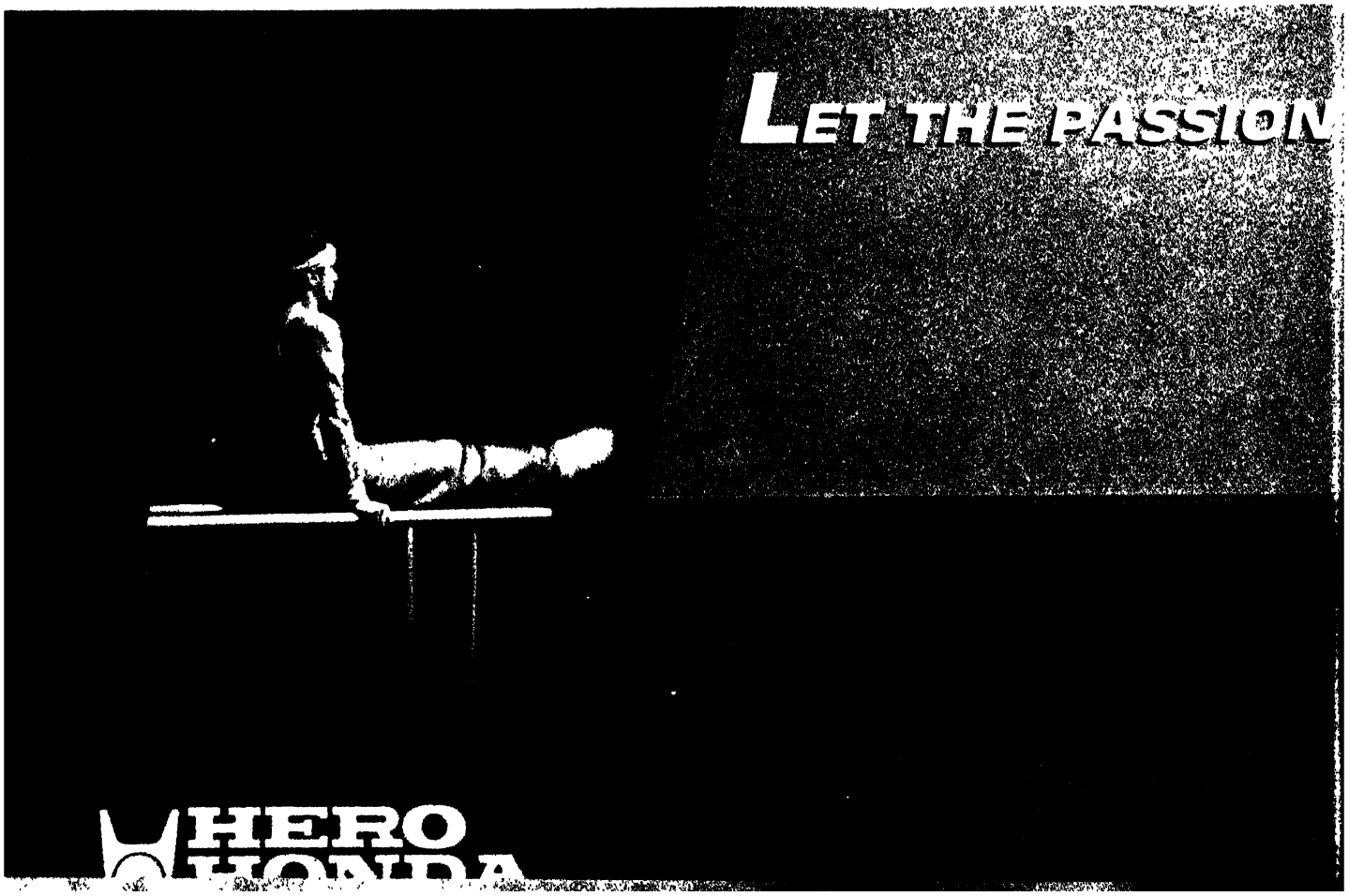
"Oh yeah," said Tyson, "We play bad bad jokes. If you can't take it, then don't come around, cos' we do dish it out."

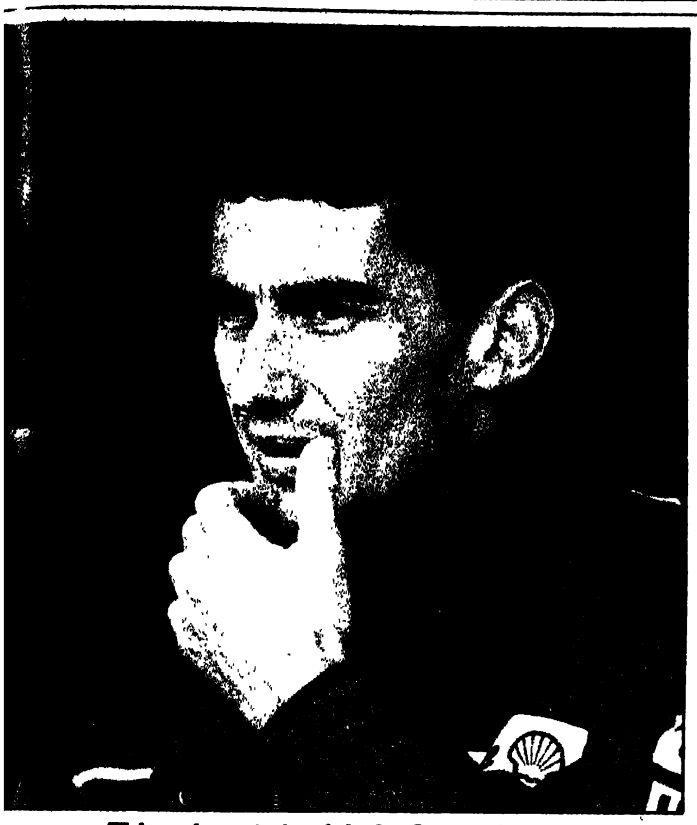
So who's your next joke gonna be on Mike? 'Razor' Ruddock?

PRIVATE EYE



WE LOOK WHERE WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO!





Things have to be right for Senna. Speed is no consolation

HE'S GOT THE POWER!

Hero Honda

IT seems as if Ayrton Senna's quest for total Formula 1 excellence is unending, his crash-ups bear testimony to that. Ask the Japanese engineers who do duty for McLaren Honda and they too will testify to the man's demands.

"It's not enough. We need more power. There's much hard work to be done." This is exactly how Senna greeted the Honda engineers in Estoril after McLaren-Honda's new baby, the V12, was checked out by the Brazilian. The Japs were aghast!

After four months of intense development work at Waco, Honda's research centre in Japan, their much vaunted V12 was not upto Senna's—best translated as 'very high'—standards. Senna himself had done a fair amount of development work in Japan last autumn and then took a break. "I worked hard till October. It was then upto Honda to carry on the work. I am afraid they are behind schedule. The progress we expected has not happened. Now it is time for them to catch up."

Senna's not bothered. Speed is the great leveller, and he needs it to level scores with Prof. Prost.



freewheeling

"I WANT you to run the perimeter of the field, and each time you pass that pine tree, sprint to the next tree. It's called fartlek."

For a moment, I thought my dad had said a word I wasn't allowed to repeat. I was 13 years old and training for the midwest regional Junior Olympic Championships half-mile. (I peaked early in life.) We were on the campus of the University of Akron, where my dad taught mathematics. I was wearing white gym shorts and my Fast Trak sneakers, and my dad wore Hush Puppies and brown pants.

An unlit pipe hung from the corner of his mouth, which had just uttered the taboo-sounding word. He had learned the term from a hardback green book, a leftover from his high school coaching days 10 years earlier.

That is the earliest recollection I have of me, my dad and running. But there are more.

Before every junior high track meet he used to feed me honey. It came in a clear plastic bottle with a little red stopper on the end of the nozzle. My dad carried the bottle in a small brown paper bag all afternoon like a wino. Ten minutes before my race he'd hand it to me, and I'd squeeze the golden liquid down my throat—so sweet it almost made me gag. I'd jog over to the start, confident that I had an edge, real or imagined.

In high school, dad would come down from the stands after I crossed the finish line. (He always stood in the same spot—up high and left of the finish line.) "What was your time?" he'd ask. I'd tell him. Then he would take out his stopwatch, the *official* timepiece. "Well, *I* got you in...." His time for me was always a second or two faster.

The afternoon of my last college track meet, he cancelled classes and drove 45 minutes to stand in the rain. In a race of five, I came in third. Afterward, it was still raining, and dad and I walked a lap around the empty track. Me in my red-and-blue warm-ups. He in a light-brown raincoat and toting a black umbrella.

A year later I found him sitting in the TV room staring at the set. It wasn't on. He said he'd had a physical examination that morning, and the doctor found a tumor in his back. They ran some tests. The results would be in, later.

The tumor, thankfully, was benign. Even so, that week my dad traded in his pipe for a pair of running shoes.

It was a rough beginning. At 52, my father handn't exercised regularly for 30 years. He wasn't fat, but he wasn't fit either. My mom, brothers and I watched that first week as dad, with our dog in tow, struggled to make it two blocks—less than half a mile.

He kept at it, though. For a month he fought to go for a mile without stopping. And then one day, he did it. After that, he mapped out 2 and 3-mile courses through the streets of our neighbourhood.

Two years ago, at 55, he ran a half-marathon. It was an awful day for a race—sleet and strong, cold winds. I had promised to wait for him at the 11-mile mark to run the last couple of miles with him. His stride was choppy, and icicles had made a home in his salt-and-pepper beard. "Just try to relax and maintain form," I said. "The pain," he mumbled. "The pain."

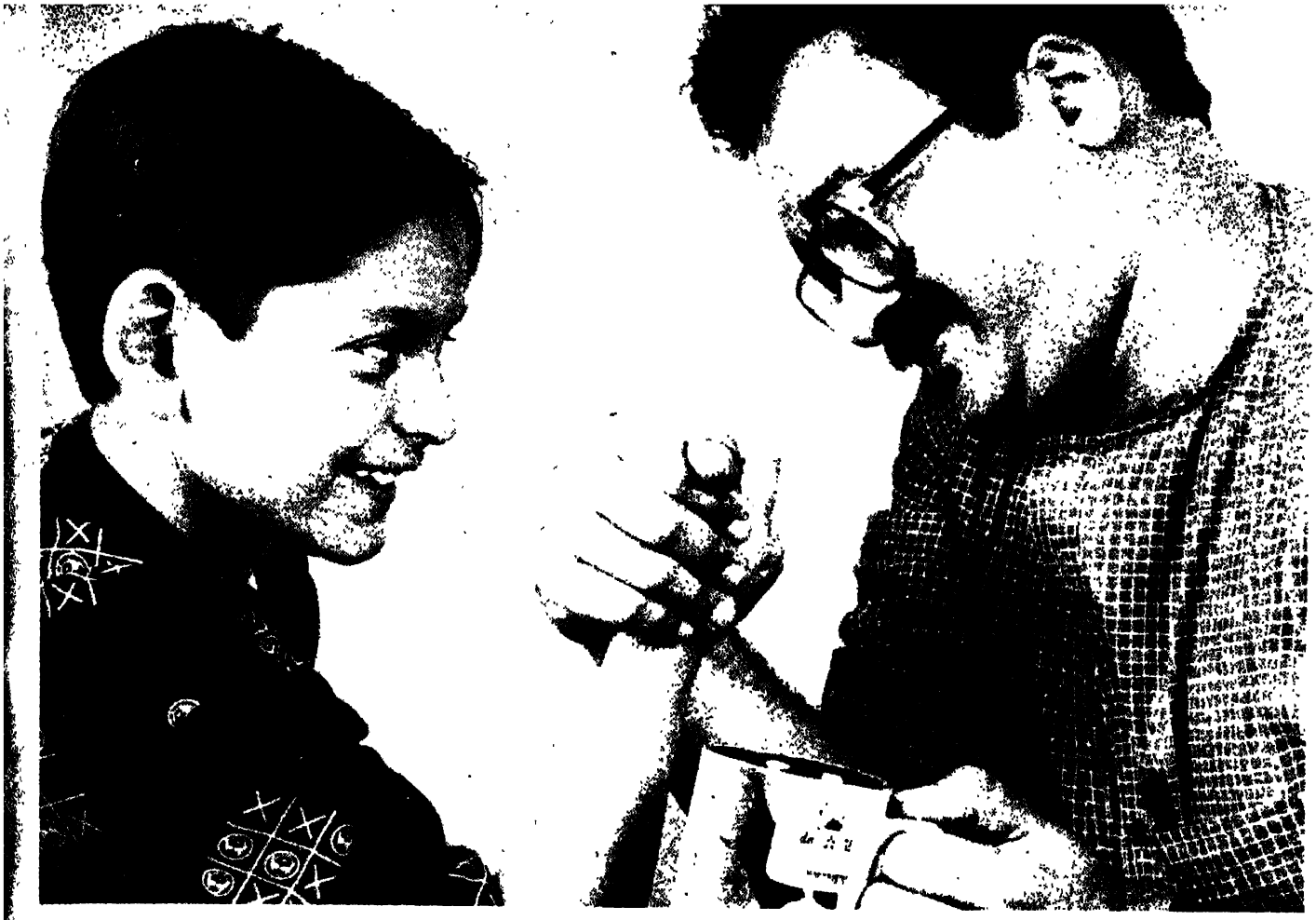
And now, as he prepares for his first marathon this fall, I'm debating a point: Should I tell my father that—for us average runners—the pain after 20 miles in the marathon is going to be twice as acute, twice as deep? Or, should I skip that fact and rave about the euphoria that comes when you cross the finish line. I've already told him that he needs to increase his mileage, to run longer, easier workouts. And I've pointed out the importance of 20-milers in marathon training.

But the long runs are still a month or so away. For now, I think I'll slip on my running shoes and give him a call. We can drive over to campus, find that old pine tree.

And run some fartlek together.

David Kuehls





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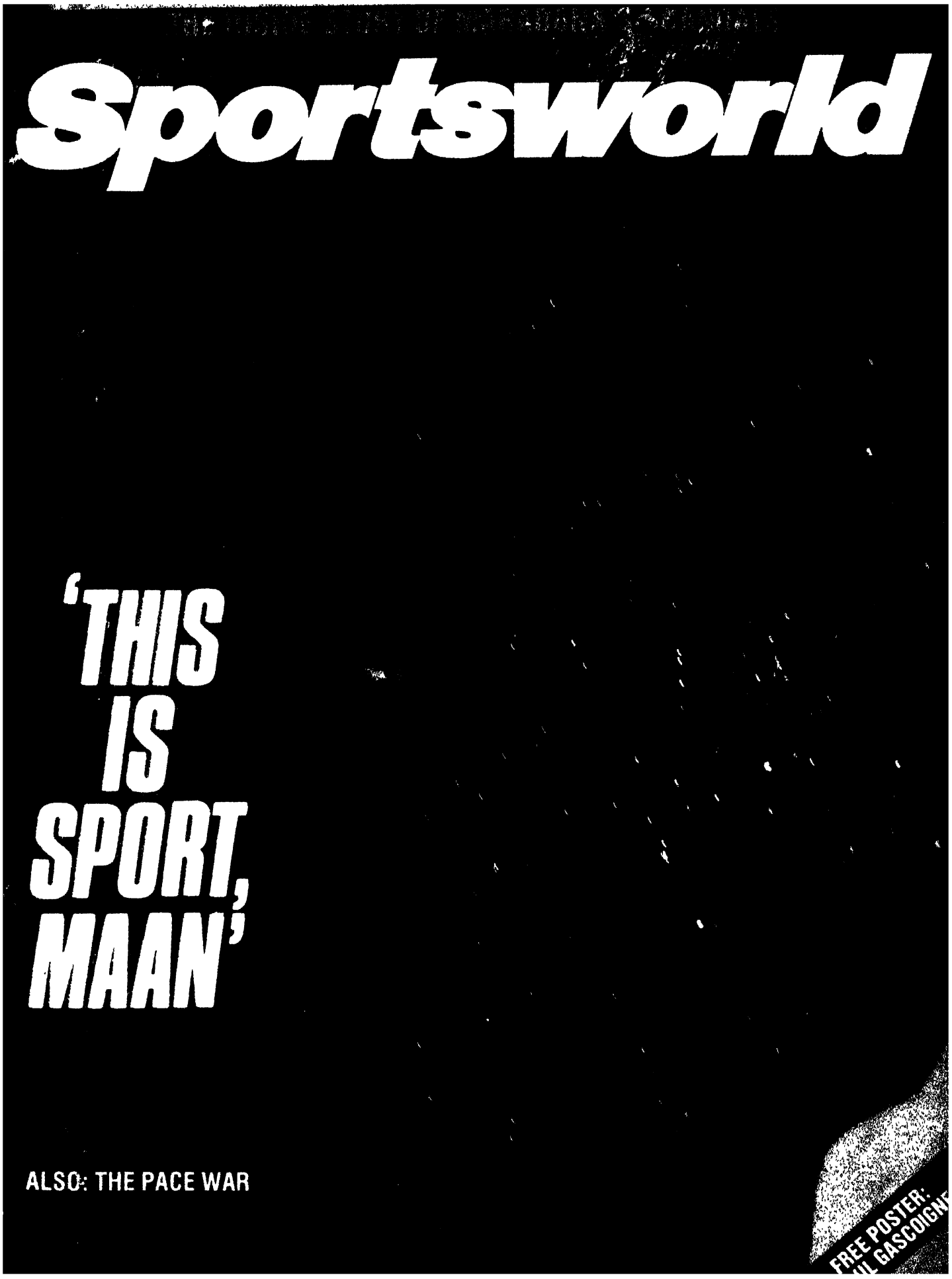


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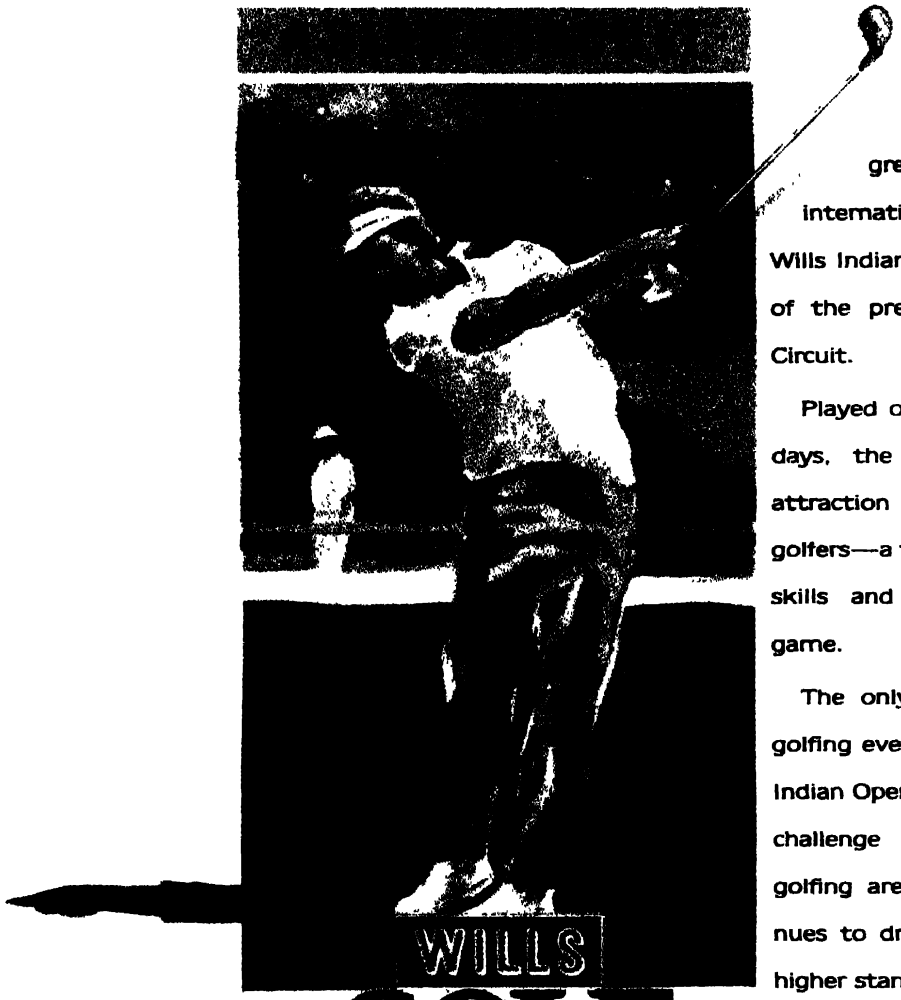


'THIS IS SPORT, MAAN'

ALSO: THE PACE WAR

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VOICES



"Mom said you should miss the return."
JOHN McENROE to brother Patrick, at matchpoint, in the final of the Volvo of Chicago tennis tournament. John won 3-6, 6-2, 6-4. This is the second time the McEnroe brothers have faced each other, in a major tournament.

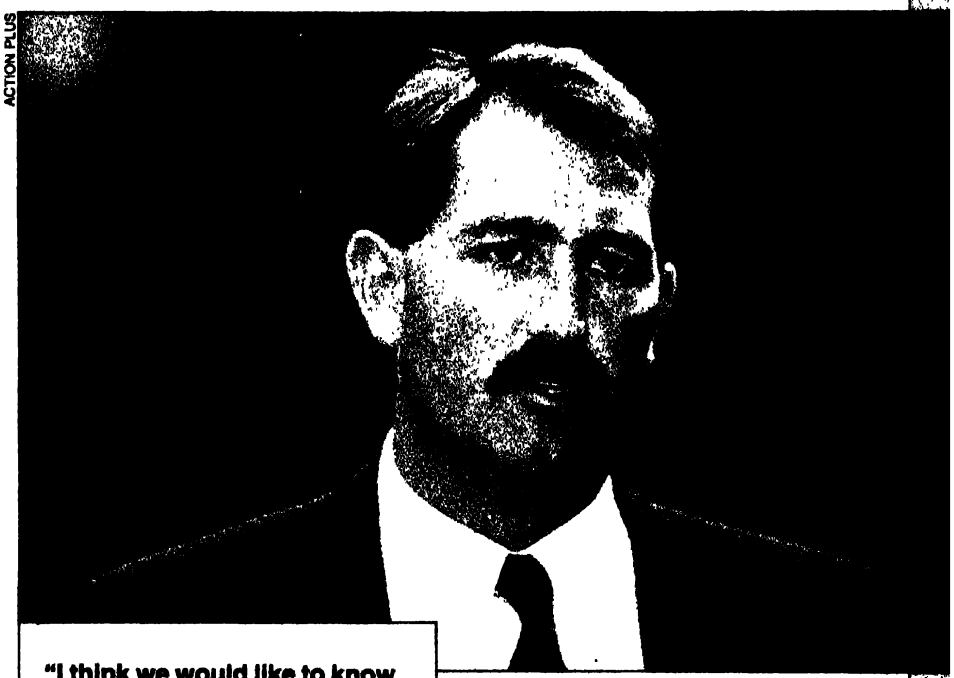
"I am going to recapture the title. It's my destiny, nothing will stop me. I am going to knock him out in two rounds."
GEORGE FOREMAN, is confident about his upcoming fight with Evander Holyfield on April 19th, in Atlantic City.

"It's the war of the gladiators. This isn't a trip down memory lane. This is a serious tennis match."
A SPOKESMAN, for the promoters of the Borg—Connors comeback match scheduled for the 10th of April at Olympia, in London.

"We had never talked to him about coaching. That was never part of the equation. I don't think that's his best use. It's one thing to coach a national team like the Germans, where everything is organised and compressed and there's so much history. But it's another thing to come to our programme."
U.S. Soccer Federation's President, ALAN ROTHENBERG, puts to rest the rumours that Franz Beckenbauer after his World Cup truimph, would coach the US soccer team for the '94 World Cup

"There is a time when you have been under a microscope and under pressure for 15 years and then the stress begins to tell."
JOHAN CRUYFF, Barcelona's coach on the pressures of coaching. He recently had to undergo bypass surgery on a clogged coronary artery.

ACTION PLUS



"I think we would like to know who the captain is referring to."
Unnamed ENGLISH PLAYER, referring to Graham Gooch's statement that some players' careers are on the line

"I've never really thought of myself as a Test captain."
Wicket keeper IAN SMITH who replaced injured Martin Crowe as the skipper, sounds the war cry for the final and deciding Test against Sri Lanka.

"I just picture myself doing the things I need to win and as far as beating Carl, it's much like winning another race. If I master my start, if I master acceleration and if I overcome deceleration, then I will compete well."
LEROY BURRELL, who is now the favourite to take the mantle of 'the fastest man' from Carl Lewis and Co.

CONTENTS

Bjorn Borg says he is serious about his comeback (page 40). But is the tennis world listening? This net court judge surely isn't. He's got his mind on the game in progress.



Sportsworld

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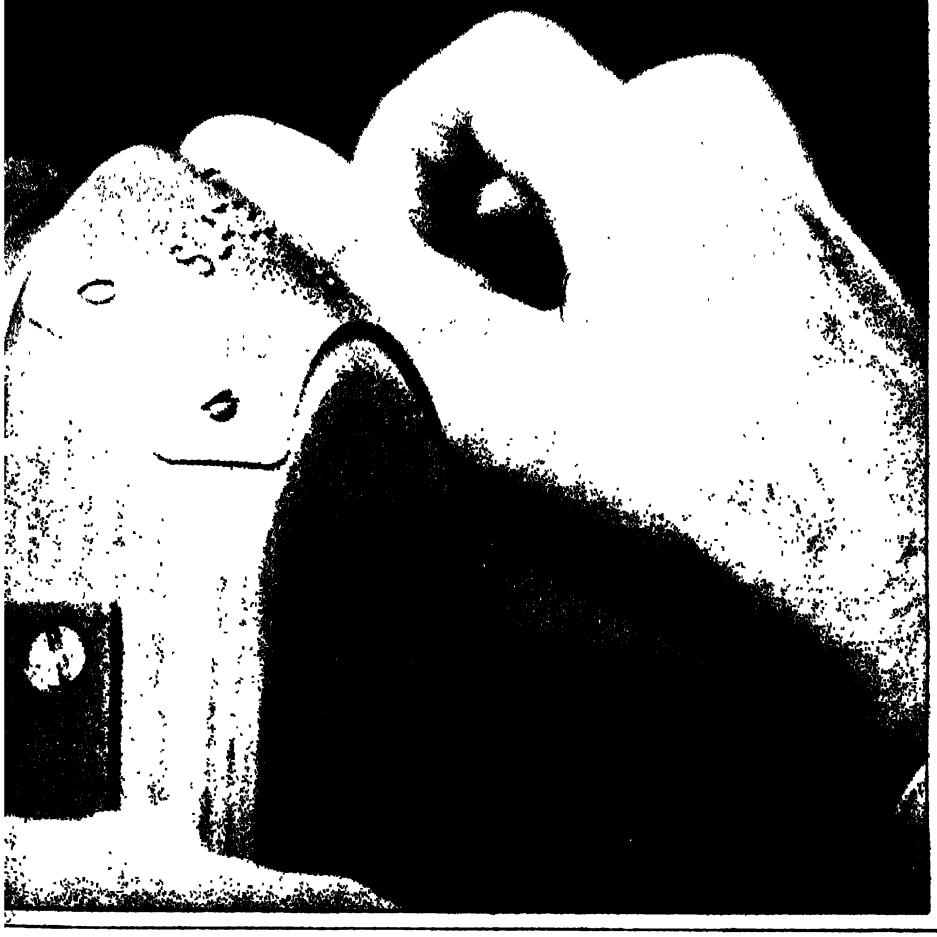


6 Australia in the West Indies. "This is sport, maan this is sport"... That's what Viv Richards said as his batsmen came into the dressing room bleeding and doubled up in pain. For the first time, the West Indians were getting a taste of their own medicine from the Aussie pace attack.

40 Bjorn Borg — "It's nice to be back." Borg is ready to make his first tournament appearance and the sceptics might just be in for a surprise. What does Borg have to say?

48 Crossed swords. The Australians and Pakistani squash players are dueling with words. This verbal battle has taken a turn for the worse and it seems to be affecting the game of squash.

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AUSTRALIA IN THE WEST INDIES

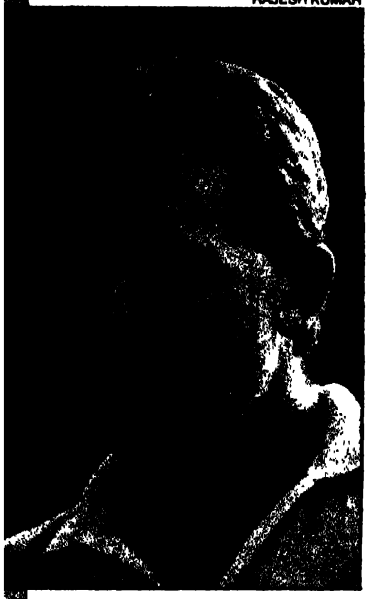
"THIS IS WAR"

WHAT gives 150 million Australians a massive headache and red eyes? The answer is *not* 300 million litres of beer. It's sitting up all night, watching the live telecast of the West Indies Test matches which, like the World Cup, seem to go right through the night.

Not that it was without reason either. With their team having the West Indians reeling at 6 for 75, there was plenty of enthusiasm to stay up...and guzzle beer in celebration. It took a grieving Gus Logie—he had just lost his mother—to stem the flow of beer down Aussie throats. Refusing to let his sorrow, or Craig McDermott and Merv Hughes' fire, shackle him, the gutsy Logie hung in there. Even a McDermott bouncer that left him with seven stitches under his eye was not enough to stop him. His skipper Viv Richards, not exactly the most generous of men when it comes to praise, admitting, "you have to admire the courage of a little bloke like that. He had just lost his mother and yet he was able to put all his problems behind him and concentrate on saving the side."

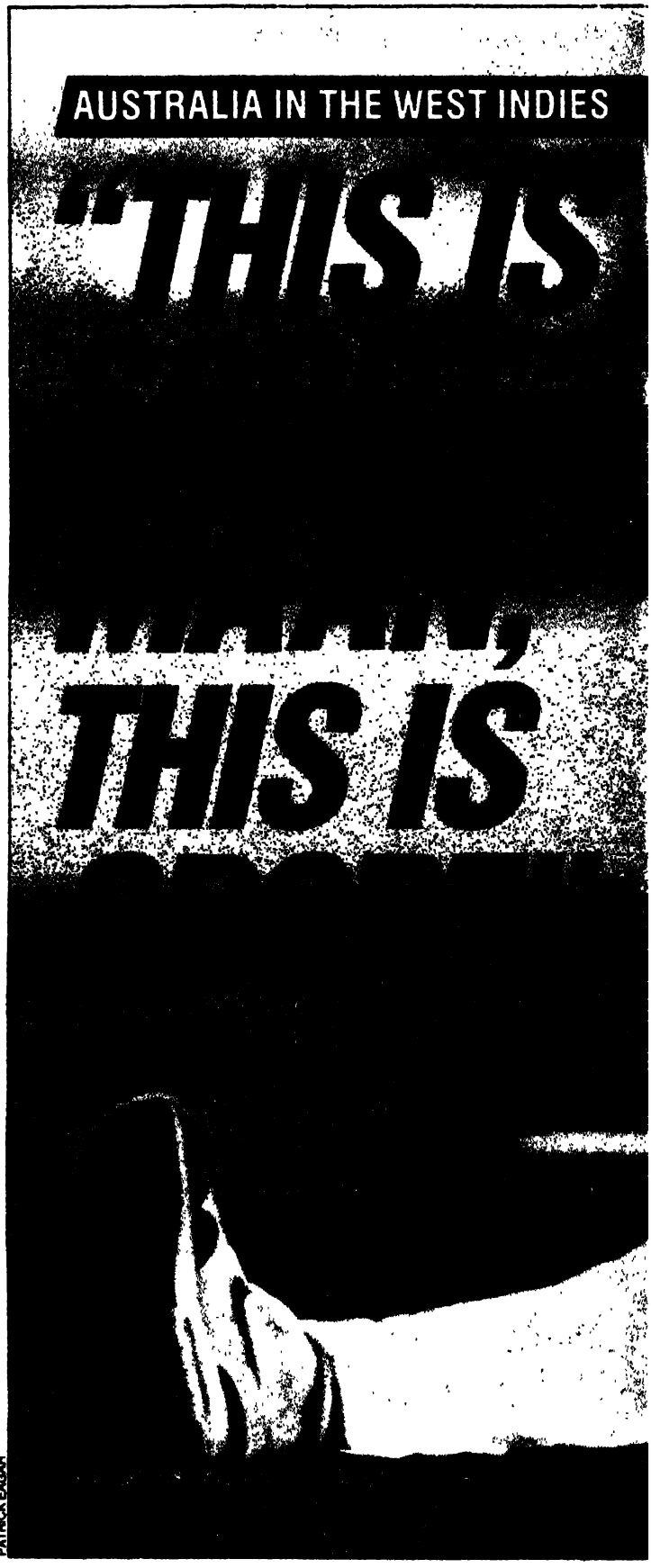
From the opening day of the first Test in Kingston itself, the West Indian batsmen were under fire.

RAJESH KUMAR



That's what Viv Richards said while his batsmen swayed, ducked and bled against the Aussie onslaught at Jamaica. Unfortunately the first Test was washed out but the Australians have made their intentions clear

McDermott: spitting fire and venom



PATRICK EAGAR

Viv Richards' team is getting back a taste of the medicine they have meted out to so many cricket teams over the years

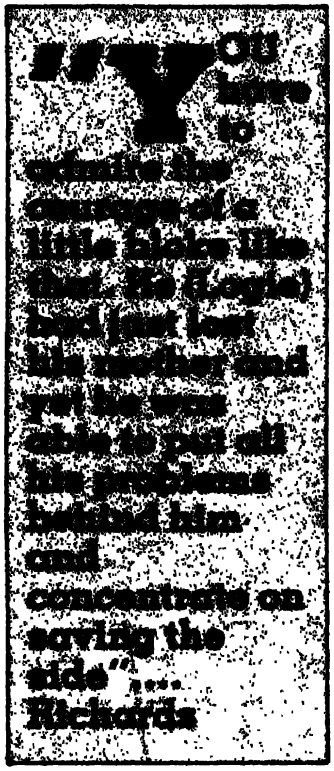








PATRICK EAGAR



Even when Merv Hughes doesn't have his battle paint on, he looks a dangerous proposition

Ironically, the ammunition being levelled at them was none other than pace bowling, the same weapon that has proved their main asset against international batsmen over the past two decades.

Not since 1976 had three batsmen (Gaekwad, Patel and Vishwanath) been carted off to hospital for urgent medical attention. Yet, here, incredibly, it was the home side that shed blood on the pitch. In a twist of irony, the same hospital that had served the Indian batsmen now performed emergency repairs on three West Indian batsmen: Gus Logie, Desmond Haynes and Gordon Greenidge. In this incident, there was one message that shone through more significantly than any other. The Australians were not afraid of the risk of retribution.

The sad part of it all was that the tourists, having led on the first innings of the opening Test, saw their dreams evaporate after rain caused damage to the wicket. Australia had the psychological advantage of going into the Test following victory in the first one-day international. The West Indies won the toss and elected to bat, yet were six wickets down for 75, with McDermott wreaking havoc. However, Gus Logie and Jeff Dujon steadied the innings, Logie unbeaten with 77 and Dujon contributing 59 invaluable runs to take the total to 264. Australia should have been disheartened, yet the tourists, led by David Boon, posted a lead of more than 100 runs. Boon, in danger of losing his place during the recently-concluded Ashes series, seemed to take his time settling into a rhythm, but once he was comfortable, his hundred never looked in doubt.

McDermott, who took five wickets in the first innings, had just recovered from nine stitches above his right eye, courtesy the pace of Curtly Ambrose. With the stitches freshly removed, the Australian vowed to find the pace and fire likely to trouble the home team—and he did, too.

All the frontline batsmen felt his sting: Logie had seven stitches, yorker that smashed in into his toe before McDermott sent his stumps cartwheeling away into the haze. Having bowled as fast as at any stage of his career, McDermott was gentleman enough to go up and enquire about the state of Haynes' health. Yet for the Australian

Logie (pictured here with the West Indies physio) was stopped by nothing; not even his mother's death or stitches courtesy a McDermott bouncer

UTPAL SORKAR



PATRICK EAGAR

Bruce Reid (left) and Greg Matthews will be Australia's second string bowlers (after McDermott and Hughes) for the next Test

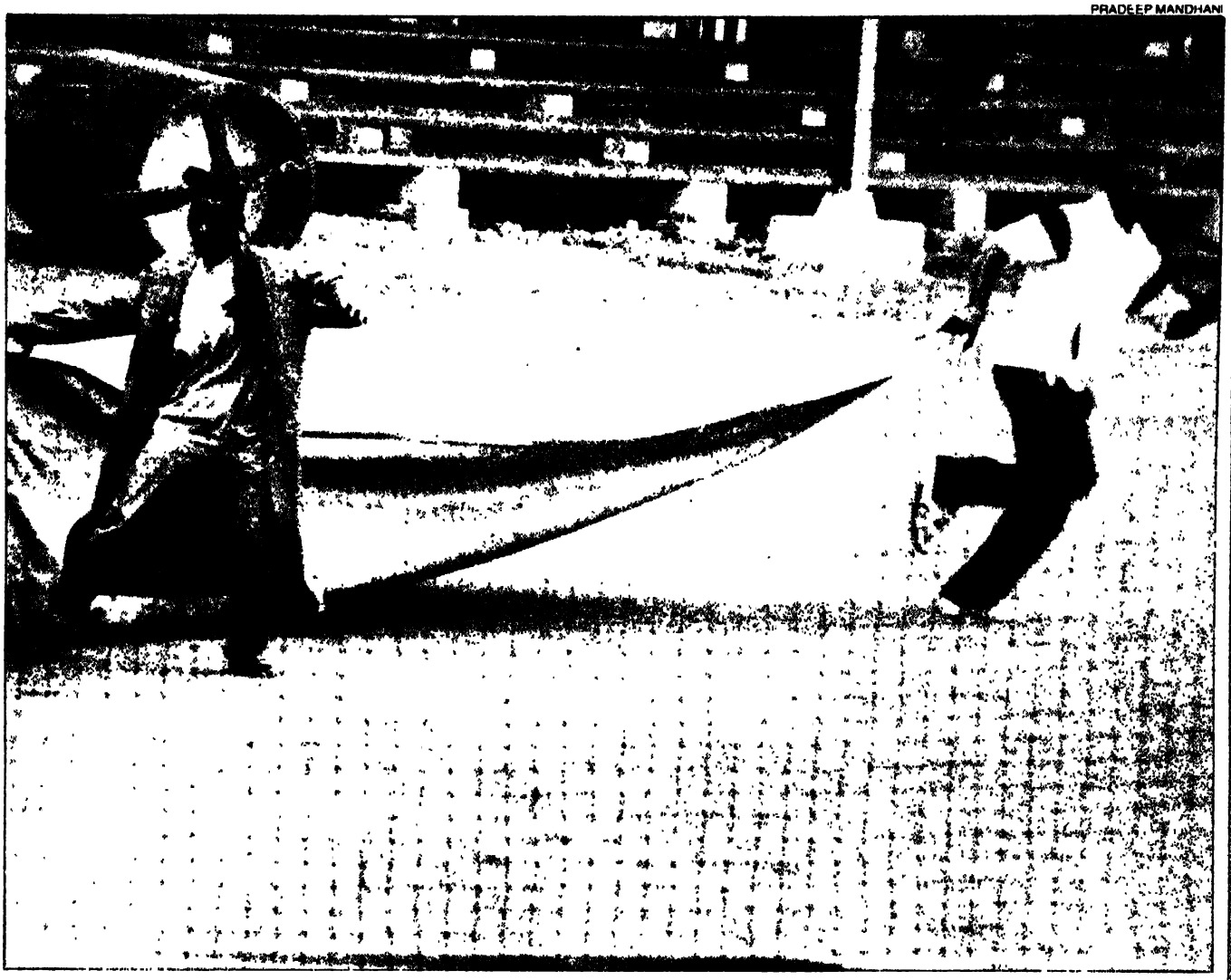
NOT since 1976 had three batsmen (Gaekwad, Patel and Vishwanath) been carted off to hospital. In a twist of irony, the same hospital that had served the Indian batmen now performed emergency repairs on the three West Indians

recalled after two years without playing a Test, the five first innings wickets were reward enough, especially when one considers the fact that it is the third time in three consecutive Tests that he has done this since being recalled.

Richards, who made only 11 in his side's first innings, was rattled by the fact that it was his batsmen—as opposed to the tourists—doing the ducking and weaving in the middle.

Draped in only a towel, he paced the dressing room as his men swayed and bled and succumbed, he muttered only. "This is sport, man, this is sport." All the more pity, then, that the Test petered out. What should have been a great contest, nay, even a titanic contest, was robbed of a finish by what appears to have been shoddy work by ground staff. Rain leaked through the covers to leave a large wet patch just on a good length and around the wicket square and though ground staff tried everything in

PRADEEP MANDHANI



Richie Richardson helps with the covers as the rain comes down. One would have expected a Test ground of this standard to have proper rain protection

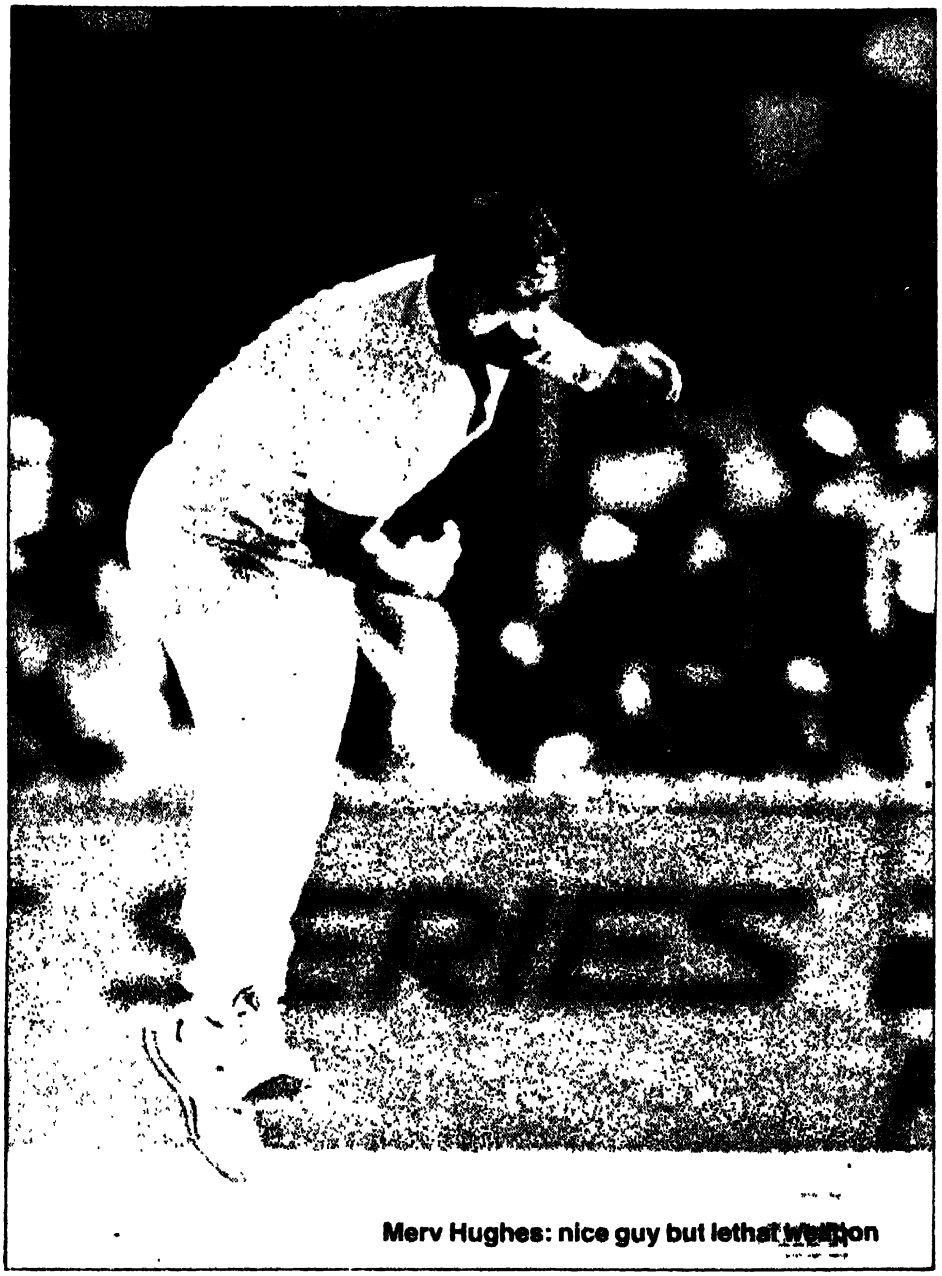
RICHARDS was rattled by the fact that it was his batsmen—as opposed to the tourists—doing the ducking and weaving in the middle. Draped in only a towel, he paced the dressing room as his men swayed and bled and succumbed

the book to repair the damage (they even set fire to one section, hoping it would dry the turf out!) precious hours were lost.

Australian coach Bob Simpson, never one to mince his words, declared. "I am disappointed that the whole world is watching some thing like this and they put the major ground cover over the practice wickets. In a tropical climate you would have thought that they would put every possible cover on the most important area." His words were echoed by former West Indian great Lance Gibbs, who said, "I thought that at a Test ground of this standard, things would have been in place."

But they were not. And we shall have to wait for the next Test match to find out which side is better equipped to wear the mantle of the leading Test-playing nation in the world

David McMahon in Melbourne with William Rhodes in Jamaica



Merv Hughes: nice guy but lethal when on



THE PACE WAR

If the West Indians have a fearsome reputation for fast bowling, how come it's their blood that's been flowing in the Caribbean? **David McMahon** writes on how tough the Australians really are



War paint on, McDermott goes to battle



The back has healed and Reid is Cadillac fresh once

Even though we have not even reached the halfway mark in the battle for Test supremacy between the West Indies and Australia, it is clear that the Caribbean batsmen are susceptible to fast, consistently hostile bowling. And, contrary to expectations, much of the blood that has so far been spilled has been West Indian.

It is a fairly ironic twist to the whole scenario. Fast bowling, sustained and encouraged by a succession of West Indies captains, has proved the launching pad for the side's success in international cricket.

With a virtual assembly line of fast bowlers from the islands, the West Indies has been able to take in its cricketing stride the decline and retirement of legendary men like Andy Roberts, Michael

...it is clear that the Caribbean batsmen are susceptible to fast, consistently hostile bowling. And contrary to expectations, much of the blood that has so far been spilled has been West Indian

Holding, Joel Garner and Colin Croft. Those who took their places were no less determined, no less talented—and primarily, no less fast.

Yet this proud tradition is being defied by a clutch of Australian bowlers. And strangely enough, not one of the fast men at Allan Border's disposal on this tour is a newcomer to the sport. The two juniormost of the bowlers, Craig McDermott and Bruce Reid, have been playing for their country for a combined total of almost 10 years. Merv Hughes made his Test debut as far back as in 1985. Michael Whitney first played Test cricket in 1981.

All four bowlers have spent time in the wilderness, either through injury or indifferent form. McDermott was once deemed to have a questionable temperament, and paid the price for his attitude by waiting two years before being recalled to the Test side this season.

Reid, the giant West Australian, suffered a spinal injury that put him out of all grades of cricket for two seasons. This year, he took to the field tentatively, to see whether his back would stand the rigours of quick bowling. It did. His form for his club prompted a state recall for the Sheffield Shield, and when he destroyed the England batting in a state match before the Ashes series, it was obvious he would be back in the side—if his back held up. Again it did, and Reid was back, bowling left-arm into

Taylor got 58 in the first Test, yet later claimed it was Geoff Marsh who showed him how best to take the fast bowlers apart. "He smashed them" said Taylor awestruck. "I'm standing at the other end, just hanging in there and Geoff is creaming them, taking it to them. I'll never forget that"





Ambrose and Marshall: felled by their own medicine



Ambrose rockets one through and the battle to intimidate is on

Australian folklore as well.

His aggression, his ability with the bat, and his fighting qualities have made him an ideal team man and though his captain despairingly calls him "Gronk" in the manner of a caveman, it is Hughes who rallies the troops to the battle.

These, then, are the men who are taking the fight to the West Indies by using the traditional island trump card· fast bowling—to destroy West Indian batting line-ups

It has been a hard-fought battle, physically and mentally. Apart from the aggression, the weaving bats, and bleeding scalps and foreheads there has been the question of gusting it out in tough conditions Ask Mark Taylor what it feels like.

the history books against England at Melbourne, where he took 13 wickets in the match.

Hughes, with shoulders the width of three axe handles and a belly that at one time matched that girth admirably, seemed at best to be the sort of player who would appear in about 10 Tests for Australia and then drift on, in much the same manner as Jeff Thomson before him, to fishing. But Hughes shook off criticism about his corpulence, ignored Allan Border's 1988 comments about his being overweight and came back to carve a valuable place for himself, not just in the cricket side, but in

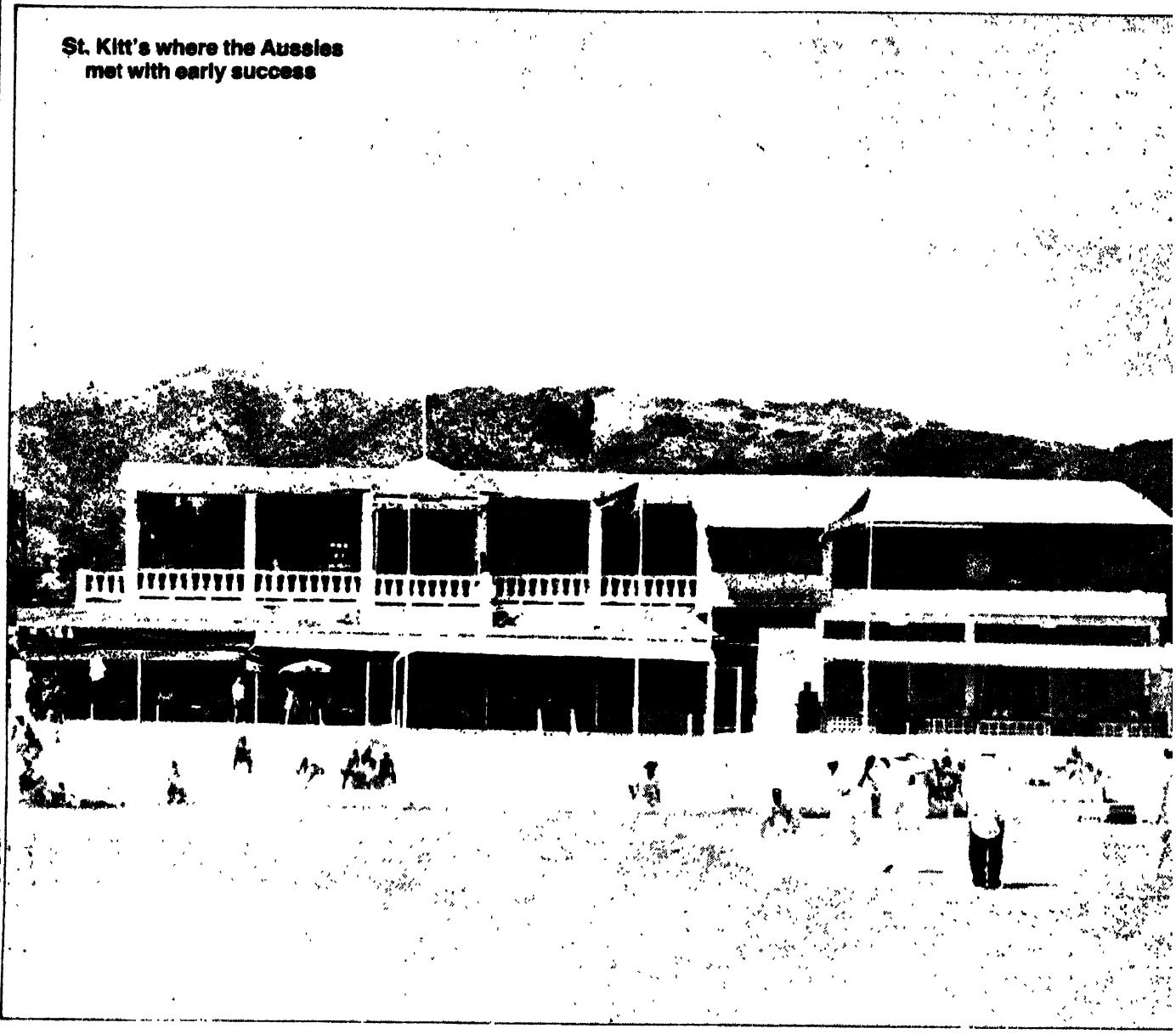
The West Indies' proud tradition of fast bowling is being defied by a clutch of Australian fast bowlers, and yet not one of the fast bowlers at Allan Border's disposal is a newcomer to the sport

Taylor, the chunky opening batsman from New South Wales, was literally driven to tears in an early tour game. On his first tour of the West Indies, he learned his lesson the hard way. Despite his glowing record in international cricket, he found it hard to cope with the sledging and assorted other tactics in the match against the President's XI at St Kitts. He spoke angrily to Richie Richardson when he moved fielders while bowlers were pounding in; he was appalled by the volume and the vehemence of appeals; he was incredulous at the partisanship of the crowd

Taylor, normally stolid and dependable, was disoriented enough to run two of his teammates out. Had he given it all away and thrown his wicket, it would have been an understandable aberration. But Taylor thrust out his jaw and vowed to beat the fast bowlers at their own game.

His frustration almost caused him to shed tears and later in his innings, when the crowd applauded a series of short-pitched deliveries against him, he invited them to applaud his strokes that brought boundaries off the fast bowlers. At the end of the day Taylor had scored 101, the fast bowlers had been conquered and the ghosts of doubt about his shaky Test debut, bedevilled by Patrick Patterson and Courtney Walsh on Australian soil two seasons ago, had

St. Kitt's where the Aussies met with early success



PHOTOGRAPHS: PATRICK EAGAR

been exorcised. That one innings summed up the attitude of the Australians on this tour. Nothing would get the better of them.

That fortitude stood Taylor - and Australia - in good stead in the first innings of the rain-affected first Test in Kingston, Jamaica. With the West Indies having recovered from 6-75 to 264 all out, it was up to Taylor and fellow opener Geoff Marsh to ensure that Australia did not go under.

Mark Taylor's frustration with the sledging and partisan crowd almost drove him to tears, but he thrust out his jaw and vowed to beat the fast bowlers at their own game

Ensure that, they most certainly did. Taylor got 58, Marsh 69, and the pair put on 139 for the first wicket, laying the foundation for Australia's challenge that brought a first innings lead. Yet Taylor claimed later that it was Marsh who shoved him how best to take the fast bowlers apart. "He smashed 'em," said Taylor, awestruck. "I'm standing at the other end, just hanging in there and Geoff is

McDermott and Reid have been playing for Australia for a combined total of 10 years. Merv Hughes made his Test debut as far back as in 1985. And Michael Whitney first played Test cricket in 1981



creaming them, taking it to them. I'll never forget that."

Their century partnership not only gave Australia a flying start, it was a psychological landmark. In 37 Test matches against the West Indies on home soil in the last 10 years, only three other opening partnerships have produced century stands. ●

TOMMY HINDLEY



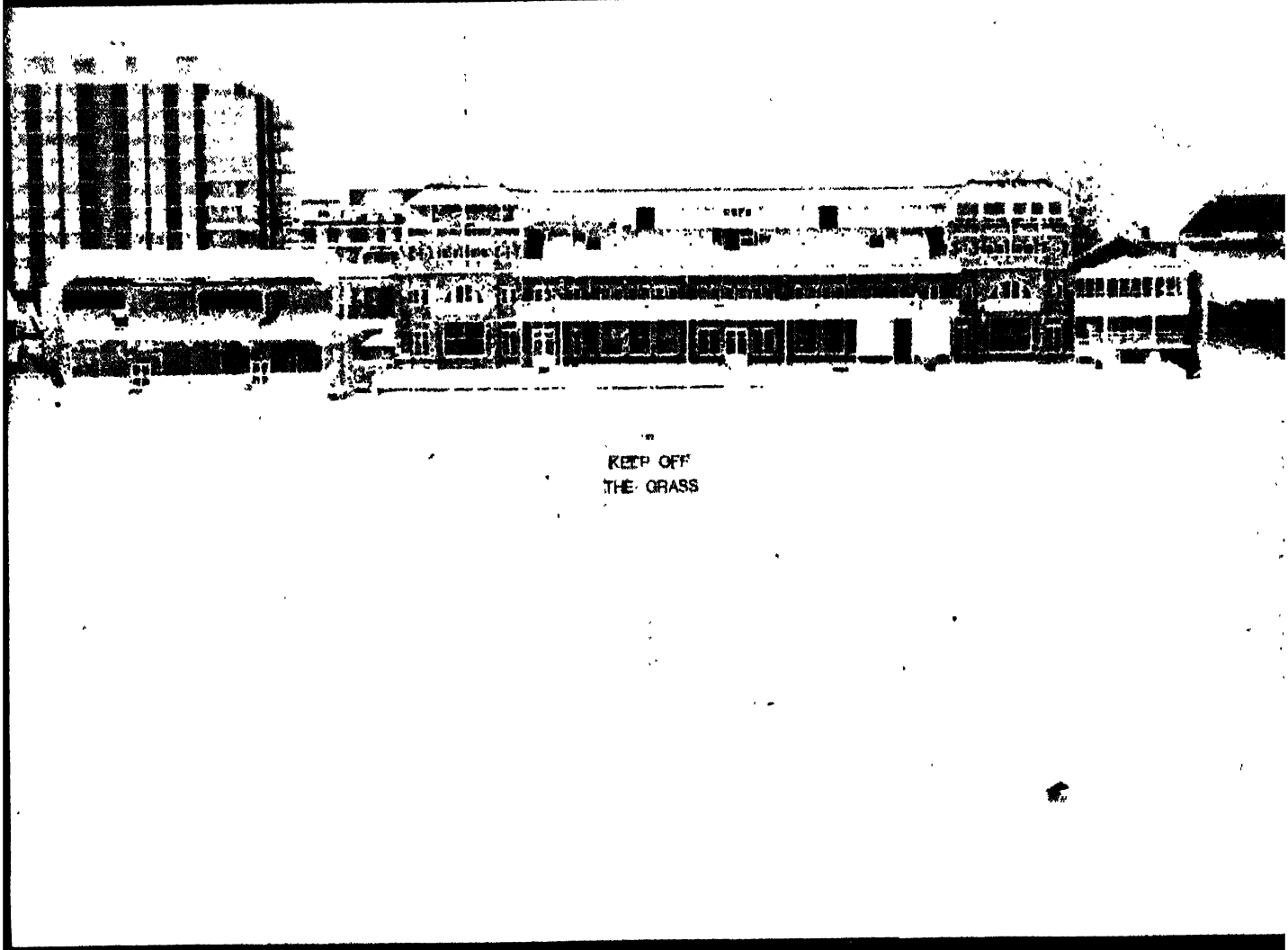
Geoff Marsh just 'hung on and creamed' the Caribbean bowlers

PHOTOGRAPHS



Readers' contribution: We welcome photographs from readers, amateurs and even professionals. Photographs need not be news-oriented, but off-beat pictures will be preferred. Contributors will receive Rs 150 for a black and white picture and Rs 300 for a colour picture, if they are chosen.

OF THE WEEK



'Keep Off The Grass'. But where is all the grass anyway in this bleak snowwhite desolation of the harsh London winter, engulfing the Lord's Ground and the stands, and reminding one of how green this valley of cricket once really was, and will be again as the summer comes...

Photographs: PATRICK EAGAR

Simon Barnes meets the men who wield pow

ROMANCE

THERE is a theory that anyone who is attracted by politics is, by definition, unfit to govern. Anyone who seeks election, who seeks power, who has so obvious a taste for the beauties of self-advancement, is clearly incapable of governing with altruism and wisdom.

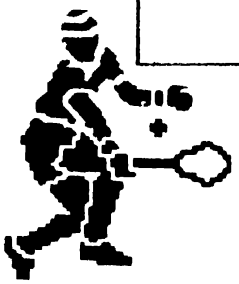
The politicians who govern sport seem obsessed with the joyless pursuit of power for its own sake. The style and flamboyance found in sport is lacking in many of those who govern it. But Philippe Chatrier, the president of the International Tennis Federation (ITF), is a romantic: a poet, a dreamer.

That does not mean he dislikes power, far from it. It does not mean he cannot in-fight with the best of them. It does not mean he sees the world unrealistically. He just pursues power in a thoroughly romantic way. If he has the manner and charm of d'Artagnan, he is a d'Artagnan with a field-marshal's ambition.

His charm is devastating, and quite genuine, quite unforced. Normally, when you meet a man addressed as "Monsieur le President," you arrive on time and wait half an hour in the lobby. I was half an hour early for Chatrier. I was shown to his office straightaway. And soon afterwards, of course, calling him "Philippe" such is the atmosphere he creates around him. You could not wish for an easier president.

Unless you tried to oppose him, of course. He has as much steel as charm; he likes to over-emphasise the first and leave you to guess at the second

He was a tennis player, never of the first rank, and he was a journalist until he was 40. At 63, he still bristles with energy and ambition. He was the only one of the power-brokers I met who enthused about practitioners of his sport. He gets a great kick out of tennis, and is the sort you find at court 13 watching a rather recondite encounter while Becker is blasting away centre stage.



"All my life, and in 14 years as president of the ITF, I have tried to reconcile the concepts of amateurism with the realities of professionalism," he said. "It is so difficult to try and protect the *values* of amateurism in a world of professionalism, so difficult—and I distinctly feel I am losing the battle. I will keep fighting, but unless a miracle happens I don't see how the battle can be won."

Chatrier sees the over-valuation of money as an American-led phenomenon. He cannot understand why Joao Havelange in football and Jean-Marie Balestre in motor racing are doing all they can to seduce the United States. "I don't want to accuse the Americans, because we owe them our freedom—but in sport, it is now forbidden to forbid," he said. "I said to Balestre, you are lucky your sport is *not* popular in America. If it was, your authority over motor sport would be gone."

He regrets, understandably enough, the remoteness of big name play-

n sport. This week **Philippe Chatrier**

IN STEEL



Philippe Chatrier, the president of the ITF, is a romantic: a poet, a dreamer. That does not mean he dislikes power; far from it. It does not mean he cannot in-fight with the best of them. It does not mean he sees the world unrealistically. He just pursues power in a thoroughly romantic way. If he has the manner and charm of d'Artagnan, he is a d'Artagnan with a field marshal's ambition

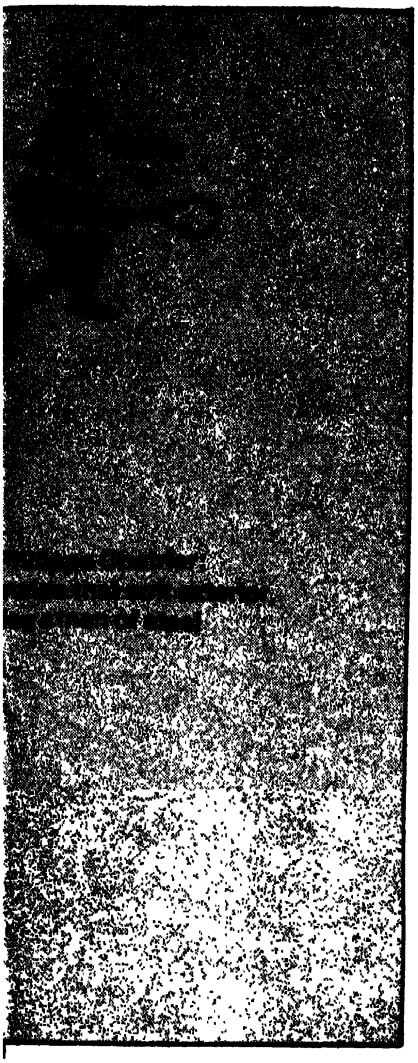


ers, their entourages of agents; coaches, wives, parents and "*bouffons* of all sorts...it is a war and the agents are killing for their dollars." He regrets all the other symptoms of big money tennis. But for all that, he is the man who got the word "amateur" scratched from the Olympic vocabulary.

Chatrier reckons that his three principal achievements in tennis have been his unquestionable improvement of the French Open, his creation of the department of development to encourage tennis all around the world, and the introduction of tennis to the Olympic Games.

It is hard for us, in the country of Wimbledon, to understand quite how much this means. Why bother to have a second-rate tennis tournament at a colossal event like the Olympics? But the point is that the Olympics provide the greatest power-base in sport. Tennis has always been big in the developed world; it is now bigger globally than it has ever been. There were 100 national federations affiliated to the ITF before Olympic recognition; now there are almost 160. The power and prestige of tennis has doubled; and with it, the power and prestige of the sport's president.

"I decided to fight for the Olympic Games in 1973, at the Davis Cup when



France were playing the Soviet Union in the Lenin Stadium," he said. "One of their tennis officials said: 'it is all very well, but in our country, if you are not an Olympic sport you get no help from the government'."

The Olympic Games are even more colossal than they seem. That brief, bright fortnight casts a shadow over every other week in the four-year sporting cycle. Chatrier got nowhere with Lord Killanin, then president of International Olympic Committee (IOC)—but with the incumbent Juan Antonio Samaranch, he found a sympathetic ear: "It took time, but I knew from our first conversation that he was ready," he said.

No sport has ever come more nakedly into the marketplace than tennis. Professionalism was always going to be the stumbling block at the Olympics. Chatrier was in tennis when the sport made its painful transition to professionalism via the boycott of Wimbledon. "I said to Samaranch, 'if you are not ready for all the players, we can wait. Till '92, or longer than that," he said. "We owe it to Samaranch: he ran the meeting in Istanbul in 1987 in such a way that it became obvious that we should have the best players. Because the Olympic movement wants to go for Excellence. Now we have basketball following in our footsteps, and ice hockey. Excellence must involve being professional in some shape or form." This was Chatrier's greatest coup; his greatest powerplay yet. However, he is not the sort of man to leave it at that.

His romanticism in no way cuts across his appetite for the cut and thrust of politics. The wrangling between the Association of Tennis Professionals, which runs the professional circuit outside the grand slam tournaments and the Davis Cup, and the ITF, has seen him at his most inventive.

The Grand Slam Cup, with its prize-money of $6 million, was a part of this. But the more important part was the establishment of the grand slam committee. "It is the moment of truth, of credibility—the credibility of our sport," he said. "It lies in the grand slam committee. It is the only organisation that can protect it."

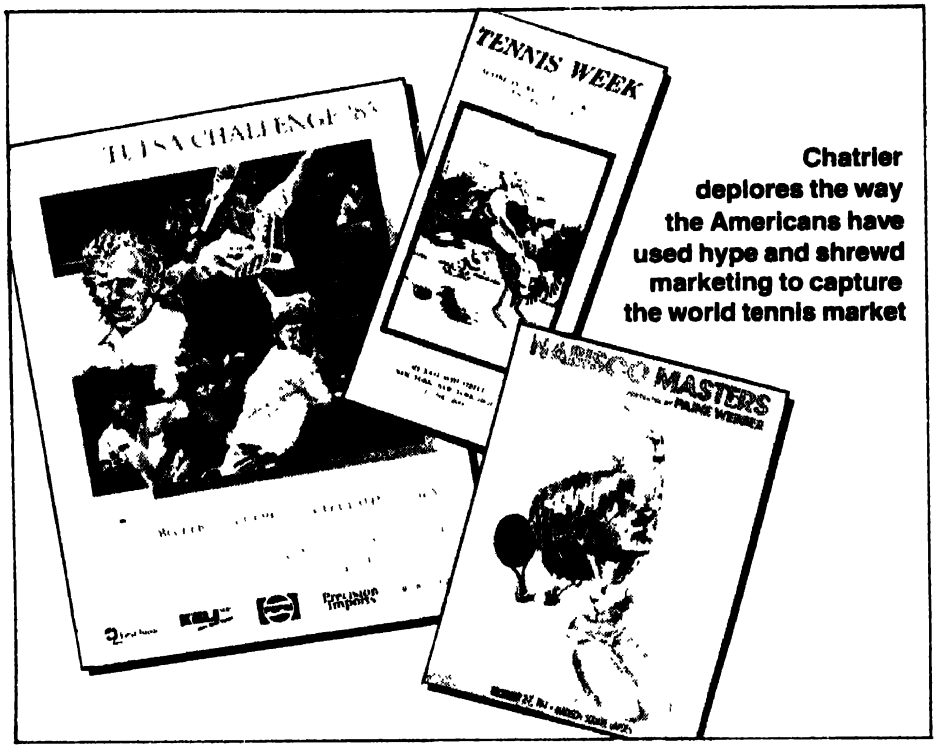
All the same, Chatrier insists he has lost the battle against commercial forces that he says, is partly why he will step down as president of the ITF this year. He stays on as president of the French federation, which means he keeps his place on the grand slam committee.

But he is not retiring in despair, seeking a lower profile, abandoing

PHILIPPE CHATRIER: CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Born: Creteil, France, February 2, 1928
Playing career: Member of French Davis Cup tennis squad 1948-50. Davis Cup captain 1969-72.
Administrative career: 1968: elected vice-president of the French Tennis Federation. Became president in 1972, a position he still holds. **1968:** representative for France at ITF and Davis Cup nations meetings. **1973:** Member of the Grand Prix Committee (subsequently Men's International Professional Tennis Council) until 1977. **1975:** member of the ITF and Davis Cup nations committee of management. **1977:** elected president of the ITF, a position he still holds. **1978:** elected president of the MIPTC until 1985, remaining a member until 1989. **1985:** member of the WIPTC, until 1988.

Some observers have tipped him for stardom; for the topmost fruit of the tree; for the executive commission of the IOC. Perhaps even, some say rather wildly, as successor to Samaranch himself. If Chatrier has a weakness, it is a tendency to shoot from the hip. Microphones can provoke him to make reckless statements. He cannot resist them. His stream for poetry is his greatest strength, but naturally, it is also his greatest weakness



Chatrier deplores the way the Americans have used hype and shrewd marketing to capture the world tennis market

dreams of power, quite the reverse. His achievement in getting tennis into the Olympics also won him a home on that hallowed ground. He is now a member of the International Olympic Committee, and is seen as a protege of Samaranch.

He will work on the admission commission, listening to the cases of would-be Olympic sports. Also, at the Winter Games, he has been assigned to cross country skiing. "So I am beginning to gather pace," he said. "But you know, the power is with the executive commission. You can sit on ten commissions, but if you are not on the executive commission—especially with a man like Samaranch, who knows everything and all the problems, and most of the time is right—then you are more or less approving what is inevitable."

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If Chatrier has a weakness, it is a tendency to shoot from the hip. Microphones can provoke him to reckless statements. He cannot resist them. He lacks the self-absorption you find in so many professional politicians. His streak of poetry is his greatest strength, but naturally, it is also his greatest weakness.

"I have turned down all decorations I have been offered," he said.

"I escaped all that. My biggest satisfactions are to be an honorary member of Wimbledon, and a member of the IOC. I want nothing else. My life has been sport. I don't want to consider if I had been in politics. I am happy with that."

But is not sport a trivial area of endeavour for a life's work?

"Ah! It is only you British that think so," he said. "Sport is a very serious matter—as long as you don't take it too seriously."

Concluded

COURTESY THE LONDON TIMES

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Who was Kapil Dev's first victim in Test cricket?

2. Who is the only player to have represented two different countries in a World Cup football final, representing Argentina in 1930 and Italy in 1934.

3. Rallying is the national sport of which country?

4. Name the New York Times' tennis writer who coined the term 'Grand Slam' with respect to tennis.

5. What do the following have in common: Sanjeevni, Gamini and Amar?

6. Who is the only Indian to perform a double hat-trick in international hockey?

7. Name the two Indian players who batted on all days of a Test.

8. Who dismissed Don Bradman the most times in Tests?

9. Which Indian footballer scored a hat-trick against Australia in the 1952 Olympic Games?

10. What is the similarity between the first and 100th Test played between Australia and England?

11. In Rugby, which two countries compete for the Calcutta Cup?

12. Which great Olympic boxer, while refusing to turn professional remarked, "Professional boxing treats a fighter like a commodity to be bought and sold and discarded when he is no longer of use...?"

13. She participated in the 1924 Paris Olympic Games and won a bronze medal in the 100 meter freestyle. Later, in 1926, she became the first woman to swim across the English Channel. What was her name?

14. Which UAE player got a Rolls Royce car as a reward for scoring a goal against West Germany in the last World Cup football finals held in Italy?

15. Name the player who ended Bradman's disastrous innings in his last Test.

ANSWERS

1. Sadiq Mohammad (Pakistan)
2. Luisito Monti.
3. Finland.
4. Allison Danzing.
5. They are three forms of kabaddi.
6. Mohammad Shahid. During the Seoul Asiad, he scored six goals in a row against Thailand.
7. M.L. Jaisimha and Ravi Shastri.
8. Hedley Verity (8 times).
9. Neville D'Souza.
10. Australia won by 45 runs in both the Tests.
11. England and Scotland.
12. Teofilo Stevenson.
13. Gertrude Ederle of the USA.
14. Khalid Ismail Mubarak
15. Eric Hoolis

THIS QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY:

K.L. BENNY
KAINADATHPARAMBIL HOUSE
ALOOR P.O. KALLETTUMKARA,
TRICHUR.
KERALA
680 683

RATING TEST

Above 14: Wish you were part of our quiz team

Between 11 and 14: You're not too bad

Below 11: Sportsworld reading recommended

All answers sent in by the contributor

EXTRA-TIME EXTRA

Gascoigne's Discomfiture

SO the bubble has burst.

As has been said in these columns before, the English always live under a false inflated sense of self-importance, at least as far as football is concerned.

They think they are the best, even their average national class players are world beaters, even though beating the world has remained an almost ancient forgotten phenomenon for them ever since 1966.

So they always overreact whenever they find a player who is good. And as expected, when Paul Gascoigne emerged on the scene they thought they got the world's soccer god. Despite England's limited success in Italy, Paul Gascoigne almost became a cult figure, though more for the widely-publicised picture of him crying after England's ouster from the World Cup than his soccer.

And now reality has struck the English full blast when Gascoigne's club Tottenham Hotspur aspired to sell him for a world record fee, possibly as much as 10 million dollars.

There simply are no buyers. From Real Madrid to Napoli to PSV Eindhoven, officials say the price being quoted is ludicrously high, especially because there is no certainty that Gascoigne would be able to cope with the tough environment of European football.

So, however hard Tottenham may have tried to sell Gazza off and pocket the cash they badly need to clear some crippling debts, it is evident now that the young player is not really as hot a commodity as they thought.

And more distressing, now most pundits who had used hyperbole in Gascoigne's praise during the World Cup are now having second thoughts about their opinions. While trying not to contradict their earlier laudatory comments about the player, they are trying now to carefully point out to his limitations.

For instance, the Barcelona coach Johan Cruyff, just before entering hospital for heart surgery, said, "I recognise he had an excellent World Cup and I think he has the makings of an outstanding player. But I have reservations about how quickly he could adapt to Spanish football."

Even more humiliating, Atletico Madrid's flamboyant president Jesus Gil said, "If Gascoigne was available for $1,065, I'd buy him tomorrow."



Paul Gascoigne: no hot cake

Please note: the price Tottenham had been seeking for its superstar was $19.2 million

No comments necessary.

TIME EXTRA-TIME

What Price Freedom?

For Igor Belanov, freedom has already begun to extract a heavy toll. When a year ago the dream move to the West happened in his life, amid the euphoria of perestroika, which had by then hit even the stifling, stagnant and authoritarian world of Russian soccer, Igor Belanov was sure his life was headed for a new limitless horizon of success, money and happiness. And, as a footballer too, he was proud to be one of the first batch of Soviet footballers in demand in the tough, demanding and professional European soccer.

But soon the dream turned into nightmare as injury and a shoplifting conviction devastated Belanov's career—so typical of many of the Soviet Union's first generation overseas footballers who are failing dramatically to take advantage of their now-found freedom.

And now a dejected Belanov, who is on the brink of relegation to the German second division, admits, "For some reason we find it hard to cope."

"Life is so much different in the USSR," says Belanov who is so unsure of himself and his stay in the West, that he has still got all his furniture covered by sheets in anticipation of what he fears may be a quick return home anytime. "Here, we need time to adapt; unfortunately, a lot more time than we thought. And at the moment many of my compatriots and I are suffering a nightmare in the 'rich' western world."

Worst of all, Belanov, with 39 international caps and a host of impressive trophies under his belt, recently had to put up with the ignominy of playing in the reserves for Borussia.

Soccer's Newest Messiah

It seems soccer's ultimate prophet of the nineties is destined to come from Africa—so symbolically, now that the continent represents the game's newest emergent force.

His name is Nii Lamptey Odartey, a 16-year-old sprightly youngster who has for some time been stirring a sensation about himself playing for a Belgian club in Brussels.

His first name Nii means king, and the man who has confidently predicted his future coronation, believe it or not, is the King himself.

Lamptey was only 14 when King Pele voted him the Man of the Match against Scotland in the World Youth Championships, and said, "This boy is destined to a great future. He will make history before he quits soccer."



Lothar Matthaeus: towards greener pastures?

Matthaeus For Spain?

Rumours are agog in Italy that Inter Milan's strongman Lother Matthaeus is about to migrate to Spain and offer his services to Real Madrid. As for the reasons behind this sudden change of mind, the rumour-mongers point at his alleged differences with the Inter-Milan coach Giovanni Trapattoni.

Ironically enough, Lothar Matthaeus not only dismisses the gossip as pure nonsense, but actually never tired to pay glowing tributes to coach Trapattoni as his friend, philosopher and guide.

The German actually cites three main reasons for his recent successes as a footballer. Number one, the influence on his footballing life by Trapattoni; secondly, Germany's World Cup coach Franz Beckenbauer, and third his move to Italy.

Matthaeus says, "If I had stayed with Bayern Munich, I would not have become European Footballer of the Year—a title I regard as the highest honour of all. In Italian football I have developed beyond recognition and with Inter Milan I had to start virtually from scratch and fight to earn the respect of five or six established stars".

But almost in the same breath as his tributes to Trapattoni and Italy, Matthaeus mentions the raw deal that the media has meted out to him. He simply hates the frequent media interference in his private life and holds the press squarely responsible for the rumour-mongering, "As soon as they detect some footballing problems they try to look for an unsavoury background."

Worst of all, the Italian tabloid press has now spread the story that Matthaeus' marriage is on the rocks. ●

The Protest Syndrome

The Ranji Trophy comes to a standstill thanks to protests and counter protests between teams and officials

NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA



Saurav Ganguly injured during the match against Karnataka at the Eden Gardens. Bengal won on quotient

THE consensus amongst Delhi cricketers and DDCA officials is that the Ranji Trophy protests have assumed political dimensions. It is a reflection of factionalism in the BCCI and a fall out of the acrimonious Board elections in September 1990.

Dr. S.S. Sareen, general secretary of the DDCA, expressed sadness at the stalemate in the Ranji Trophy tournament due to protests. He said, "With the Pakistan tour cancelled, this should have been a season devoted to domestic cricket. Instead it has become the season of discontent Players fighting on the field and squabbling officials has given a bad image to our premier domestic tournaments, the Duleep and Ranji Trophy."

Kirti Azad, ex-Test player and former Delhi skipper, expressed the fears of many of his teammates when he said, "The situation is so confusing at present that it is uncertain if the Ranji Trophy will be concluded this season." Kirti, Maninder Singh, Ajay Sharma, Sanjeev Sharma and even Raman Lamba (before suspension) are perturbed as they were banking on good performances to stage a comeback for the 1992 World Cup.

Test umpire Ram Babu Gupta succintly summed up the plethora of protests. He said, "Karnataka's protest against Bengal is Scindia and his supporters striking back at the Bindra and Dalmiya group. The umpires according to the laws were correct. However, the Karnataka secretary is well versed in the laws of the game and so may feel his protest is justified. Earlier, the Delhi-Punjab match controversy got precipitated into a crisis with Bindra spoiling for a showdown against Scindia. I feel matters should be settled on the cricket ground but this has not been done due to factionalism in the BCCI."

Former national coach Gurcharan Singh commenting on the issue said, "when non-cricketers make rules, cricketers will suffer. The quotient rule for the Ranji Trophy must be carefully examined by a group of eminent cricketers. In its current form it is being misused. Bengal took advantage of the quotient rule to win quite undeservingly. I feel that the rule is wrong as it was framed by non-technical officials.

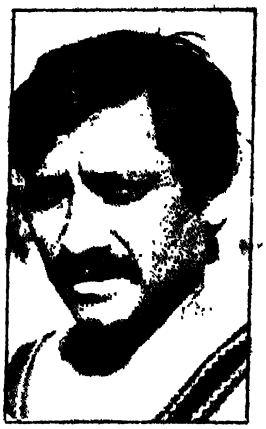
"In the Bengal vs Karnataka match, the rules harmed the better side. The team which scored more runs and captured more wickets lost. This is absurd. In such cases protests are understandable," Gurcharan Singh stated.

Gritty ex-Test opener and selector Chetan Chauhan said, "Both Bengal and Karnataka were aware of the quotient rule and penalty runs clause. Karnataka has protested that the Bengal batsmen wasted time. If that was so, then why did the umpires allow it? Karnataka knew about the rules and how the game was being played. They should have raised the issue. To protest after losing the match is not right. However, it is also unfair, to lose a match after scoring about 790 runs. I do not believe in the run quotient rules and the BCCI should re-examine the issue."

Delhi manager Vinay Lamba said, "The batting side always has an advantage as regards time-wasting. So the penalty runs issue is not fair. The batting team will always try not to bat the full ninety overs and gain an unfair advantage. I think that Karnataka's skipper SMH Kirmani showed great sportsmanspirit as they allowed the injured Snehasis Ganguly to have a runner, which wasted time. The BCCI's rule of 12 penalty runs for each over should be followed strictly. Umpires should handle the situation so that the batting team does not take an unfair advantage of this rule Rules are made but not properly implemented, they are of no value. This is not good for cricket in India, as it will lead to a spate of protests."

A senior players in the Delhi team, who wished to remain anonymous said, "Karnataka's protest is justified. Bengal took advantage of the loopholes in the law to progress. Last year, in the final they adopted the same devious means to beat us on the runs quotient rule. They manipulate the situation so that the groundsmen are absent and so it takes time to shift the sightscreen. They used time-wasting tactics to gain advantage. This is not cricket."

Ghaus Mohammed



"...I do not believe in the run quotient rules and the BCCI should re-examine the issue" —Chetan Chauhan



DULEEP TROPHY DISCIPLINARY CONTROVERSY

GUILTY?

Is it true that some were punished so that the big stars could be let off scot free?

THE current Indian domestic cricket scene, now in its final phase, has seen a lot of upheavals with a spate of protests not only spoiling the atmosphere of cordiality between different associations affiliated to the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) but also upsetting the entire Charminar Challenge Ranji Trophy programme. The end of the league phase of the national championship led to protests from Punjab and Rajasthan against the Delhi and Districts Cricket Association and Uttar Pradesh respectively that the latter parties transgressed the laws of the tournament.

And while these battles were going on in the board room, the Inter-Zonal Duleep Trophy championship final provided a bizarre episode—West Zone paceman Rashid Patel pulling out a stump to assault North Zone opener Raman Lamba at the fag end of the match—a culmination of sledging and gamesmanship indulged in by players of both the teams aided by silent acceptance of the violations of the spirit of the game by the two umpires officiating the match—messrs Ramaswamy and Banerjee.

This unsavoury incident, condemned by all those who witnessed the final at Jamshedpur, was a telling comment on the sad state of affairs prevalent in the game where winning, by hook or crook, is all that matters.

RAMAN LAMBA is the latest angry young man in Indian cricket. The aggressive opener is now bristling with indignation. He feels that his suffering is unjust and that he has been needlessly victimised In and out of the Indian team, Lamba bases his ire on two factors. "I was not given a fair hearing. I went to the disciplinary committee meeting well-prepared with newspaper cuttings, photographs and reports in journals. But the three men committee just swept aside my evidence. The basic tenets of justice demands that a person on trial is innocent till proved guilty but I was treated as guilty. Instead the committee counter attacked me with a conditioned frame of mind I am bitter that I could not justify my innocence. It seemed the disciplinary committee had already made up their minds about the punishment The senior players called before the disciplinary committee, told me even before the meeting started that I was to be penalised. At first I did not believe them, but later when some players were just reprimanded and I was punished, I got suspicious."

Lamba says he is now banking on media pressure for his sentence to be reduced. He is also glad that the Association of Indian Cricket Players has agreed to take up his cause. Lamba is hurt that his North Zone skipper Kapil Dev has chosen to remain silent on this issue. Instead of defending his team-mate, Kapil has reacted sharply. In a press statement in Calcutta, the North Zone skipper said, "Lamba should be thankful that I haven't opened my mouth." Kapil's curt statement hints that Lamba had used provocative language. In contrast Lamba interprets Kapil's silence as a sell out or compromise by the former Indian skipper.

Apparently, there is evidence that both skippers exacerbated the tension and acrimony in the match. North zone players say, that Ravi Shastri walked into the umpire's room and said, "If you don't call Sanjay Manjrekar back, I will

give you zero marks."

There were no strictures against Kapil and Shastri was merely warned. Which prompted an incensed Lamba to say, "I have been made a scapegoat to cover others faults. Why should I pay the price?"

Some of the other Delhi players are also incensed that skipper Kapil Dev let them down. Manoj Prabhakar is grieved that he has been reprimanded whereas Chetan Sharma was allowed to get away scot free. Manoj in a letter to the disciplinary committee stated that he bowled bouncers on the skipper's instructions. Initially Chetan Sharma was to appear before the disciplinary committee but later got exonerated.

A senior DDCA official found this very suspicious. He said, "As BCCI President Madhav Rao Scindia is also president of the Haryana Cricket Association, it seems he made sure that no Haryana cricketer was penalised."

Lamba claims he had been sacrificed to protect the bigger stars



Kapil Dev is being made out to be the bad boy by some Delhi cricketers



KAPIL has said "Lamba should be happy I haven't opened my mouth." Kapil's curt statement hints that Lamba used provocative language. In contrast Lamba interprets Kapil's silence as a sellout or compromise by the former Indian skipper

MATTER OF OPINION

M V GOTHOSKAR

The BCCI's umpires sub-committee is meeting at Bangalore soon to question the two umpires about the incident. But I feel any punishment taken against them, if at all, would be unilateral. You can't punish the umpires and at the same time let players like Prabhakar, who blatantly violated the law 42 of cricket relating to Fair and Unfair Play (by bowling four to five bouncers an over from around the stumps and repeatedly treading on the wicket) go scot free along with his captain (Kapil Dev) who allowed these violations to continue.

In other countries the authorities take prompt action against erring cricketers even before getting an official report unlike the BCCI which waits for a long time. A player like Prabhakar, who had reportedly sweared at an umpire during the Deodhar Trophy match at Bulsar recently, has been allowed to misbehave without any deterrent action against him. I do not absolve the two umpires of any blame as, according to reports, they failed to warn the bowlers against bowling intimidatory stuff.

I am unable to understand why two experienced umpires like Ramaswamy and Banerjee did not take full advantage of the experimental laws in vogue whereby they are empowered to send off a fielder for misbehaviour for a session—as had happened to Hyderabad's Vijay Mohan Raj a few years back—force a bowler to be taken off for misbehaviour and also submit a report against a batsman for misbehaviour later.

I wonder what the much-talked-about Players' Association has done to curb the player's, misbehaviour. Last year they (association members) were shouting hoarse about their rights. Don't they feel they have some responsibilities too towards the game to see that the spirit of the game is not trampled upon? Their chief spokesman, Arun Lal, has later deplored the incident. The same Arun Lal, however, is not above board regarding gamesmanship. I can cite his time-wasting tactics in last year's Ranji Trophy final between Bengal and Delhi.

How does one deplore an incident, which was a culmination of gamesmanship indulged in by both the teams, on one hand and on the other encourage the same or himself indulge in it. It just is not fair and I am justified in saying it even smacks of hypocrisy.

The players banned by the BCCI, Patel and Lamba, are not superstars of the game. A hypothetical question in this regard, I feel, is in order. Would the BCCI have dared to impose a ban if the players involved in the stump-wielding saga had been any of the Indian superstars? Last year these stars got the ban imposed on them for visiting the USA without the Board President's permission revoked later which raises doubts in my mind whether a ban would have been imposed if any of the superstars had been directly involved.

Sriram
MAHARAJA FEATURES

SOME of the other Delhi players are also incensed that Kapil let them down. Said a senior DDCA official. "As Scindia is also President of the Haryana Cricket Association, it seemed that he made sure that no Haryana cricketer was penalised"

LAMBA's other grouse is that the judgement was not fair. "I just defended myself and yet Rashid Patel the attacker got a punishment, only slightly more harsh. It was a planned conspiracy. Kiran More instigated Rashid to hit me."

The West Zone players allege that Lamba instigated the controversy by abusing and riling left handed medium pacer Rashid Patel. Kiran More in his statement to the disciplinary committee stated—"throughout the match, the cricketers of North Zone had constantly irritated us. Rashid wouldn't have done what he did. But Lamba instigated him in such a fashion that he lost control of himself. Also people cannot imagine the way North Zone's cricketers played the match. Manoj Prabhakar was constantly running on to the wicket. He also was constantly abusing the batsmen."

Wicketkeeper More categorically stated that Lamba was the main culprit. "It was Lamba who created all the disturbance. He started to abuse



AJIT WADEKAR

"I wanted a three-year ban for these two cricketers (Lamba and Patel) for they set a bad precedent for youngsters aspiring to become good cricketers and I think they got away with a light sentence (Ban for ten months and one year respectively). I wanted all others involved in leading to this incident to be punished as these things do not happen all of a sudden. Only a gradual build-up of tension due to sledging and taunts has resulted in such an explosive situation and I think the rival captains (Kapil Dev and Ravi Shastri) were instrumental (in allowing things to go out of control).

The umpires should also have been punished more severely instead of merely being warned. They had all the powers to stop things from going out of hand but failed to do so. For example Manoj Prabhakar could have been warned for bowling intimidatory stuff—excess of bouncers and short-pitched balls.

Cricket has become very professional these days but the players have not understood the correct meaning of the term professionalism.

BISHEN BEDI

Bedi feels that both skippers Ravi Shastri and Kapil Dev should have been punished for allowing matter come to such a pass. He said, "the minimum that could have been done was to strip them of their captaincy—Kapil Dev of Haryana and North Zone and Ravi Shastri of Bombay and West Zone."



NARI CONTRACTOR

There has to be a code of conduct for the players. Since this is the first time the BCCI has really reacted to unsportsmanlike, indisciplined acts on the field, let it be a forerunner to set up a code of conduct on the field for the players. The code of conduct should specify, in clear terms, the different types of misbehaviour and the corresponding punishments to be meted out for them. The punishments must not be monetary fines but should be debarments for different specified periods of time as I feel monetary fines do not improve anybody's conduct.

I feel Kapil Dev's statement to the three-man disciplinary committee, denying Prabhakar's written explanation to the committee that he had bowled bouncers and deliberate beamers at the batsmen under Kapil's instructions, does not absolve the captain of the blame.

Kapil should have stopped him from bowling bouncers and, if Prabhakar had disobeyed him, should have removed him from the attack. Kapil thus becomes a party to Prabhakar's mode of bowling. This aspect should have been considered by the committee and Kapil should have been asked for an explanation.

The umpires should have taken sterner action from the first day of the match. They were weak-kneed and not able to control the game.

Indiscipline has been allowed to grow by the BCCI and its affiliated associations by not taking appropriate action as soon as possible whether it be Ranji Trophy, Test or organised local tournaments.

Rashid, not even sparing his parents. If he hadn't done that Rashid wouldn't have reacted."

Lamba rejects such allegations. "We had won the match, why should I chide and abuse Rashid. It is the fielding side and bowlers who resort to sledging. As a batsman I was just trying to concentrate. When North Zone fielded, for about two and a half days, because of an injured toe, I was on the field for just one session. When he attacked me I showed restraint. If I used abusive language, then Rashid could have reported me to the umpire. The umpire's reports do not contain any references of abusive language or obscene gestures by me."

Raj Singh Dungarpur who dominated the disciplinary committee had another interpretation of the incident. When Rashid bowled a vicious bouncer from half pitch, Lamba in fright raised his bat to defend himself. Raj Singh feels the bat was held provocatively and questioned Lamba on this issue. Lamba rejects this charge and says, "I raised my bat in fright above my head. It was not meant as an aggressive gesture. I raised my bat instinctively."

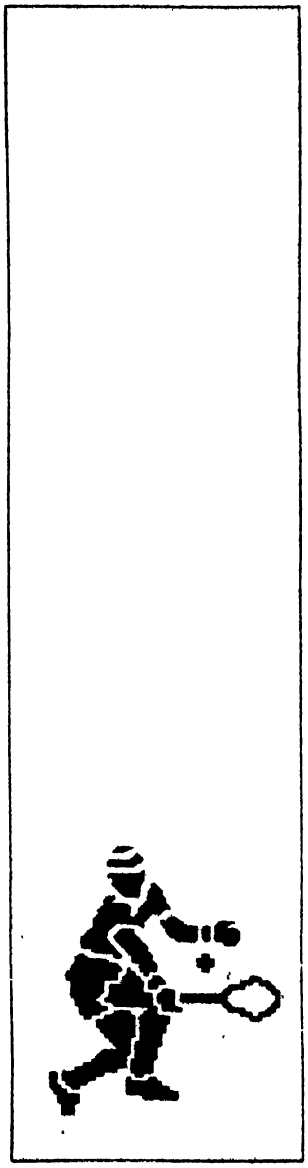
Insists Lamba "Let the BCCI disciplinary committee explain on what grounds I have been banned and what was my involvement in the controversy." The pragmatic Lamba realises that the ban can only be reduced not abolished. He hopes the ban will only be for six months and that he will be available in Oct. 1991.

Novy Kapadia, New Delhi

MONICA SELES

FIRST LADY

Monica Seles is women's tennis' new No. 1



"I like spinach, but I don't think my energy comes from that"--Monica Seles

THWACK! Ugghuh! Thwack! Ugghuh! Thank God they don't have a no-grunt rule in tennis else Monica Seles would be off the circuit. Doing what? Modelling probably, having already featured in *Vogue*, *Elle* and *Seventeen* before she herself was seventeen. But the catwalk prowl will have to wait, for Ms Seles is still courting greatness as a tennis player. A courtship that has assumed a fascinating dimension because now March 11, 1991 to be exact Ms Seles is No. 1.

Seles' greatness is still questionable because of her youth. And the burden of history. Every previous No. 1, with the possible exception of Tracy Austin, has done great justice to that position. Not only in the length of period they ruled (Navratilova 78/79/82/83/84/85/86, Evert 75/76/77/78/80/81, Graf 87/88/89/90) but also in their contribution to the sport (Navratilova/athleticism, Evert/finesse, Graf/power). The jury will be out for a while on Seles.

In Seles' defence we can say that she has reached the threshold (of greatness) with all the speed and facility of one of her wickedly powerful double-fisted strokes.

In February 1989 she turned professional. She started the year ranked No. 86 and ended it as No. 6, with only one tour title, a 3-6, 6-1, 6-4 upset win over Chris Evert at Houston.

In February 1990, so remarkable was her growth, that she was already being asked questions about being No.1 Her answers were typically cool "I may become No.1 this year or maybe next year or maybe never". Maybe never?—yeah, and elephants can fly, right?

In February 1991, there were no questions. She *was* the best. Just the date of the coronation was awaited. Steffi Graf's 186-week rule, the longest uninterrupted reign ever in tennis was to be consigned to the history books.

Ironically though, the No. 1 ranking changed hands in a week where both Seles (by Navratilova) and Graf (by Sabatini) were defeated, but neither loss had any effect on the inevitable

Seles' achievement, precocious perhaps, is hardly surprising, and can be linked in a sense to one particular match. The German Open final on May 20, 1990, when she beat Graf 6-4, 6-3 for the first time. It was Seles' fifth tournament victory in a row and merely a preface to her subsequent French Open win. And it coincided, just too perfectly, with the, initially gradual and then rapid, deterioration of Graf. One rose, the other fell, both rather dramatically at that.

Everyone knows that her cartoonist father, Karolj, would draw figures of Tom and Jerry on the ball when Monica practiced as a girl. But it was not for entertainment, but to hone her competitive edge, for, Seles was meant to believe she was the 'cat'-the killer. Question is, is anybody in the women's game tough enough to bell her?

Rohit Brijnath



DIEGO MARADONA

PUPPET ON A



COLORSPORT

...Napoli is the centre of Italy's mafia-run football betting racket

CHAIN?

BY WILLIAM RHODES

HE has always had those familiar elements of classical tragedy strewn about his life. That rags to riches image, that dramatic effect of a man emerging as fortune's minion from the hellish despair of urban squalor and then almost wandering his way to the very pinnacle of success, glory, power and wealth, as if propelled by some inexhorable force of fate. Only, in the end, to crumble in utter ruin.

In Greek tragedy they said fate is doom, the protagonists being mere puppets in destiny's chain. In Shakespearean drama, character became destiny, the protagonists moulding their own future, their glory and then hurling themselves back to ruin through their own follies And if Shakespearean tragedy is the modern version of classical drama, then Maradona is the archetypal tragic hero of our times, throwing himself down to ruin from the summit of epoch-making success—if, of course, there is any truth in the charges that have recently been levelled against him.

Reports had it recently that Naples magistrates are investigating claims that Maradona is embroiled in a mafia drugs and sex ring. Which means if found guilty of drugs and trafficking charges, the football god of all times will be condemned to 20 years in jail.

The superstar's fall from grace has taken the whole soccer world by storm, and of course, hurt those millions of his fans who worshipped not just him, but almost the entire concept of glory, success, and excellence that he personified. In fact, the news came as so much of a shock that even an anxious Pope John Paul felt obligated to issue a public reminder to footballers everywhere that their lives in the public eye entail certain moral obligations.

The former Napoli skipper, however, continue to plead innocent. "Women? Sure, there were plenty of those. But drugs? No never," he said.

However, what is really distressing is the dark hints that he gave about the notorious Italian mafia's probable design to malign and eventually destroy him for unwittingly "winning matches that we were not supposed to win."

It is common knowledge that Napoli is the centre of Italy's mafia-run football betting racket, and their vendetta is the most menacing of all Italian curses. So, is Maradona really guilty or has he unknowingly tripped the mafia dons and earned their inescapable wrath and is now being implicated by them in false scandals of drugs and sex.

Even though Maradona, in a recent TV interview sounded profoundly convincing while pleading his innocence, taped telephone conversations with well-known drug dealers and statements of four prostitutes form the basis of the evidence against him. On TV Maradona said, "I want to leave Naples, because I don't want anyone to tell my daughters that their father sold drugs or anything like that," but according to some evidence, he really stands accused of hiring call-girls, taking cocaine and offering it to them.

The narcotics cops, however, has not so far pressed any formal charges, but at the same time, Maradona has been advised that his lawyers should soon start working on a possible line of defence.

Maradona is embroiled in a mafia drugs and sex ring...Magistrates are investigating the charges..

...If found guilty, he will be condemned to 20 years in jail. Is Maradona really guilty, or has he unknowingly tripped the mafia dons and earned their inescapable wrath, and is being implicated by them in false scandals...?

and their vendetta is the most menacing of all Italian curses...

If that piece of advice or warning symbolises the writing on the wall, then Maradona may soon be seen on the dock—in a few weeks from now.

Eventually, if, to escape the tough Neapolitan narcotic laws, Maradona does decide to retire and fly back home, he will have to part with a net annual income of more than $3 million. He is already estimated to have earned between $15 million and $30 million in the six years since he joined Napoli from Barcelona.

Ever since the latest scandal broke the media has also ruthlessly gone after him, and, as a result, in a newspaper poll in January, Maradona was voted the most hated man in the whole of Italy.

It is a fact that thanks to football and his celebrityhood, the mafia, the top connoisseurs of soccer in Italy, has all along been indirectly involved in Maradona's life—often hosting lavish banquets, parties, receptions in his honour.

In 1986, he was photographed at a reception hosted by the infamous Carmine Giuliano Don of the city's infamous Forcella quarters, where massive drugs, sex, smuggling rackets are based. And it was around that time the police began building up a dossier on Maradona's wide network of friends.

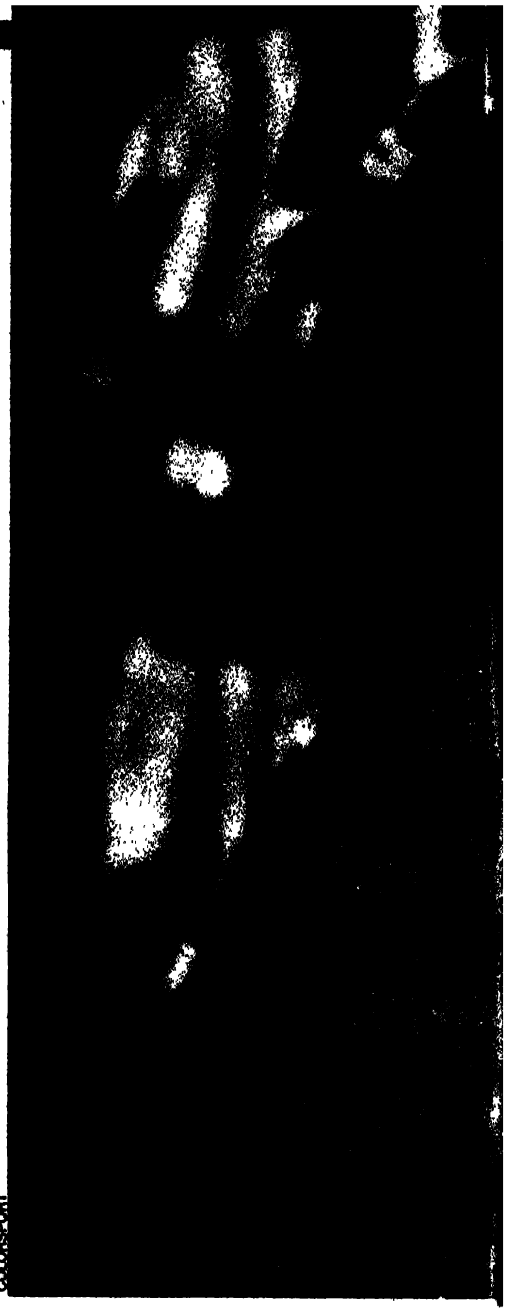
When the dossier was finally made public in 1989, it caused a massive hue and cry, while in self-defence Maradona contended, and rightly so, that he could not be responsible for all the guests invited to parties given by his friends. As if that was not enough, after the 1986 World Cup, an 18-year-old Naples shop girl, Cristina Sinagra, produced a baby boy and called him Diego Armando, insisting he was Maradona's son.

Maradona denied, only in vain, because by then the Neapolitans, his ardent fans, who put their family even before soccer, were annoyed and bitter. The whole city of Naples denounced Maradona and supported Sinagra, who took Maradona to court claiming child support. Of course, there were many who held a brief for him, but much to their consternation and embarrassment Maradona kept on refusing to take a paternity test.

What is really distressing is the dark hints that Maradona gave about the notorious Italian mafia's probable design to malign and eventually destroy him for unwittingly "winning matches that we were not supposed to win"...

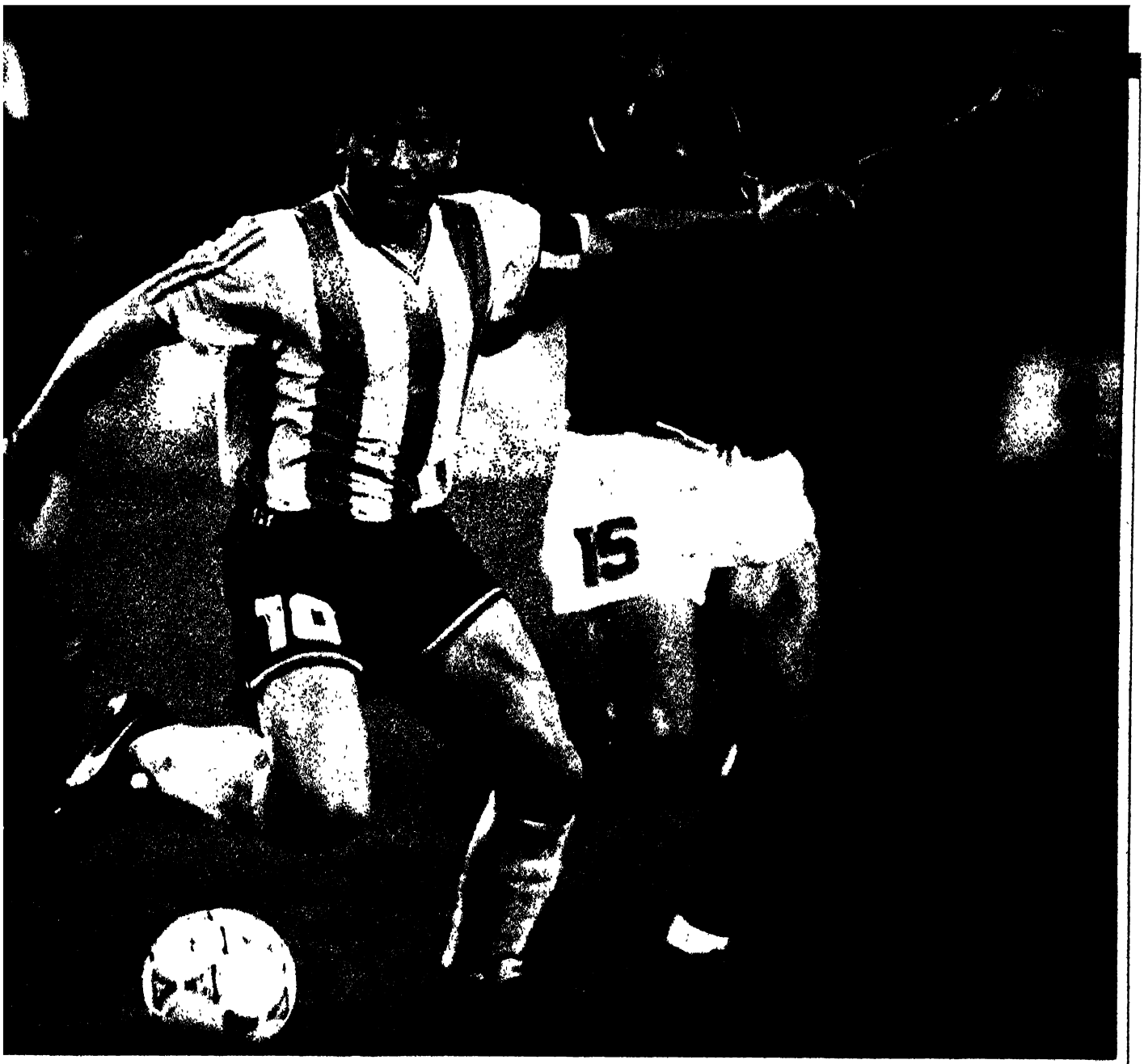
It was against this sordid backdrop, that the nosy Italian Press began vigorously dishing out juicy stories of Maradona's womanising, now in inverse proportion to his on field success. The toil and punishment of a decade of relentless top level football had by now began to take their toll on his body, while the controversies drained him psychologically. He had already had three pins in his left ankle which was shattered when he played in Spain. And now gradually, his dedication, his sporting discipline, slackened as he began to skip training, had frequent quarrels with his club bosses, and in many other ways gave clear indications of deep psychological disorientation which by no means was conducive to good football.

It was then the bombshell came. An article, *Sex, drugs, and goals* appeared in well-known Milan weekly *Epoca*, and linked him to a



COLORSPORT

"Women? Sure, there were plenty of



47-year-old Naples brothel madam Carmela Cinquegrana. The madam has recently been detained by the police on suspicion of involvement in a cocaine smuggling racket.

Even though Maradona keeps denying the drug charges just as vehemently as ever before, the biggest problem for him now is the increasing number of girls and prostitutes surrendering to the police with stories of how the superstar had offered them cocaine.

And as for his sexual exploits with the expensive and 'skilful' call-girls of Italy, disaster struck when one of 'Diego's Ladies', as they are popularly known in Naples, confessed to a newspaper, "He's more of a champion on the pitch than he is in bed."

In the final analysis, however, none of these scandals and controversies would have really mattered or been blown up to such appalling proportions, if only Maradona had been as good on the field as he was expected.

Argentina was definitely lucky to have reached last year's World Cup final in Rome, and as for Maradona's own performance, it was only the tears that rolled down his cheeks that summed up the pathetic end. Since then the fortunes of Napoli too have slumped.

And you know, in a tragedy it is only when the hero falls either to his fatal or self-created doom that the catharsis happens. In Maradona's case, the catharsis has already begun to happen. The only question now is: did Maradona caused his own pain—Or he is just a puppet on a chain?●

those. But drugs? No, never"... Maradona

"It's Nice To Be

A mist hooded the outline of Wimbledon's Centre Court three weeks ago, as Bjorn Borg glanced across, but it didn't matter; he knows well enough what the cathedral of tennis looks like.

Never ranked among the world's greatest providers of quotes, Borg conceded it was 'nice to be back'. Nice is not the first word which comes to mind when considering Borg's decision to clamber back aboard the gravy train of professional tennis at the age of 34. Sensational, certainly. Brave, definitely. Foolhardy and misguided, quite possibly.

The man who won Wimbledon five straight years between 1976 and 1980 was hard at work on the All England Club's indoor courts, the latest stage of a seven-month campaign to clear body and mind of the accumulated clutter of an eight-year retirement from the sport he once dominated. He intends to return in late April at the Monte Carlo Open, where he bade farewell to tennis in 1983, before going on to play the Italian and French Opens.

Then will come Wimbledon, where he last appeared in 1981, losing to John McEnroe in the final. All these tournaments have, naturally, been delighted to offer



LENDL ON BORG

"...We all saw what happened to McEnroe when he took eight months off, so being away for eight years is a big problem"

Back"



The legend is ready. In April, Bjorn Borg will make his first tournament appearance. And the sceptics might just be in for a surprise

Borg a wild card since he no longer has any sort of ranking to guarantee automatic acceptance. Then, says Borg, he will go to America in August and try to play the US Open, a championship he never managed to win despite being four times a finalist.

But for the moment here he was in London, SW19, the man they used to call Ice Borg and now a perfect advertisement for cryogenics—the same fair, shoulder-length hair still plastered to his neck from the shower, the familiar wispy beard, the slow shy smile the firm handshake. It could have been Wimbledon '81 not '91.

On court, Borg sported the same headband and wristbands of red, white and blue but nowhere on his clothing was there to be spotted one of the sponsors' logos which used to adhere to virtually every part of his torso.

Not only is he starting again from the baseline but from well behind it, even in the opinion of many who regard themselves as friends. Ivan Lendl, beaten by Borg in the French Open final 10 years ago, says: 'I wish Bjorn all the best but I would be really surprised if he starts playing up to his reputation. We all saw what happened to John McEnroe when he took eight months off so being away for eight years is a big problem'.

CASTLE ON BORG

"He's got plenty of control, plenty of power also. He's got the volleys and the serve and he's got the movement. I tried three drop shots and they were good ones, they all failed"

Why do it? It is definitely not, Borg insists, for the money, despite the failure last year of his company, which manufactured men's clothing, luggage and toiletries. Thanks to the shrewd spread of his investments during the glory years, he is still worth an estimated £10 million.

It is just desire, said Borg. 'First of all I missed tennis. I am coming back because I am 100 per cent fit. I want to play, I want to win, I want the satisfaction. I am really hungry to get out there again.'

It all started, Borg explained, when he fell to watching tennis on television rather more frequently than had once been the case. Though by no means a boastful man, he says: 'Regarding the opposition that I see, I feel I have nothing to fear'.

What he ought to fear is the development in racket technique since he turned his broad back on the game. Now they are power-packed and wielded, what's more, by muscular youngsters who tend to spend free time lifting weights where many of Borg's generation were prone to raise nothing heavier than beer glasses.

Borg was practising last week with the very racket he used in the 1981 Wimbledon final——wooden and now so small in comparison with the current models that it more closely resembled something to play

squash with. He tried the new brands but without success.

'I didn't feel comfortable with them, didn't like them because I couldn't get any control. They didn't offer me the sort of game I had always played, so I am going to stay with my old racket. I have kept quite a few. I will have enough to last me.' He will need to—Donnay, the Belgian manufacturers, have deleted the Bjorn Borg special from their range.

Andrew Castle, the British Davis Cup player, was Borg's practice partner at Wimbledon last week. His one reservation was about Bjorn's racket: 'He shouldn't be using those small things.' Apart from that, Castle was astonished by what he saw across the net. 'I was supposed to be playing in Stuttgart this week, but I gave that up. It's going to cost me a couple of thousand in earnings, but this had to be worth much more just to watch him in action'.

'He's got plenty of control, plenty of power also. He's got the volleys and the serve but above all he's got the movement. It's just a sweeping coverage of the court. I tried three drop shots and they were good ones, they all failed.

'There is no way he's not going to win matches, not a chance. I'm



GERULAITIS ON BORG

"You don't have to hit the ball at a thousand miles an hour to be a great player, as John McEnroe showed, but what Bjorn has to realise is that he will take a few bumps at first"



Borg and Evert celebrate another French Open victory

he Wimbledon trophy in the hands of its eatest champion





Borg and McEnroe: those were the days

playing in tournaments and I can tell you there are not many people who hit like that or who are as fit.'

Speed and fitness rather than style, were always Borg's trademarks. He has been hard at work on them since committing to a comeback last August. 'To get to the top you have to be physically and mentally in the best shape. That's what I am right now. I just need some match practice and that I will get. I hope I can play as well in those matches as I'm doing right now in practice.'

Borg's fitness trainer is someone he simply calls the Professor, a lively 79-year-old giving to seizing people by the lapels as he demonstrates the type of martial art he is teaching. They make a bizarre team. 'I knew him from the old days,' says the Professor, 'He worked with me the five years he won Wimbledon. He never came the sixth year and lost to that man, what was his name? That's right, McEnroe.'

The Professor feels he is in charge of a prime 34-year-old. 'He has the body tissue of a man of 22, his endurance is ridiculous for someone his age. He drinks nothing but cold water. He has a stomach like a brick wall. He is 6ft. tall and has a 44-inch chest. His heartbeat after severe exercises is completely normal. He is a perfect physical specimen, mentally so alert too.' He is so devoted to what he is doing that nothing else exists except love for his wife and his son. He talks very little, if anything, about himself but he said one thing, that rather shook me: "It isn't the money, it's the satisfaction of knowing I can do it again."'

It is fascinating that tennis, once the sole item in Borg's life, should become dominant once more. He made his Davis Cup debut at 15, won Junior Wimbledon at 16, and a year later took the French Open, the first of an astonishing six times in eight years there.

BORG ON BORG

"There is going to be a lot of pressure. People's expectations will be high. They will want to see me win. I would like that too. To do really well at Wimbledon is going to be the peak for me"



Former girlfriend Jannike Bjorling with their son Robin

The strain of switching immediately from Paris clay to London grass and winning consistently on both had taken a severe toll by 1981. He opted for time away from his job, fell into dispute with authority about the number of tournaments he should play every year and in 1983 decided on what seemed the definitive retirement at 26. 'Nothing, absolutely nothing, is going to get me back into competitive tennis,' he said then.

Borg did not enjoy a contented retirement. He married and divorced Marianna Simionescu, a Romanian tennis player, fathered a son, Robin, who is now five, and then broke with the boy's mother, Jannike Bjorling. In February 1989 he was rushed to hospital from the Milan apartment of his latest love, the Italian rock singer Loredana Berte, to whom he is now married. There were reports of a suicide attempt but Borg dismissed the incident as an accidental combination of alcohol





Borg and Marianna on their wedding day

and insomnia drugs.

Two years on from that low point in his life, he is poised to come back. 'It's true I said all that about never returning, but here we are. I was playing Wimbledon 10 years ago and I will be back this year.'

Mats Wilander, who replaced him as Sweden's best player, thinks Borg will not make it. 'The top 100 is may be possible but not top 10. He's not 20 years old or even 26, like I am. I hope he does, but it's very hard.'

Lennart Bergelin, Borg's former coach and minder, says: 'After such a long break even a person with his will of steel wouldn't have a chance.' Ion Tiriac, Boris Becker's manager, would not go to watch Borg now. 'The guy was once the most perfect athlete in tennis. Now he would be just a normal player.'

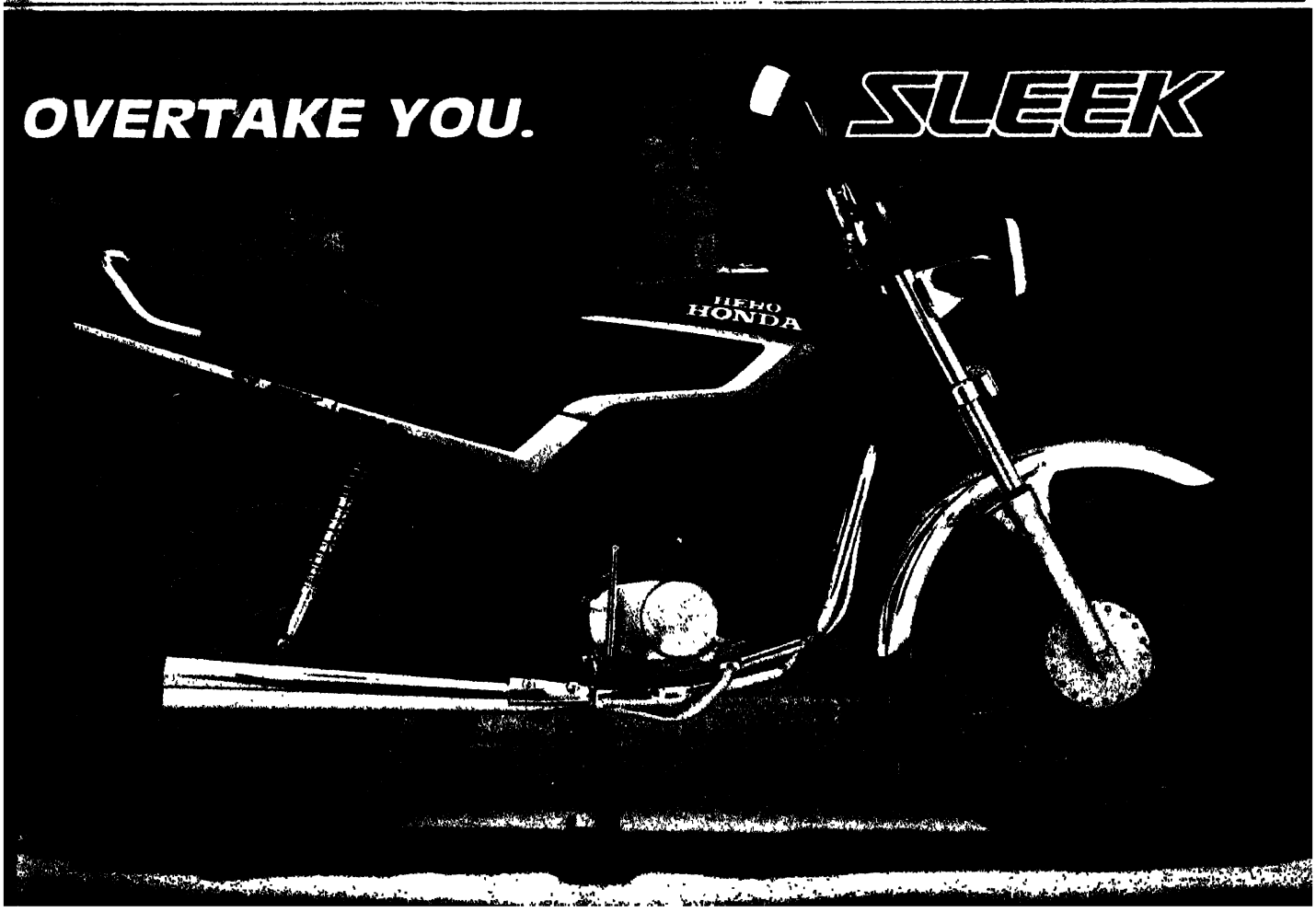
But there are those who think Borg could do it. John Newcombe, himself a triple Wimbledon champion, feels Bjorn can win the French Open again. 'He's the best clay courter who ever lived and if he is ready I think he has a shot at being in the top 20 again.'

Vitas Gerulaitis, Borg's best friend on the circuit, argues that the old-fashioned racket would not be a problem. 'You don't have to hit the ball at a thousand miles an hour to be a great player, as John McEnroe showed, but what Bjorn has to realise is that he will take a few bumps at first.'

Borg is quite aware of this. 'I know what's waiting for me in April, otherwise I wouldn't have taken the decision. There is going to be a lot of pressure. People's expectations will be high. They will want to see me win. I would like that too. To do really well at Wimbledon again is going to be the peak for me.'

Ronald Atkin

COURTSEY: THE OBSERVER, LONDON





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"He's superb," says Azharuddin. "I didn't even play a first class match at his age whereas he has scored a century. His innings is one of the finest I have ever seen."

Not to mention his Power cricket shoes. With features that include a perforated 'upper' for added breathability and sweat absorption. And a flexible rubber sole for added comfort and protection against injury.

"No doubt he is a wonderboy," says Mushtaq Mohammed. "When I was his age I didn't have his batting technique."

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CROSSED SWORDS

The rivalry between the Australians and the Pakistanis has suddenly become a vicious battle of words. Each one is trying to run the other one down in a desperate attempt to be the top nation in squash

OVER the last decade, without a hiccup, Jahangir Khan and Jansher Khan have kept an iron grip on the No. 1 spot. Such is their domination, that it has become the accepted fact that if both the Khans are playing in the same tournament the others might as well go home. Beating both of them is improbable, almost impossible, and an offshoot of this deadlock is a ferocious animosity against the two Pakistanis from their Australian counterparts.

Over the last five months, then has been tremendous tension between the Australians and the Pakistanis. It all started with an interview with Chris Dittmar, the Australian president of the International Squash Players' Association, who lashed out at the world champion, Jansher Khan, describing him as a 'nightmare' representative of the game and Pakistan as an 'unhygenic' country where he always became 'sick as a dog'.

Jahangir Khan was sent to London to sort out the situation by the politicians in Karachi who were furious over the comments made by Dittmar, which maligned both Pakistan and *their* world champion. This conflict took a dramatic turn during the Welsh Open Classic where the Australians started gunning for the Pakistanis and in the process also attacked the former world champion, Ross Norman.

Australian Rodney Martin, the world No. 5, who was beaten by Norman last year at the World Open, accused him of employing dubious tactics on court. "It is just the way he plays", stormed Martin. "He doesn't play the ball, uses you to change direction and bounces off you.

"You don't get any rhythm when you play him. He's always asking for lets and tries to hold the ball. I just wish he would get on with the game, instead of wasting time."

"The referee is supposed to know what the game is about, but he sits there and doesn't say a thing about it. I didn't know squash was a contact sport."

Act two of the drama was enacted between Rodney Martin and Jahangir Khan. Their match was continually interrupted by arguments between the players and the referee.

"Jahangir plays dirty", Martin said. "He's just not fit enough to play for the ball. He's not the player he was three or for years ago.

"I'm furious about his performance and he bumped and barged me throughout the match and blocked my path to the ball at every opportunity. There was no way I could play my normal game under those circumstances."

And in his usual caustic style he lashed out at the referee: "If referees don't start to penalise Jahangir for the way he blocks the ball he is going to get out of hand completely."

Jahangir Khan: ghost of a world champion



COURTESY SQUASH WORLD

THE WIND OF CHANGE

THREE generations of leading squash players have been involved in the dramatic 12-year career of Jahangir Khan and there were intimations during the Welsh Open that the closing chapter may be in the process of being written.

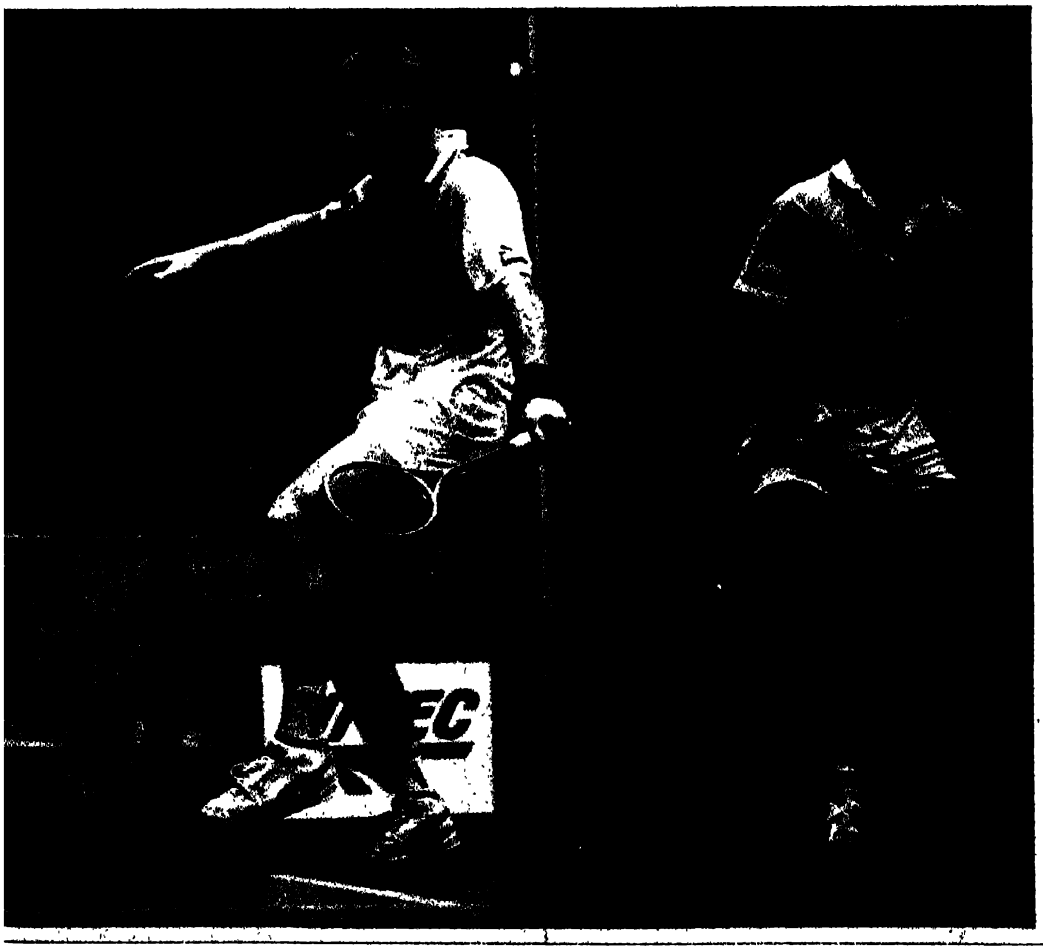
For the first time in 10 years it seems certain that Jahangir Khan is going to slip out of the top two in the world squash rankings.

The writer, the least likely character of them all, is Chris Robertson. A small and relentless Australian whose armoury boasts of little except speed, patience and nagging precision. And yet, with this limited talent he defeated Jahangir at the *Stretch* Open, Vancouver. This produced rumours of imminent retirement which forced Jahangir Khan to seek medical advice.

He returned to the squash courts after five months, but things are no longer the same and the new rankings to be released shortly will have for the first time a new world No. 2.



Chris Robertson: Hoping for the world No. 2 spot



Chris Dittmar: he fired the first verbal attack

Being the perfect gentleman, Jahangir Khan agreed that the match had been a little rough but he was convinced that Rodney Martin was to blame. "He was blocking me and I wanted to show him that I could do the same."

The final act took place between the original provocator, Chris Dittmar and the world champion, Jansher Khan. Their stormy semi-final match started with Dittmar throwing the ball at Jansher Khan in the second game when Jansher was awarded a penalty stroke to give him the lead. It was one of the several refereeing decisions with which Dittmar disagreed during the match. Although he was reprimanded, it did little

"THE AUSSIES ARE FRUSTRATED"—JANSHER

"THERE is a great amount of frustration which has built up among the Aussies because they have constantly been beaten by me," believed Jansher Khan.

Recalling his past experiences with the press, Jansher Khan said, "In the past I only had to blow my nose to attract some unkind remark from the press. Today, both Dittmar and Robertson have shown dissent on the court. It will be interesting to see if the 'all men are equal' rule will be applied this time."

The reasons for this continuing verbal battle between the Australians and the Pakistanis is very simply explained by Jansher Khan. "Within those four walls there are plenty of pent up feelings.



Jansher Khan: his fragile temperament is in doubt

Sometimes you do get a questionable decision, but you must take it in your stride. The time wasting and arguing tactics has become a part of the modern game and it is doing a lot of damage to its image."

And with this sort of behaviour the referee's job has become an unenviable one. Jansher appreciates what the referee has to go through: "The man in the referee's chair has a difficult job. It is something that no one has grown to appreciate. If one player thinks that the referee has done a good job, there will be others who have unkind words to say."

According to Jansher the solution is very simple, "Players should learn to concentrate on the game and not on becoming a master of the debating society."

to cool his anger against Jansher.

The world No. 4, Dittmar described the Pakistani as a 'nightmare of a world champion' during the World Open in France and later called him 'an absolute disgrace to the sport' when Jansher tanked a match against Dittmar which was his in the British League.

The logical conclusion that one comes to is that the Australians know that Jahangir Khan is on his way down and the only way that they can get to the top two spots is through psychological warfare.

The fragility of Jansher's mental state is also obvious to all. Although he has been making an effort to improve his relations with the officials, a little provocation can result in a repeat of his earlier petulant behaviour....

This might come as startling news but the Australians are desperate to become the top nation in world squash and it is obvious that they will stop at nothing to achieve this goal.



Rodney Martin: he accused everyone of playing dirty

Ayik Lee
PHOTOGRAPHS: CQ/SNAPSHOT

TOTO LENDS HIS NAME

To lawful services

'TOTO' SCHILLACI hasn't been scoring goals and now we know why. He's been catching bank robbers—or so it seems. Toto, World Cup hero, and a Sicilian right down to the little studs of his Diadora boots was in a sense, behind the recent capture of bank bandit Antonino Schellione, aged 57.

Schellione, along with five of his cronies was involved in robbing a branch of the Bank of Sicily. They got away with a great deal of loot, including safe deposit boxes which yielded goods worth £125,000. Among the loot was a 1,000 lire note (worth a paltry Rs 70) which bore the autograph of Toto himself. Schellione, was arrested when this particular note was found on his person.

Toto, now how-a-bout-a some goals!

CRICKET IN NEW ZEALAND

Widening the 'Gulf'

AND the crazy things in cricket continue without any repose. Like, take for example, the antics of a man who was returning home after seeing the first Test between New Zealand and Sri Lanka at Wellington.

The man was on a domestic flight to Auckland when he was arrested and charged with using threatening words. Apparently drunk, he yelled at fellow passengers, that he was Saddam Hussein. Before you could say 'Martin Crowe!' the united passengers forced him to disembark and handed him over to the authorities.

ASHES TO ASHES?

Not anymore

MINOR changes have been sought by the Cremation Society—a rather morbid body (pun unintended)—of London. They have asked for cricket's most precious trophy, the Ashes, to be replaced by something more modern. They have also asked that the original mock obituary that led to the founding of the Ashes legend in 1882, and written by Reginald Brooks, the son of the Society's founder be changed to something more zippy.

Ol' Reginald must be spinning—not rolling—in his grave.

SOCCER IN EUROPE

Going bananas!

CHECK this out! Bananas are permanently going to go out of season at Europe's football grounds from next year. This move will be the result of the European Union of Football Associations' efforts to stamp out racial hatred on the ground. The banana, in this case, serves as a racist taunt for anyone of a darker shade.

Executive Committee member, Jo Van Marle said: "We will give the same penalties for throwing bananas as we do for fireworks. Insulting coloured people will not be tolerated."



But the German manager of Dutch first division club Heerenveen, Fritz Korbach, does not give a damn. There is an uproar in Holland over remarks by him directed to Dutch international Bryan Roy and PSV Eindhoven's Brazilian import, Romario. "That rotten nigger starts kicking everybody when he loses the ball," and "the coffee bean is only ruining the game," he snapped. Korbach, whose deeds have been discussed in Parliament, remains unrepentant for as he says, "I don't complain when people call me a rotten kraut."

HOTLINE

MOVING TO THE BEAT





LIKE grooving to the beat while working out, do you? Well, don't crank the volume up too much. Especially if you're using stereo headphones. According to research done at the Ear Institute in Indianapolis, the combination of stereo headphones and aerobic exercise can be doubly damaging to the hearing. The headphones, they say, cause inner ear vasoconstriction and lead to hearing loss...something that could be drastic when combined with aerobics which also causes vasoconstriction as blood is pumped in large volumes to the vital areas. The net effect is too much pressure on the inner ear.

So if you can't get the mood going till the music really starts thumping, why don't you try a stereo system? That way you're still working out to the beat...but your inner ear isn't.



WHAT'S BREATH GOT TO DO WITH IT?

HERE's one to check up if you're breathing right. It's not as simple as you think—just inhaling and exhaling—and if you're not doing it correct, you could be starving your body of vital oxygen. Inhale too fast and the body doesn't get enough oxygen; exhale too fast and the body doesn't have enough carbon dioxide.

Hold it, hold it, before you start yelling your head off about the 'need' for carbon dioxide. You do need a little carbon dioxide, even though it's basically a waste product—for a short period before it's expelled. Too little of it can leave your thinking slowed and your sensations dulled.

So breathe real deep. Expand the diaphragm, the muscular partition between the chest and the abdominal areas, as you inhale. This should leave your midsection expanded, not the chest. When you exhale, pull in the abdominal muscles to force out all the air.

That way, you'll be getting a lungful every time you breathe.



GET THE MASSAGE?

EVER tried a massage? We're talking professional sports massage here. Not some downtown pat-down you can get from the hustlers. If the answer's no, then maybe it's time you started checking up where you can get a trained masseur to lay his or her hands on your muscles.

In fact, the latest studies on massage show that athletes who train seriously and regularly should have at least one sports massage per week. It smoothens out the kinks in your muscles. Improves circulation. Relieves tension. And reduces muscle soreness.

So, c'mon, let's find the closest place to get that rubdown. Not only does it make you feel oh-so-good; it also does wonders for your body.

HOW MUCH? HOW SOON?

ARE you one of those who's always confused about how much iron to lead onto the bar? Always messing it up by either lifting too light and feeling like a cheat, or lifting too heavy and dying of exhaustion? If so, here's the lowdown on how much.

If you're just getting started, stick to a light weightage. Say, about 20-50% of what you can actually lift. Then, as you get used to the motions, you can start going for gold. Shoot for about 90% and, once in a while, even go over the limit. That's the only way you'll keep building strength. After all, intensity is the key word in getting results. If you're still doing the same workout you did three years ago, you'll be fit allright. But you won't be getting any fitter or stronger.

If you want to get stronger, you've got to keep pushing yourself a little harder every few months.



YASIN MERCHANT IS INDIAN SNOOKER'S DREAM MERCHANT

IT was the stuff dreams are made of. Down two frames to love, and missing shots that would've had an amateur blushing, Yasin Merchant managed to win the third. It appeared a mock, momentary, relief for his opponent pulled away again to 3/1, yet Merchant held steadfast and reeled off the next six consecutive frames to win his first senior national snooker title 7-3

If this particular match was a dream for Yasin Merchant, it was a nightmare for his opponent, Alok Kumar Standing helplessly, he crumbled as his lead was whittled away, Merchant's menace eventually reducing him to average club standard, as he missed pots which he would have sunk with his eyes shut, earlier in the afternoon.

Having clawed his way back into the game with a nail-biting sixth frame win (61-60), Merchant seemed to suddenly find the rhythm he enjoyed against Shandilya in the semifinal. And when the final black rolled into the top right hand pocket to seal the issue, it was an emotionally wrung-out Merchant who collapsed on the table in disbelieving ecstasy It didn't matter that he had run out of balls, thus being denied, the Rs 1,000 promised by an anonymous snooker lover for every century break in the semifinals and final.



The 91-point break was good enough to raise this 24-year-old cueist from Maharashtra to domestic snooker's highest pinnacle. And that was all that mattered

As for his opponent, Alok Kumar, it was virtually impossible to swallow this defeat. Working his way through the ranks with quiet, deadly efficiency— he made short work of Kenneth D'Cruz in the pre-quarters while S A. Saleem got just one frame off him in the quarters-he had survived a cliffhanger against Devendra Joshi the previous day And then,

A beaming Yasin Merchant holds the trophy aloft; but his emotions showed their true colours when he collapsed on the table after sinking the final black (inset)

If this [illegible] match was a dream for Yasin Merchant, it was a nightmare for his opponent, Alok Kumar. Standing helplessly, he crumbled as his lead was whittled away, Merchant's menace eventually reducing him to average club standard

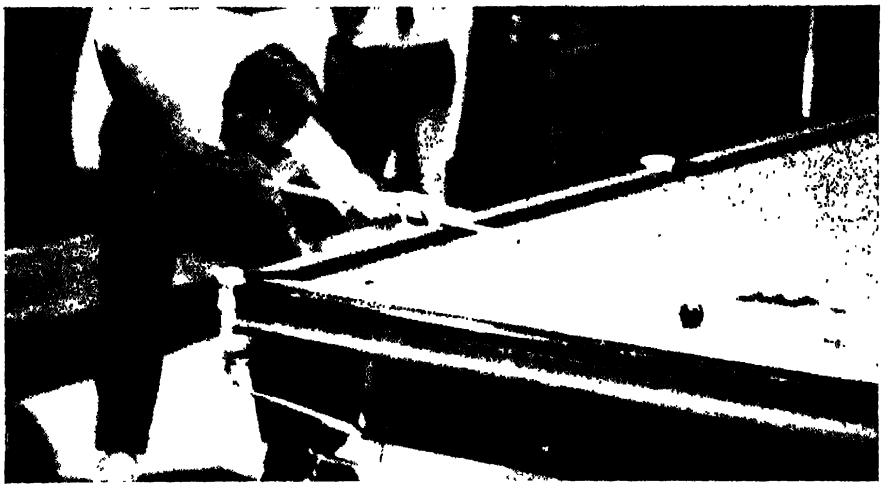
Edging past Bengal's Yusuf Mirza in the quarters, he couldn't maintain his sharpness and went down against Kumar.

Impressing with their standard of play on the green baize were others like Sonic Multani, S. A. Saleem, Mathew Thomas, Sanjay Sawant and Atul Agarwal. Multani, the Geet Sethi clone, might not have survived the guiles of the wily Yusuf Mirza in the pre-quarters, but he did regale everyone with a highest break of 122 before switching his attention to the junior championship.

Saleem, an extremely strong potter, had the crowd gasping with delight with one moment, only to have them shaking their heads in disbelief as he muffed an easy chance the very next. Thomas, equally adept at sinking

PHOTOGRAPHS RASHBEHARI DAS





just as he scented further success, it was cruelly snatched away from him. But the junior champ from last time round has served notice that he is the man to watch.

Equally disappointed was the portly Ashok Shandilya. In tremendous spirits ever since he ended defending champion-and horribly out-of-touch—B.V.S. Murthy's challenge in the pre-quarterfinal, much was expected from Shandilya when he took on Yasin Merchant in the semis. But his notorious mental block against the Bombay-based player surfaced yet again, to leave him a stumbling shadow of his normal, assured self: Merchant having amassed a huge tally of 399 points by the time the marker settled the table for the fourth frame while Shandilya had a mere 11, inclusive of a four-away by his opponent. Yet it was not a true reflection of the difference in abilities.

As for the other player who made the semifinal stage, Devendra Joshi, the rigours of the preceeding two weeks caught up with him. Blinking furiously, he sometimes even resorted to screwing his eyes shut in a desperate effort to maintain his eagle-eyed focus. But the national billiards runner-up couldn't make it two finals in as many weeks.

Runner-up Alok Kumar's game crumbled as his opponent grew in strength

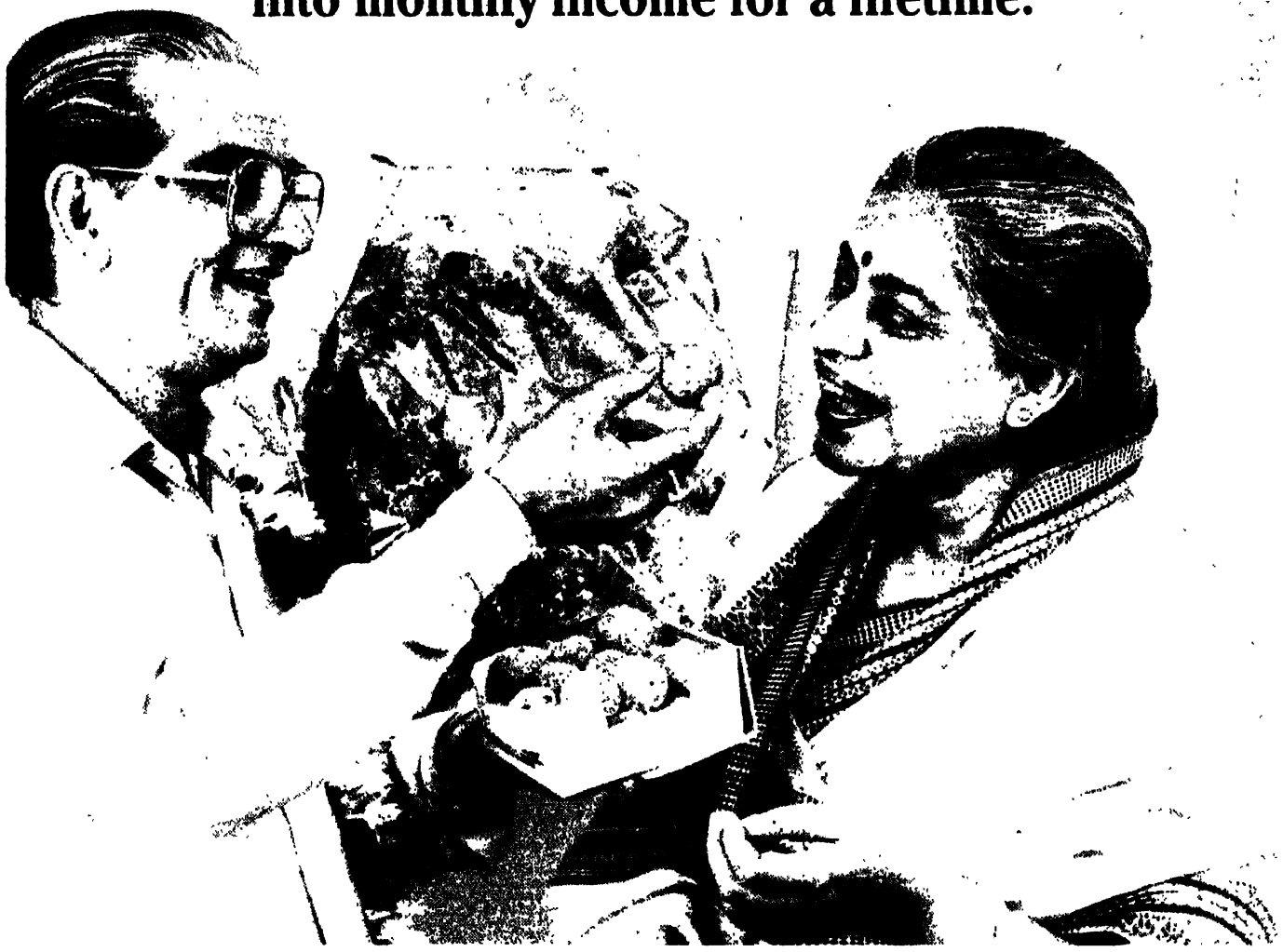
the balls, blew a 2-0 lead against the eventual champion in the quarters. Sawant, easily the best built snooker player we've seen in this country, unfortunately came up against a steamrolling Joshi in the crucial match in Group H. Agarwal had somewhat the same problem as the part-time doctor, part-time snooker player faced a desperate B.V.S. Murthy in a crucial Group A match.

And, of course, there were the odd flashes of brilliance from champion O. B. Agarwal. The former world champion displayed

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HOW THEY FINISHED

1. YASIN MERCHANT (MHTA)
2. ALOK KUMAR (PUN)
3. DEVENDRA JOSHI (RLY)
4. ASHOK SHANDILYA (RLY)
5. S.A. SALEEM (TN)
6. MATHEW THOMAS (KER)
7. YUSUF MIRZA (BEN)
8. SHAKEEL AHMED (BEN)

Devendra Joshi (left) struggled to keep his eagle-eye focus, but the two weeks of relentless play took its toll

Much was expected of Sonic Multani in the senior championship but it was in the juniors that he eventually dominated the table: winning both billiards and snooker

mind—boggling touch whenever the mood was right.

Unfortunately, the mood didn't happen too often and the championships was denied the pleasure of seeing more of his exemplary play.

However, it was left to Sonic Multani to provide the icing on a well-conducted tournament. Using every trick he has picked up from his illustrious mentor Geet Sethi, the tall and lanky lad from Gujarat was a hot favourite every time he graced the table. But the battle-scarred veteran from Bengal, Yusuf Mirza, eventually got his measure and blunted the youngster's high-accuracy potting in the pre-quarterfinal.

Once he was out of the senior national championships, Multani then turned his sights on the junior titles: both billiards and snooker. And even though the competition wasn't enough to spark his game to the heights it is capable of, Multani was still good enough to notch up the expected double. Amit Saboo of Maharashtra trailing him to the post in both cases.

Pradeep Paul

Thanks

THE article on Pete Sampras was really a treat. Sampras portrays himself as a very honest and cool character. To top it all he has talent in the right measure. I also enjoyed reading the article on Lestor Piggott. Despite his age, he still remains the best jockey of our times.
MANAB KUMAR CHELLENG,
North Lakhimpur.


BASHBEHARI DAS

Keep It Up!

OUR young Grandmaster defeating Karpov was indeed great news. Anand's swift moves seem to be his forte, and it unnerves the best players of the world. He is surely climbing the pinnacle of success much faster than was expected of him In our land where world champions are a rarity, let's hope that Anand does not let us down. Anand for India is a prized possession.
SRINIVAS NYAPATHY,
Rajahmundry.

Great stuff

THANKS a million for the special issue on filmstars. (6-12 Feb '91) showing their sporty side. Indeed, it is very true that the modern men and women are very much concerned about maintaining peak physical condition to last out the heavy strain of various activities Even filmstars are no exceptions. Not only sportsmen, but everyone should aim to attain—at least—a minimum degree of fitness.

We Indians should work on being more fit, so that we can at least progress as a nation.
SOBHAN KAR,
Bhubaneswar.

Disappointing!

The issue dated 6—12 Feb '91 was a bit of a disappointment. The manner in which the stars keep fit is of little use to the sportslovers. And moreover there was no write up regarding the exercises.

The remark in the Freewheeling of the same issue which stated that Maradona against all odds carried Argentina into the finals of the World Cup is surely not going to please Goycochea and Cannigia in the least. The writer had written an article that was highly biased, and in the process has raised Maradona to the skies.

Brian Glanville's 'Leave the damn laws alone' was a masterpiece. Finally whatever one says, *Sportsworld* is the best sports magazine in the country. Keep up the good work.
NIMISH DUBEY,
Allahabad.

Will History Repeat Itself?

THE grand finale of the fifth World Cup cricket is to be staged at Melbourne on the 25th of March '92. I'd like to reminisce that on the 25th of March 1985, India recorded one of the greatest victories in one-day cricket, defeating Pakistan at Sharjah. Though we were dismissed for 135 runs, we restricted our rivals to an unimaginable 86. Will history repeat itself on March 25, 1992?
PREJOTH PHILIP,
Trivandrum.

Biased!

THIS has reference to the article "Cold War—The Delhi Ranji Trophy Controversy" in the issue dated, 25 Feb—5th Mar.

In the report it had been mentioned that on the morning of the Delhi-Punjab Ranji Trophy match, Mr. Bishen Singh Bedi, Chairman, Selection Committee and coach of the Punjab team, not the manager, (the manager was Mr, Harcharan Singh) had made the contention that "I don't doubt umpire Sood's intentions,but I have reservations regarding his capacity". Perhaps the latter part of the report which reads as under:

"DDCA officials maintain that umpire Pritam Sood made some utter blunders in the recent Steel Trophy conducted by The Steel Authority of India, (SAIL). This was brought to Bedi's notice and hence he was wary of Sood's ability".

Which could also be attributed to Mr Bedi and not to DDCA as reported. The later statement was Bedi's explanation/extention of his earlier statement.

The fact is that I have not supervised even a single game in the Steel Trophy during 1990-91. However, I had supervised the semi-final matches during 1988-89 and 1989-90 and in case there were adverse reports against my supervision, I have no knowledge about that. I have also checked up with the official incharge for posting of umpires for Steel Trophy matches, (Dr Tamim Ahmed and Dr Rambabu Gupta) they have also expressed their ignorance of any such adverse reports against me.

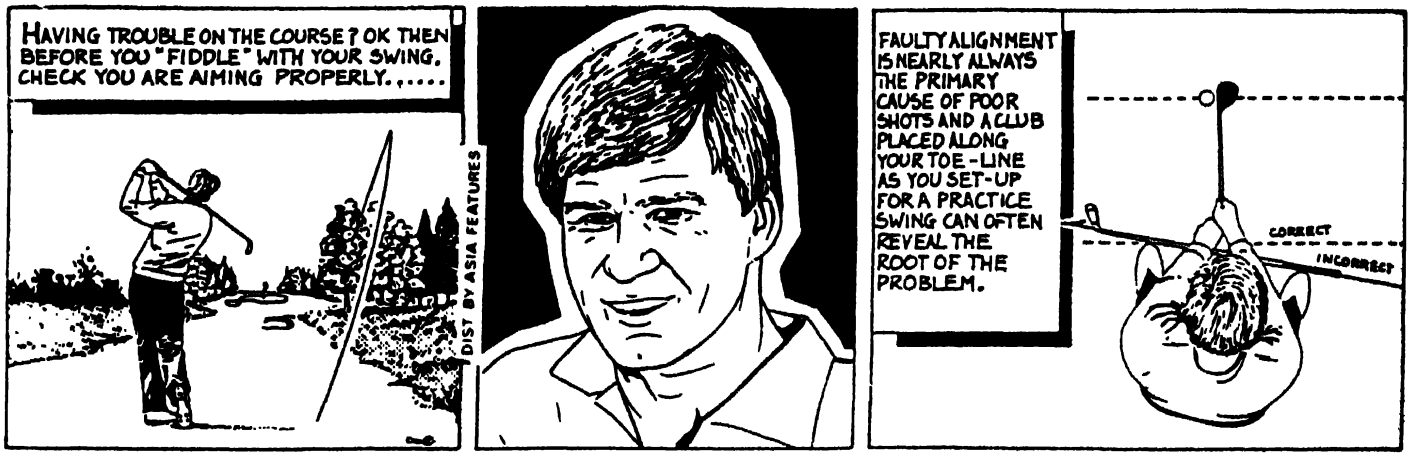
In the end, it could be inferred that Mr Bedi made the above statement to score his point against DDCA in general and BCCI in particular and I have been made a scapegoat in the entire episode.
PRITAM SOOD,
All India Umpires Panel, BCCI

THE FALDO FORMULA

FROM TEE TO GREEN

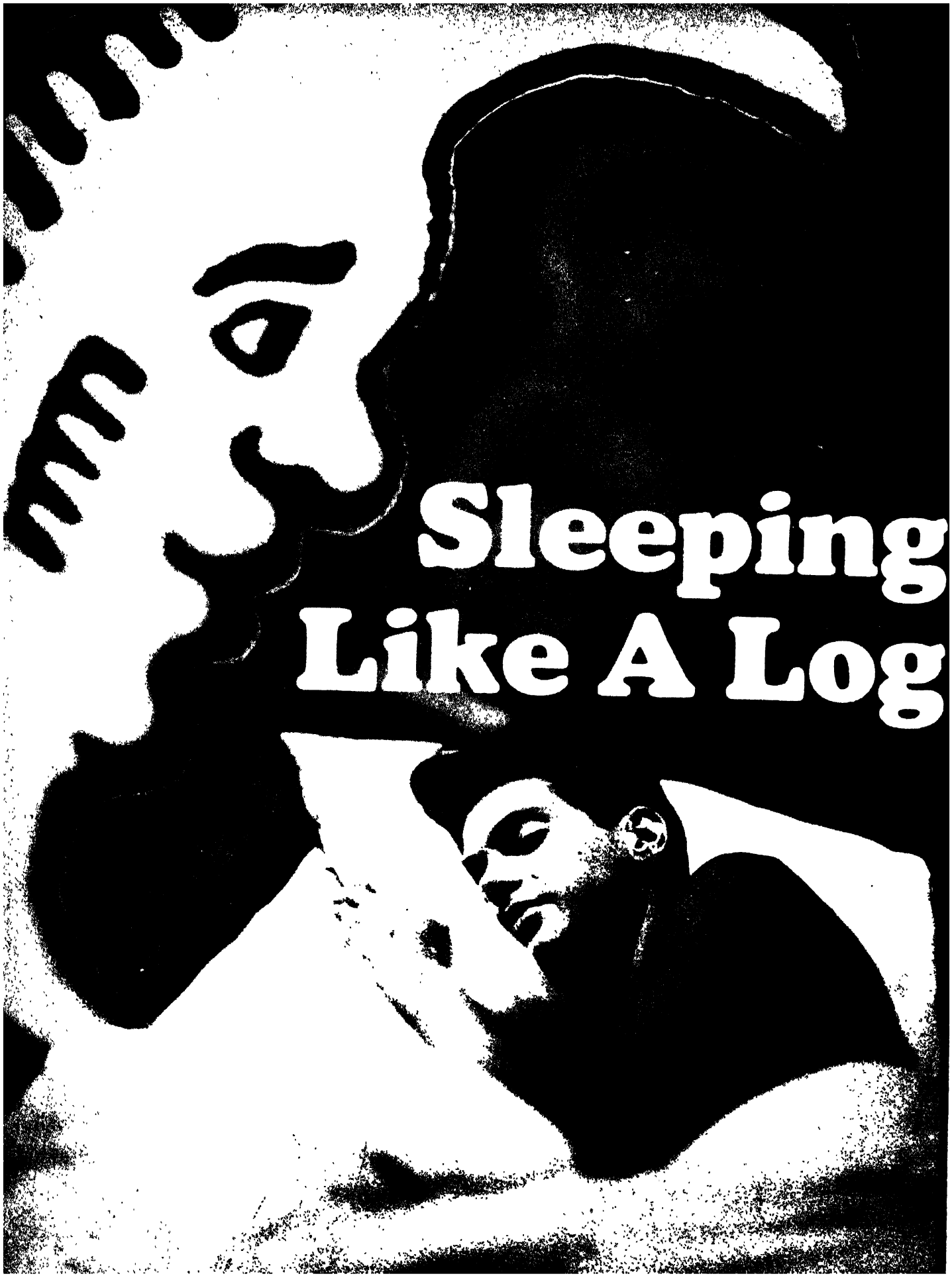


That Elusive Alignment



Wind on the Range




Sleeping
Like A Log

THE HEALTH COLUMN

YOU come back from work, dog-tired and real glad that another day in office is over. You go in for a shower, sit in front of the telly for sometime, have dinner and then decide to call it a day. What was it the Beatles said? 'It's been a hard day's night and I've been working like a dog, it's been a hard day's night and I should be sleeping like a log.'

You hit the sack, and then... you toss and turn, waiting for Hypnos, the god of slumber to grant a good night's sleep. After some time you get frustrated, not knowing what to do, not sure whether you should stop counting the sheep in the field, or whether you should finally get out of bed. Finally sleep dulls your senses and you don't realise when you shut off. But the next morning you get up feeling disoriented, and mighty tired.

Is this a scene that is enacted in your bedroom most days of the week? If so read on. For, this week we are going to dwell on the sleeping patterns and a few tips on how you can finally get those few hours of sleep that your body so desperately needs.

The body's typical sleep wake cycle is about 25-hour - rhythms that regulate the whole body. There are two distinct stages in sleeping: REM (Rapid Eye Movement) and non-REM or orthodox sleep. Surprisingly the brain never sleeps. Long after you've started strolling the streets in slumberland your brain is still awake and at times produces electric impulses that are much stronger than when you are awake. The rhythms of the body are synchronised by the sun's 24-hour cycle.

At 6 am when you are just beginning to stir awake, the level of stress hormone in your body is at it's peak. The best time for exercising incidentally is around 9 am when the body's oxygen use is at it's peak. It takes till the afternoon, surprisingly, for the brain to hit top gear. By 3 pm the graph of creativity begins to dip. Mid-afternoon is siesta time (although don't try using that the next time your boss catches you napping on the job).

Three hours later, at around 6 pm the alertness level is restored. It again begins to wane at around 9 pm, when the stress hormone begins to fall, and old Hypnos starts whispering your name.

When you first fall asleep, your heart and respiratory rates slow down and your muscles relax as you pass through the first of the non REM's three stages. Normally this stage lasts from half a minute to seven minutes. During this stage your reactivity to outside stimuli diminishes, and your mental processes are put on standby. In stage two - the first true sleep stage - there are bursts of brain wave activity, called sleep spindles. Half an hour to 45 minutes after falling asleep, you enter the third and deepest stage, called the delta sleep stage.

Than something odd happens. Your muscles are more relaxed than ever, but your eyeballs dart back and forth under closed eyelids, your heart and breathing rates quicken, your metabolism increases, you are likely to get sexually aroused, and you begin to dream. The first round of REM sleep lasts for a mere 5 to 10 minutes. For the rest of the night you alternate four to six times between REM and non REM.

Now for the vital question as to how much of sleep is really enough? In sleep-studies an average of 7 to 8 hours of sleep seems to correlate with a longer and healthier life. Those who sleep less, tend to become prone to angina or heart pains. A study conducted last year in the United States of America has established that all of us could do with a bit more of shut eye. Staying out late, working late into the night on weekdays and then trying to compensate by sleeping more on weekends knocks the body's sync out of gear. A minor sleep loss now and then won't kill you, but getting less than three to four hours of sleep is likely to leave you feeling irritable and unable to concentrate on work.

To increase your likelihood of a good night's sleep, avoid caffeine and cold drinks before bedtime. Warm milk and cocoa has a soothing effect on the brain and helps you to induce sleep much faster. For light sleepers we suggest a bedtime snack high on carbohydrates and light on proteins. Rice, potatoes, bread, cereals and fruits, help speed the amino acid trytophan to the brain, where it is converted into serotonin, that is a sleep inducer. Another sleeping pill that works better than anything else - and has no side effects - is a regular exercise progamme. Along with regular exercise make sure you have your basics right. We are talking here of a comfortable bed and pillows, a dark, reasonably cool room and as little noise as possible. Also remember that alcohol consumed late, is a nice way to say goodbye to sleep.

These tips and info should see you through nights without problems. Here's wishing you all very good nights. ●

CALCUTTA

Merchants' Cup Badminton

HOSTS, *The Telegraph* won the Merchants' Cup badminton championship, but only just. In a keenly contested final, *Telegraph* beat Indo-Japan by the odd match in three to lift the Merchants' Cup badminton title for the second time in 13 editions of the meet.

Twenty three teams participated in this year's meet played at the Saturday Club. There were a few new faces and Anjuman Tea were regarded as the dark horse of the championship. The meet began with a flutter, with holders India Jute losing their league encounter. But the likes of Anjuman Tea fizzed out towards the later parts of the championship.

It was only appropriate that *The Telegraph* reached the final of a meet which was well organised. The hosts had displayed a consistent performance throughout and they were heavily tipped to win the crown. But as long as the State champion of the Fifties, Haripada Guha was around, Indo-Japan were a tough side to beat.

The Telegraph made a flying start when Arindam Chakraborty, as expected, dismissed Sanjay Kumar of Indo-Japan 15-4, 15-4 with consummate ease. But the matches became more competitive once the less regulars faced each other.

The Telegraph were the winners of the Merchants' Cup badminton tournament

The first doubles pitted Subroto Banerjee and Asish Dasgupta of *The Telegraph* against Matta and Sajjan Agarwal of Indo-Japan. It was amazing how the 55-year-old Matta showed fine courtcraft and great anticipation. Matta's fine play and Agarwal's powerful smashes had the The *Telegraph* duo reeling. Dasgupta and Banerjee squandered big leads in both games and the Indo-Japan duo equalised winning the match 15-10, 15-10.

The deciding doubles was perhaps the best match of the tournament. The *Telegraph's* Bikash Banerjee and Chandan Das faced 63-year-old Guha and his much younger partner Tapas Roy.

While *The Telegraph* team was hardly pushed in the first game (they won 15-9), the second game was hotly contested. Guha showed



KISHOR ROYCHOWDHURY

glimpses of his past and some erratic play by Das and Benerjee only helped matters for Indo-Japan. From 0-6 down they not only drew level, but at 9-8 took the lead.

But *The Telegraph* team pulled up their socks, made Indo-Japan save two game/match points, but could not deliver the final kill. The match went to deuce and it was finally a lucky line call which helped *The Telegraph* team win the match and the title.

National Wushu

THE second Wushu Nationals was recently held in the city. Wushu a martial art which has its roots in China, was a demonstration event in the Beijing Asian Games.

The first international Wushu championship was first held in China, where 13 countries, including the United States and Canada, took part. That the popularity of the sport has spread worldwide was evident.

The Wushu Association of West Bengal organised the second national championship at the Salt Lake Stadium. thirteen States sent 144 participants in the meet. Manipur in the men's section and Maharashtra in the women's proved to be the best teams

It was the father-son duo from Manipur which grabbed the spotlight in the Calcutta nationals. Thirteen-year-old M. Amitkumar and his father, 36-year-old M Birmani Singh won the gold medals in the gunshu and daoshu events, respectively.

It was Maharashtra's Manshi Bela and Swati Choudhari who were the best in the distaff side.

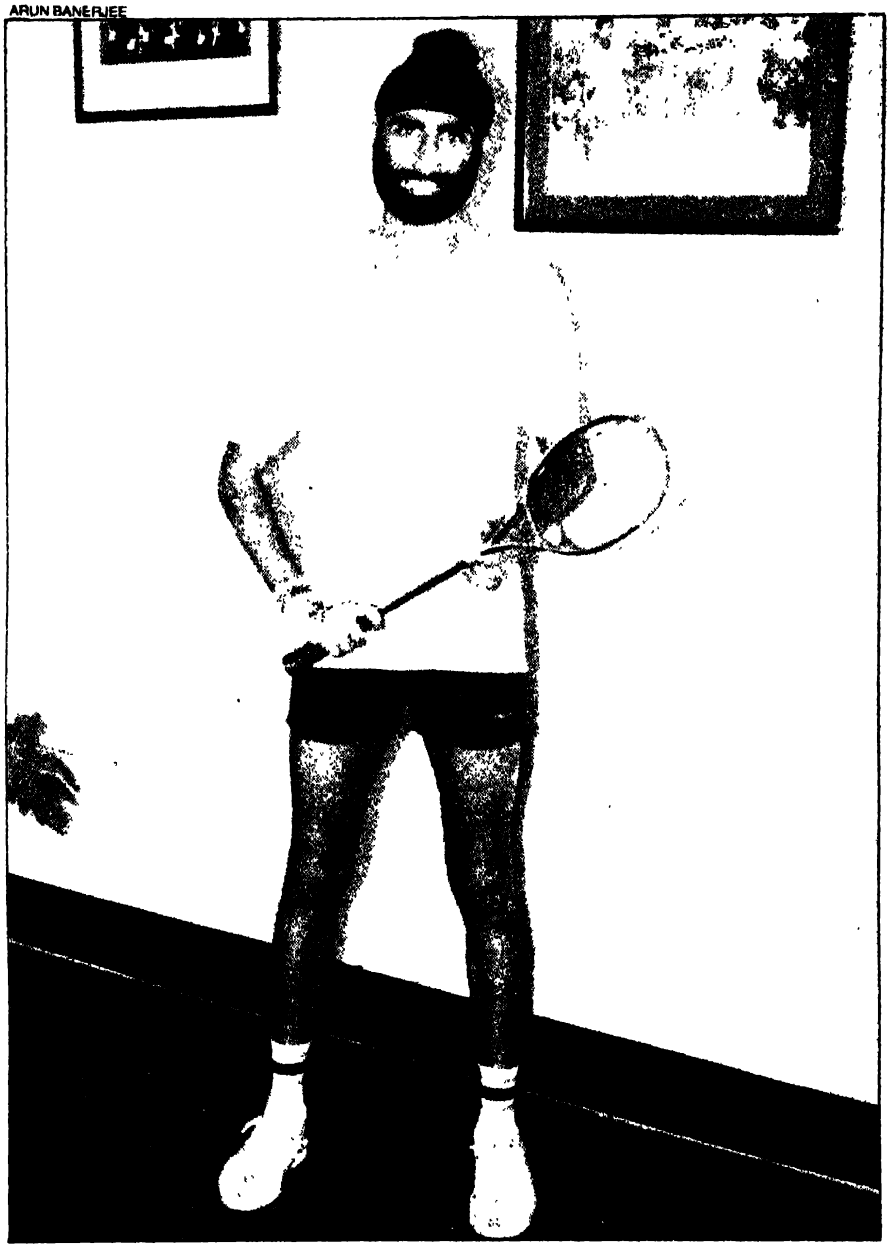
Soumitra Bose

AHMEDABAD

Masters Squash

ARJAN SINGH could not have timed his first ever victory over former national champion Meherwan Daruwala in a better

ARUN BANERJEE



Arjan Singh: winners of the Masters Squash

way In the four previous encounters between the two, the young sapper officer from the Indian army did not have the last laugh. But in the third Gujarat Invitational Masters Squash Tournament, played at the Military Squash Courts, Shahibaug Cantonment, the national No 2 Arjan Singh convincingly defeated Daruwala in three straight sets in less than thirty minutes in the final round robin league match and took home a cheque of Rs. 10,000.

After losing two sets at 3-9, 5-9, Daruwala was expected to fight back. However, he folded up quite surprisingly and surrendered the third set at 9-0 in just seven minutes instead. The southpaw still earned a prize of Rs. 6,500 for finishing second.

Arjan Singh was playing so well right from the beginning, there was no doubt in one's mind that who the ultimate winner would be. Instead of zeroing in on his game, Daruwala lost his rhythm. What he displayed consequently was squash of a very ordinary quality. It was certainly not Daruwala's day.

The tournament carried a total

prize money of Rs. 32,250. Even the player who occupied the eighth and the last slot also went home with Rs 1,500 richer.

Mr. P. Basu, the city Municipal Commissioner, gave away the prizes. Lt. Col. Amarjeet Singh, the secretary of the District Squash Rackets Association of Ahmedabad, gave an account of the activities of the DSRAA.

Haresh Pandya

RAJKOT

Tajawala Memorial

ASPIRITED captain's performance with the willow by Sudhir Tanna throughout the competition helped Rajkot Railway ultimately win the Tajawala Memorial Cricket Tournament for 1990-91. In the one-sided final at Municipal Corporation Ground, Rajkot Railway defeated Bhavnagar City by a margin of 78 runs

Rajkot Railway owed much to Sudhir Tanna for this trophy triumph, both as a batsman and as a skipper. He not only scored a very vital 87 with six fours and three sixes in the final, but hit two brilliant centuries in the previous two matches. He was unanimously declared the 'man of the final' and 'player of the series'.

Bhavnagar City could well have beaten Rajkot Railway if it had made sincere efforts. After all, the home side's total of 223 for 6 in 44 overs was certainly not a fabulous one Furthermore, Bhavnagar City had in its ranks a couple of fine batsmen capable of taking the Rajkot Railway attack apart But, strangely enough, they were unduly playing under pressure created by themselves. Wickets fell at regular interval and, but for a 33-run last wicket pertnership, Bhavnagar City would have lost the tie pretty early The highest scorer in Bhavnagar City's total of 145 was Dakshes Jagged, who made 26

Raju Rawal with 4 for 35 and Atul Desai with 3 for 34 were the most successful Rajkot Railway bowlers

In the two semi-finals, Rajkot Railway and Bhavnagar City defeated Surendranagar City and Rajkot Rural respectively.

The Tajawala Memorial Cricket Tournament is being annually played in memory of the former president of Saurashtra Cricket Association, Haribhai Tajawala. His widow, Mrs. Prafullaben Tajawala, gave away the prizes. The SCA secretary, Niranjan Shah, was present during the prize-distribution.

CALCUTTA

M.A. Chidambaram Trophy

UTTAR PRADESH (UP) won the 4th M.A. Chidambaram Trophy, the under-19 version of the Irani Trophy championship, in Calcutta recently. Rest of India went down by four wickets in a match which was dominated by Uttar Pradesh throughout

When the best under-19 cricketers of the country meet, it ought to be great cricket and the Chidambaram Trophy this time had its share of some outstanding performances. Asish Winston Zaidian and Dharmendra Mishra's brilliant bowling performances, and Rahul Dravid's batting were some highlights of the four-day fixture.

UP won the toss and promptly decided to bat on a Eden wicket known to favour batsmen. At the end of day one, UP were sitting on a respectable total of 330 for eight, Mishra grabbing five of them conceding only 58 runs. It was Rizwan Shamsad's 79 off 98 balls and Manoj Mudgal's 64 which helped UP to a healthy score.

UP failed to add much to their overnight score and early on the second day, they were all out for 338, with Mishra finishing with figures of six for 60.

But the early advantage was frittered away by the Rest of India batsmen as they ran into heavy

The UP team were the winners of the M.A. Chidambaram Trophy



weather soon after. Zaidi engineered a collapse and the Rest were 20 for two at one stage. Despite Dravid, the teenager made his Ranji debut for Karnataka this season, producing 52 runs and V. Arvind chipping in with an unbeaten 57, the Rest folded up for 185 in their first innings. Zaidi finished with eight for 93 and the MRF Pare Foundation trainee could not have asked for anything better.

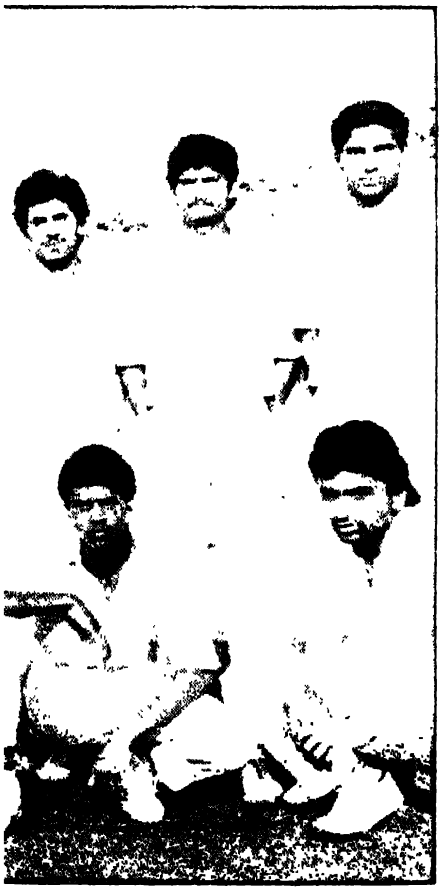
Rest faced the ignominy of a follow-on and when stumps were drawn on the second day, they were 94 for two with Dravid and Prabhjot Singh batting on 36 and 41, respectively.

It would be a long haul for Dravid and Singh on the third day as Rest skipper Jatin Paranjapee, one of their batting mainstays, was injured and ruled out of action. Dravid, who hit his maiden Ranji century against Bengal just a few days ago, carried on with some good batting

Dravid hit 151 in Rest's second innings and spent 291 minutes at the middle in doing so He hit 19 fours and two sixes. Singh again hit a fine 72 and Arvid yet again produced a crisp 66. Rest had to declare at 360 for nine after tea on the third day. This left up to get only 208 for a win in a little over a day. Up were 19 for one at close on the penultimate day.

Thirty nine minutes before tea on the final day it was all over. Mishra created a mild flutter when he picked up three wickets for 71 runs, but that was not enough. Sarvesh Shukla hit an unbeaten 82 (eight fours and two sixes) and Gyanendra Pandey chipped in with an unbeaten 39 as UP coasted to a four-wicket victory.

Soumitra Bose



School Tennis

THE third annual Calcutta International School's Clay Court tennis championships was held at the Calcutta South Club.

In the boy's singles the top two seeds crashed out in the semi-finals in matches which went the distance and left the spectators breathless. The final saw the fourth seed Krishna Manda, with ankle strapped, quite unhampered, overpowering his way to a resounding straight sets win (6-2, 6-4) over Andre Barbosa.

In the play-off for third and fourth positions, dethroned top-seed Avik Sarkar salvaged some pride in polishing off a steady Kanchon Das Mahapatra (6-2).

In the girl's singles, played on a league-cum-round-robin basis, Nayanika Misra won all her games in straight sets stamping her clear superiority and class over the field. Vandana Primlani settled for the second position and Gala Foshkin the third.

In the beginner's group for boy's Soumya Basu Thakur lived up to his top billing trouncing first time entrant Vishal Kapadia (6-2), while in the girl's section, senior student Afreen Ali blanked out last year's runner-up Christine Jarniac.

Shush Kocher

CUDDALORE

Federation Cup Volleyball

VOLLEYBALL in this country is going through a transitional phase while Indian volleyball has never really reached international standard, it has now and then come up truly Asiad standard and even as recently as in 1986, India won the bronze medal at the Asian Games at Seoul.

Subsequently however, our performances came nowhere near this level and the government in fact, removed volleyball from the priority list and India did not field a team in the 1990 Beijing Asian Games.

Alive to this declining standard of the game in the country, the Volleyball Federation of India (VFI) has launched a full scale preparation to regain the lost glory And over the next couple of years with systematically organised coaching camps and well planned out competitions at the State, Zonal and National level, the VFI hopes that the country will again at least reach the Asian standards.

In fact,the various programmes are already under way to build a strong Indian men's team for participation in the Asian championship at Perth in August and the women's team which will take part in the Asian championship in August at Bangkok.

Given this background, the 13th Federation Cup volleyball tournament which was held at Cuddalore, some 120 miles south of Madras assumed added significance For, after the Nationals at Bombay, this was the first important tournament to be held, and in many ways, the Federation Cup in which the top club teams in the country take part is as equally important as the Nationals.

The standard in the Federation Cup is generally of a very high order and the fare in this year's competition held at the Anna

Stadium, was no exception. Indeed it was quite encouraging and the immediate impression was that Indian volleyball had taken the first step towards regaining some of its lost glory

Teams from the South have generally dominated in the Federation Cup tournament for some years now and in fact the composition of the ten teams taking part in the men's event was made up of four teams from the South and two each from the North, West and East. And while Hindustan Photo Films (HPF) from Ooty did not retain the title, another Southern team,Kerala Police from Trivandrum, won the trophy this year In fact they defeated HPF in the final after a tame encounter, 15-8, 15-9, 15-4 in under 45 minutes

The final came as an anti climax to the week-long tournament which saw many keen matches. But Kerala Police's superiority on the day was overwhelming. In fact, Kerala Police had defeated HPF in the preliminary stage. But then, HPF had put up a good fight before going down in four games

In the final even as Kerala Police's game went from strength to strength, little went right for HPF. International Sridharan and Vijaykumar who had done much good work for HPF in the preliminary stage and the Super League were off colour during the final: for Kerala Police, international and captain Cyril Valoor and Udaykumar were outstanding.

Partab Ramchand

COCHIN

K.A. Damodaran Trophy

SWANTONS CRICKET CLUB, Ernakulam edged out defending champions and four time winners State Bank of Travancore, Trivandrum by 8 runs in the finals of tenth Presteege Bombay Dyeing All Kerala Cricket tournament at the Maharaja's College Grounds at



Swantons Cricket Club were the winners of the K.A. Damodaran Memorial Trophy

Cochin and lifted the K.A. Damodaran Memorial rolling trophy

In the first semi finals, State Bank of Travancore, Trivandrum defeated hosts Presteege Cricket Club by 90 runs. Batting first, SBT scored 187 for 9 in 45 overs, their main scorers being Ranji stars, T.P. Ajithkumar 54 and Ajay Varma 43 n.o. P. Ramesh bowled well for Presteege and claimed 4/32 off 9 overs. In reply, Presteege were bundled out for a paltry 98 runs with Ajay Varma (5 for 25) and Afsal (3 for 12) ripping through the hosts batting line up. Only K.A. Sunil (33) withstood the onslaught for some time.

In the second semi-finals, Swantons CC brought off a sensational 39 runs victory over star studded Reserve Bank of India, Trivandrum, the defending runners up. Batting first, Swantons were all out for a modest 160 runs off 44.2 overs. Only Ranji star Feroz Rasheed (50) played well. In reply, RBI had started off well, but tumbled before the accurate bowling of Ravi (5 for 20) and Anil John (3 for 18). They could muster only 121 in 39.3 overs, of which 35 runs came from Itty Cherian's bat.

In a thrilling 50 over a side final, Swantons CC, continued their winning spree and brought off a stunning 8 run victory over defending champions, State Bank of Travancore, Trivandrum. The winning team's average age was less than 20 and the only notable star in the team was Feroz Rasheed, who represents the State in the Ranji side, while SBT was represented by 6 Ranji players of the State.

Winning the toss and electing to bat, Swantons CC made a sedate start and runs were coming scarcely. They could score only 142 for 5 at the end of 44 overs, of which 76 useful runs came off Anil John's bat. It was Sanjeev Pai with an electrifying knock of 38 runs off 32 balls which included one four and three consecutive sixes off state bowler Sandeep's one over, who brought some respectability to the Swantons total. Swantons made 204 for 6 at the end of 50 overs.

SBT began their chase disastrously and were 34 for 5 at one stage. Then came the excellent sixth wicket partnership of 146 runs off 32.2 overs by Ranji players Ram Mohan (95) and Sandeep (64 n.o.) Ram Mohan played sensibly and Sandeep was content to pick up the singles and twos. SBT almost seemed to have wrested the initiative and looked

like pulling off a well earned victory. But Feroz Rasheed dashed their hopes when he had Ram Mohan trapped leg before wicket in the 46th over. Ram Mohan had played an innings of character that revealed keen judgement and ample concentration. He missed his century by just 5 runs. His 95 came off 116 balls, studded with 7 fours and 4 sixes. Once he fell, the rest of the SBT batsmen threw away their wickets with irresponsible strokes and Swantons pulled off yet another incredible victory from the jaws of defeat.

P.M. Veeramani

RANCHI

Inter-College Badminton

MARWARI COLLEGE, Ranchi emerged as the new champions when they won the double crown in the Ranchi University Inter-College Badminton championship held at Jubilee College, Bhurkunda recently.

In the men's team championship, Marwari College defeated Co-operative College, Jamshedpur 3-0. In the first singles Sabbir Hussain of Marwari College beat Vivek Kumar Sharma in easy sets by 15-7, 15-7. The second singles was tough to some extent, but Ashwini Sharma of Co-operative College could not save the match and lost to Nimhas Ekka by 7-15, 15-18.

Teaming up with Shekhar Mitra, Sabbir Hussain, defeated Ashwini Sharma and Abhijit Mitra in the doubles.

Earlier in the semi finals, Marwari College, Ranchi beat Birsa College, Khunti 3-0, while Co-operative College, Jamshedpur defeated Sindri College, Sindri by 3-0.

In the women's final, Marwari College crushed Jubilee College, the hosts. The singles winner was Reena Ekka of Marwari College when she defeated Anjana Bose of Jubilee College, Bhurkunda 11-4, 11-4. Reena Ekka and Poonam Ekka beat Anjana Bose and Ranjana Bose 11-2, 11-1 in the doubles.

Chief guest Mr Victor Tigga, Dean of Students' Welfare, Ranchi University gave away the prizes. Director of Physical Education Mr E.P.R. Hans was also present at this occasion.

Anil Kumar Singh

The Marwari College men's and women's team were the winners of the Inter-College badminton



LAL DEEPAK NATH SHAHDEO

NEW DELHI

Inter-University Tennis

DELHI UNIVERSITY proved its supremacy in the men's North-Zone and women's North-East Zone Inter-University Tennis Championships held at Hindu College and St. Stephens College respectively, recently.

In the men's section, Delhi university routed Gurunanak Dev University (GNDU), Amritsar 3-0 to clinch the title. Gaurav Sharma, a B A (Hons) sociology final year student of Hindu College started the rout, disposing of Naveen Kumar 6-4, 3-6, 6-2 in 90 minutes. In the second singles, Aditya Sachdeva outplayed Gaurav Mehra 6-0, 6-1. Aditya Sachdeva and Ashwin Damodaran beat the GNDU pair of Ashish Kapoor and Deepak Anand 6-0, 6-1 to complete the margin.

In the play off match, last year's runner-up Lucknow University outclassed Punjab University three games to nil to clinch the third spot.

The surprise of the tournament was the demotion of last year's champions, Aligarh Muslim University. In the quarter finals Punjab University defeated Aligarh Muslim University by four matches to one.

In the women's section, Delhi won the North-East Zone Inter-Varsity Tennis Championship with a 2-0 victory over Punjab (Patiala) in the final. Moyina handed down a 6-0, 6-0 defeat to Navneet and Yamini demolished Nancy by an identical margin to clinch the issue.

Suresh Kumar Lau

Little To Offer

THE Amateur Athletic Federation of India has never been known for its wise decisions. So in that respect their choice of timing of the Inter-State Championships and the venue itself was very much in keeping with their usual practices. The poor timing of the meet resulted in most of the top athletes staying away and the venue, Gandhinagar (Gujarat), had little to offer by way of good performing conditions, for those who had braved all odds to reach the place.

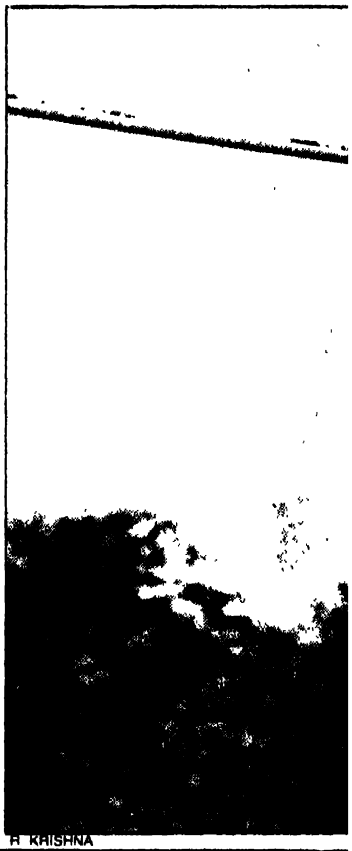


Razia Sheikh: once again, a winner

The meet, held on a poor track, which incidentally was being used for the first time, saw very few creditable timings. Zenia Ayrton, who has been having a very good run picked up a sprint double and in good time. She stopped the clock at 11.7 seconds for the 100m and at 23.9 seconds for the 200m. Both these timings should give Ashwini Nachappa sitting in Bangalore a lot to think about the time when the Open Nationals come around.

Zenia, however, was not successful in her first venture at the high hurdles in the Nationals. She came here with confidence of having bagged the All-India University title in the 100m hurdles at Kalyani (West Bengal) in January and then again at an invitational meet in Bombay. But this time she hit the fourth hurdle rather heavily and ended a distant seventh, while a West Bengal youngster, Mita Sadhukhan impressed with a winning time of 14.4 seconds. Sadhukhan, though lightly-built showed a lot of elegance while sailing over the obstacles.

The record books will show that the meet saw three new Inter-State Championship records besides one being equalled. Zenia equalled P.T. Usha's mark in the 100m timing 11.7 seconds. The record setters were Satbir Singh,men's javelin with a throw of 69.48m; Vijapal Singh in the pole vault with a clearance of 4.91m and Nalluswami Annavi in the high jump with a third time clearance of 2.12m. Annavi, to his credit, tried to increase his own national mark by having a go at 2.17m but the cacophony of the insensitive announcer and the commotion that was taking place with irrelevant prize distributions gave him



R. KRISHNA

less than a fair chance of making a strong attempt at a new national record.

Satbir Singh, still eligible to participate in the junior ranks has been knocking on the doors of stardom for the last couple of seasons. The Punjab Police athlete, who was fourth in the javelin at the Beijing Asian Junior Meet and 10th in the World Juniors at Plavdiv (Bulgaria), has this season been going over the 70m-mark. He came close to that once again by punching the turf at 69.48m. His best, however, came in the Police Meet at Patna recently where he had achieved 71.96m which is within striking distance of the national record, which at 72.08m is in the custody of the controversial S.B.Mishra. Mishra, who was second behind Satbir, has been taking part in the national level meets, despite the Sports Authority of India's announcement that he had tested positive for taking banned substances.

The AAFI has taken a lenient and different view of the whole episode on the grounds that Mishra was not given a chance to be present when the second test was carried out by the testing authorities in Moscow last year before the Asian Games. Mishra, who did not make the team to the Beijing Asian Games, had taken part in the Permit Meet, then the LIC departmental; meet this February and now the Inter-State Championships. Unless the issue is solved one way or the other, the matter could become an embarrassing one for India if it is taken up by the international body.

In the women's section, Suresh Bala a former heptathlete at the university level, won the 1,500m and the 3,00m. But the timings were nothing to write home about. Razia Sheikh, who had been on the scene for almost a decade was there again, winning in front of her home crowd. She was well short of her best of 50m-plus but for an athlete winning her ninth national title, the effort of 48m is very good indeed.

The Bengal walkers led by Kabita Garari, as usual cornered all the glory in the women's 10km walk and high hurdler Ashish Mondal beat back a strong challenge from veteran Praveen Jolly Mondal won in 14.6 seconds as against 14.7 by Jolly, who had won a bronze in the 1982 Asian Games.

The absence of the leading athletes from Kerala like K.Saramma among others, Ashwini Nachappa, Reeth Abraham, Arjun Deviah from Karnataka, Bahadur Prasad and Dina Ram robbed the meet of all gloss. But then the timing was such that most of the athletes were in off season and waiting for the Open Nationals which was scheduled in August But the AAFI on the last day of the meet announced that the Open Nationals would now be held either in Bombay or Calcutta on May 10,11 and 12. This re-scheduling is sure to upset the preparations of a lot of athletes, but then the AAFI has never really thought of the athletes.

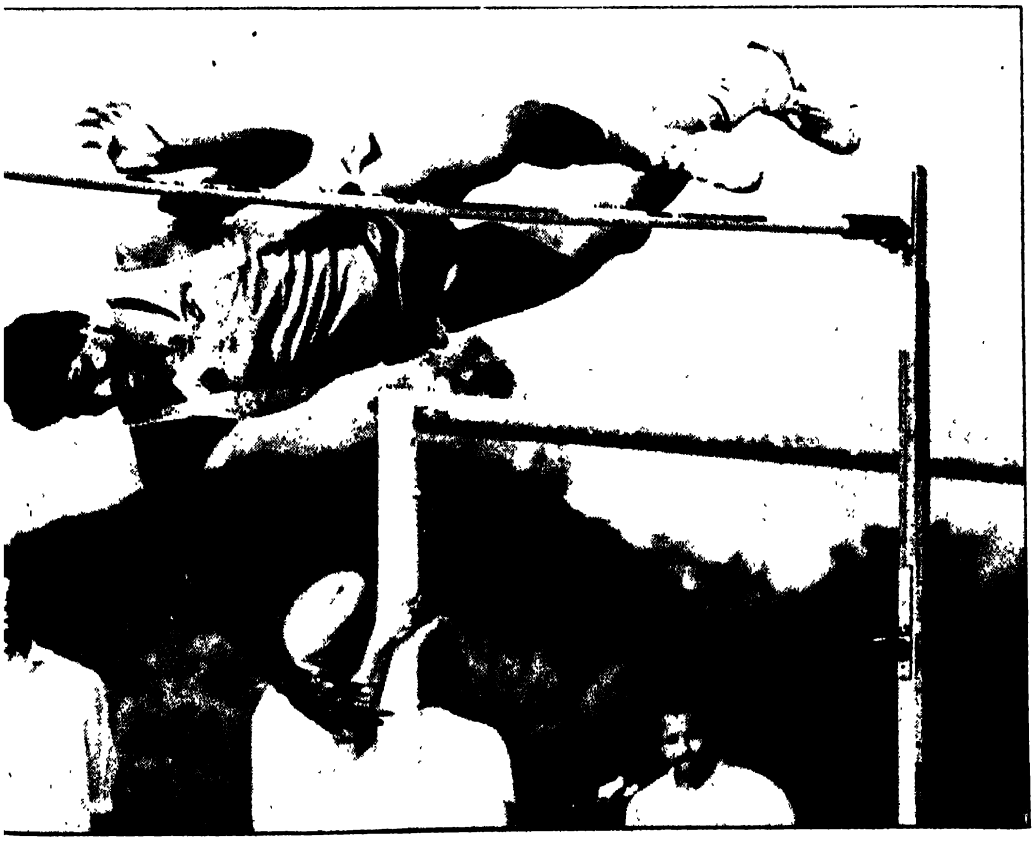
One of the few athletes who came to Gandhinagar essentially to try out his fitness and won in the process was long jumper, M B Sadasivan, who touched 7.63m.

Tamil Nadu high jumper Angela Lincy kept her title intact with a best of 1.71m, but she failed on all three attempts at 1.75m, one cm higher than her own national record.

Like Vijaypal, though not in a record-breaking fashion, making a comeback was injury-prone triple jumper S. Murali. Murali won his event with an effort of 15.49m and now looks forward to a repeat of 1987 when he was coming close to 16 metres.

A Correspondent

Sports Management Group

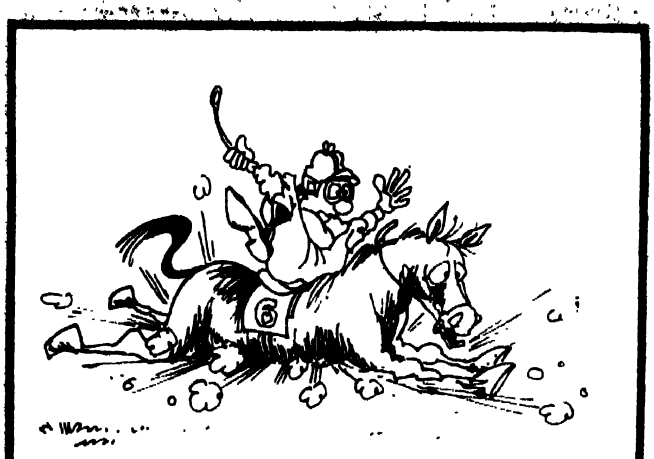


N. Annavi sails over the bar to register another victory

THE SPORTS HALL OF SHAME — BY NASH & ZULLO



INFAMOUS GOLF PRO **LEFTY STACKHOUSE**, WHO PLAYED IN THE LATE 1930s AND EARLY 1940s, ONCE BLEW HIS STACK AT A TOURNAMENT IN TEXAS. AFTER DRIVING SIX STRAIGHT BALLS INTO A LAKE, THE FURIOUS STACKHOUSE THREW HIS CLUB AND GOLF BAG INTO THE WATER. WHEN HIS CADDIE BEGAN TO GIGGLE, LEFTY THREW HIM IN THE DRINK, TOO. THEN, TO CAP OFF HIS WET AND WILD TIRADE, THE STEAMING DUFFER COOLED OFF BY TOSSING HIMSELF IN THE LAKE!



DEVON LOCH, THE HORSE OWNED BY THE QUEEN MOTHER, WAS APPARENTLY ON HIS WAY TO WINNING THE 1954 GRAND NATIONAL STEEPLECHASE WHEN HE PERFORMED A MYSTERIOUS MANEUVER. DEVON LOCH WAS LEADING BY SIX LENGTHS WHEN HE ATTEMPTED TO JUMP A PHANTOM HURDLE — AND LANDED FLAT ON HIS STOMACH! APPROPRIATELY, HIS JOCKEY, DICK FRANCIS, LATER BECAME A BEST-SELLING MYSTERY WRITER.

MILESTONES

WON : The Volvo Tennis Tournament by John McEnroe defeating brother Patrick. This was the second time that the two brothers had faced each other in a major tournament.
WON : The Virginia Slims tournament, at Palm Springs by Martina Navratilova defeating top seed Monica Seles.
KILLED : In a plane crash, 2 Olympic Committee members and a coach of the US Cycling Federation. The Boeing 737 of the United Airlines crashed on approach at Colorado Springs.
TESTED : Positive for marijuana, American boxer Greg Haugen. He might be stripped of the junior World Welterweight title that he won from Hector 'macho' Camacho recently.
LAUNCHED : A scheme by the Army in cooperation with the Sports Authority Of India to provide free education and training in various sports to boys under 14 years of age.
RECORD BROKEN : Of Gary Sobers' 8,032 runs in Test cricket by Viv Richards, to become the West Indian with the highest run total. Richards outdid Sobers' record in the first Test against Australia.
REPLACED : David O'Meara by Paul Dale, a former New Zealand junior champion, as the coach of Brittania Amritraj Tennis Foundation (BAT), in Madras.
RESIGNS : Pakistan's cricket administrator, Arif Ali Khan Abassi.
RETIRES : Yashpal Sharma of Punjab from first class cricket. The cricketer from Punjab last played for India in 1985.
WON : Jansher Khan, his 10th successive Grand Prix tournament when he defeated Jahangir Khan in the 70,000 dollar Spanish Open.
RETIRES : Michael Gross after he participated in the last race in Frankfurt. Germany's most successful swimmer now wants to pursue a career in journalism.



QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Who became the first batsman to score four Test hundreds before the age of twenty-one?
2. Who was the last cricket captain of South Africa? (official Test series.)
3. What is the 'Red Stripe Cup'?

ANSWERS

1. George Headley.
2. Ali Bacher.
3. The principal domestic cricket competition of the West Indies (previously known as the Shell Shield).

CHESS

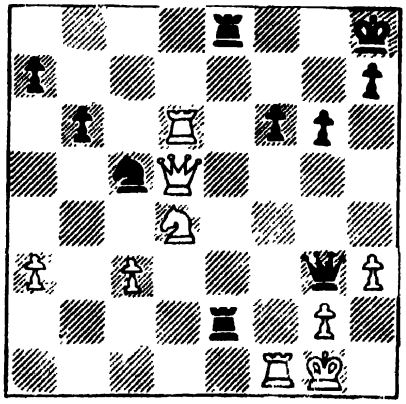
The fifth game of the Dreev-Anand match witnessed a strange reversal of roles. Anand, the tactician played calm positional chess while Dreev compromised his position going for a tactical assault

Anand got a grip somewhere in the early middlegame and then played simple logicalchess to make a rather difficult ending look very easy after Dreev had sacrificed in desperation when he realised he was about to get washed out anyway

White: Anand Vs Black. Dreev Game, 5. Butterfly Candidates Madras, '91. **1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nf3 b6 4 Nc3 Bb7 5 a3 d5 6 cd5 Nxd5 7 Qc2 Nxc3 8 bc3 Be7.** In the third game Dreev won impressively after 8 Qxc3 h6 e3 Bd6 10 Bd5 c6 11 Ba4 0 0 c5 13 dc5 bc5 14 Rd1 Qe7 15 Bc2 Rd8 16e4, but Anand had an improvement ready and Dreev decided to sidestep into the more common variation with 8 bc3. **9 e3 Nd7 10 Bd3 c5!** White usually plays 9 e4 and keeps a slight advantage. Black is now inviting 11 Bxh7 cd4 12 ed4 Qc7 13 Bd2 g6 when he has an edge. **11 0-0 Rc8 12 Qe2 0—0 13 e4 Qc7 14 Re1 Rfd8 15 Bd2 e5!** This is a favourable way to fix the centre. **16 d5 c4 17 Bc2 Ba6 18 Be3 Bc5 19 Nh4 g6 20 Qg4 Kh8.** The position both are playing for. White has obvious attacking chances and black has a positional bind on the side. In the next few moves it becomes apparent that black has assessed the position better. **21 Bg5 f6 22 Bh6 Rg8! 23 Rad1 Bd6 24 Ba4 Nc5 Bc6 Bb7 26 Qf3 Qe7 27 Bxb7 Nxb7 28 Qh3 Rc7!** The moment of truth. After the exchange of bishops black can invade the queenside at will picking up material. However 28-Bxa3? 29 Nxg6! would be a horrible way to lose. White's next is probably as good as anything. **29 f4!? ef4 30 e5 Bxe5 31 Bxf4 Qc5 32 Be3 Qd6 33 Bd4 Bxd4!** An alternative was 33—Re7 hoping for 34 Bxe5 Rxe5 35 Rxe5 36 Nxg6 Rxg6 37 Qc8 Rg8 38 Qxb7 Qe2. **34 Rxd4 Nc5 35 Rxc4 Qxd5 36 Rd4 Qf7 37 Nf3 Re7 38 Rf1 qe6 39 Qh4 Rge8 40 h3 Kg8 41 Re1 Qf7 42 Rf1 Re4 43 Qh6 Qg7 44 Qc1 Re2!** This sort of heavy piece ending is notoriously difficult but black makes it look very easy. **45 Rd6 Ne4 46 Rd3 Nc5 47 Rd6 Qe7 48 Qd1 Qe3 49 Kh2 Qf4 50 Kg1 Qg3 51 Qd5 Kh8 52 Nd4** (See Diagram) **Rxg2!** This exposes the king totally besides winning more material **53 Qxg2 Qxd6 54 Qf3 f5 55 Rd1 Qe5 56 Nc6 Qe3 57 Kg2 Qg5 58 Kf1 Ne4 59 Qd3 Qf4 (0—1).** Black wins the queen after 60 Kg1 Qf2 61 Kh1 Ng3

The trebling on the e-file and subsequent invasion was most impressive.

Devangshu Dutta



BRIDGE

In a recent column I had made a passing reference to Geza Ottlik and his fascinating book, '*Adventures in Card Play*'. Well, as I was to learn thereafter, 'the Hungarian poet of bridge' as he was once described had passed away just a few weeks prior to the publication of that column. A pity for it would be not be easy to find another Ottlik, who was the ultimate authority on Hungarian prose and had won the highest literary award his country had to offer. His journalistic achievements overshadowed his playing ability but as today's hand shows, he was a player who could hold his own against the very best:-

Dealer East — N-S vul.

NORTH(dummy)
♠ Q 10 7
♡ K Q 9 5
♢ A K
♣ A K 10 5

WEST
♠ 8 4
♡ J 10 7 4 3
♢ 9 7 5 3
♣ J 4

EAST
♠ K J 9 5 2
♡ A 8
♢ 6 2
♣ Q 8 7 2

SOUTH
♠ A 6 3
♡ 6 2
♢ Q J 10 8 4
♣ 9 6 3

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
—	—	Pass	Pass
1 ♢	D'ble	1 ♠	1 NT
Pass	3 NT	All Pass	

Thanks to West's desperate psyche, Ottlik, South played the no-trump game from the wrong side. West led the eight of spades, covered by the ten and jack. Ottlik, realising that West had a worthless hand, let the jack hold. East, Raphael Cohen, Hungarian world champion of 1937, countered by continuing with the spade king to knock out south's entry to the diamonds. Ottlik won and tried to establish a new entry by leading a club to the ten. If East wins, South can reach his own hand later with the club nine, so East let the ten hold! Ottlik cashed the top clubs (West throwing a diamond) and diamonds in dummy and continued with the nine of hearts! This brilliant avoidance play prevented East from gaining the lead twice to clear and enjoy his spades. West won and returned a heart, but, reading the hands perfectly, Ottlik duck to East's now-bare ace. East was able to cash a club but dummy took the rest, making three clubs and two in every other suit. Would you have believed me if at the outset I had stated that the South hand took only one trick while dummy took eight!

Santanu Ghose

Interesting snippets from the world media that we don't normally hear about....

SPORTING TRIVIA

FAIR CHANCE

INDIA stands a fairly good chance of qualifying for the hockey competition of the Barcelona Olympic Games next year.

The International Hockey Federation (FIH) has invited only two teams from Asia—India and Malaysia—to take part in the 12-nation pre-Olympic qualification tournament to be held at Auckland in October this year

The first four teams in this tournament will qualify for the Olympics.

This is the first time that the FIH has started this tournament to give a chance to those countries who have not won their respective continental titles

All the continental winners along with the host, Olympic champions and World Cup winner get direct entry into the Olympics

According to the tentative schedule of the FIH received here, India's chances of making it to Barcelona seem bright.

The countries which have already qualified for Barcelona are Seoul Olympic gold medallists, Great Britain, world champions, Holland and Asian champions, Pakistan besides the hosts Spain.

The winner of the European Cup to be held in Paris in June will decide the fifth slot.

Interestingly, the 12-nation European Cup tournament already has three direct Olympic entries—Great Britain, Spain and Holland. The main fight for the top honours is expected to come from Germany and the USSR, who finished fourth and sixth respectively in the last World Cup at Lahore. Germany is the Seoul Olympic silver medallist.

According to the FIH directive, in case any of the three already qualified countries win the European Cup, then, automatically the next in order of standing, apart from these countries, would be the European entry for the Olympics.

The European challenge has further intensified with the participation of up-and-coming countries like hosts France, who finished seventh at the Lahore World Cup, Belgium, Ireland and Poland.

In the pre-Olympic tournament there will be six European countries in the fray.

The Asian challenge in the pre-Olympic tournament will be spearheaded by Beijing Asiad silver medallists, India and the bronze winner, Malaysia.

In the All-African games, scheduled to be held in Cairo later this year, the continental

The Indian hockey team hopes to qualify for the Barcelona Olympics next year

RAJESH KUMAR



winner will be determined. The Egyptian Hockey Federation, which has recently installed an astro turf pitch, is eagerly looking forward to winning the African title for the first time.

Egypt nearly upset India in the Inter-Continental Cup at New Jersey in 1989, where it played a 1-1 draw. The other countries in contention from this continent are Kenya and Zimbabwe. Only the runner-up in the African tournament will be seen in action in the pre-Olympic.

The FIH has allowed only two American entries for the Auckland tournament. The winner of the Pan American Games at Havana (Cuba) in August this year will get a direct entry to Barcelona.

Hosts Cuba, third in the last Pan American Games has put up a new astro turf pitch for this tournament and is making strenuous efforts to be the continental winner.



COPPING OUT

PANTHINAIKOS, the leading Greek football club, gave active help to the police in getting their Romanian international, Dantu Lupu, arrested on suspicion of being the leader of a gang of thieves. Lupu, four other Romanians and two Greeks were charged with breaking into homes and shops to steal clothing which they sold at a very low price.

GOB TROUBLE!

JESUS GIL, the president of Atletico Madrid Football Club, has been singing, what he no doubt sincerely believes are, the praise of his manager, Tomislav Ivic. "Even when he is making love", Gil declared, "all he is thinking of is Atletico Madrid."

Gil, of course has been banned until 1994 by UEFA, after declaring that a referee who had incurred his wrath had been, "bribed with a blue-eyed Florentine boy."

CRAZY STUFF

HEARD of the full moon bringing out the best in lunatics? Well, there are others who freak out when they see snow.

But one must congratulate lunatic, Bob Baker for winning the Iditasports Human Powered Ultramarathon held in Alaska.

The idea was to complete a 200 mile course, and you could chose your own weapon-mountain bike, cross-country skis or snow shoes. Or you could use a combination of all three.

Baker, the overall winner, chose skis and completed the course in 28 hours 40 minutes. And guess what he got for his effort? Five ounces of gold, and we were calling him a lunatic!

BIKE TO THE FUTURE

FATIMA WHITBREAD will be taking part, with other non-sporting celebrities, in an event called the 'Bike to the Future' in aid of Friends of the Earth in the month of May. It is a mass cycle ride from London to Hever Castle in Kent covering 35 miles.

WHITE FLAME

THE flaming torch that heralds the start of the Olympics could burn snowy white next year if the International Olympic Committee (IOC) endorses the proposal of a French amateur inventor.

Patrick Witzig, the inventor, said that the IOC has agreed that his white flame should open the Winter Olympics in Albertville and the Summer Olympics in Barcelona.

But Games officials in the French and Spanish cities, hosts of the 1992 games said that they had not yet finally decided on this matter.

While demonstrating his invention, Witzig said, "They didn't want a yellow petrol flame because there was a war going on and Kuwait was burning. It had bad connotations." ●



Fatima Whitbread: cycling for a cause

What Is Big Match Temperament?

BY BRIAN GLANVILLE

A leading sports columnist commented that Matthews had "displayed the same faults of slowness and hesitation" as in previous representative games: "Perhaps he does not have the big match temperament."



Stanley Matthews: displayed slowness

THE Big Match temperament. What is it? How to define it? Can it ever be acquired? A player might take comfort from the experience of one of the greatest England players of all time, Stanley Matthews.

Way back in 1934, he played his second game for England in the notorious Battle of Highbury, when the Italian team ran riot.

Understandably, a player of the delicate skills of this greatest of outside-rights was hardly at home in such circumstances.

A leading sports columnist commented that Matthews had "displayed the same faults of slowness and hesitation" as in previous representative games: "Perhaps he does not have the big match temperament."

Well, Matthews went on playing for England for over 20 years, and as late as 1956 he was able to run one of the best left backs in the world, Nilton Santos of Brazil, ragged, at Wembley. So Wright need not despair.

Turning the clock back again, a contemporary of Matthews, and another gifted outside right, was the Scotsman Gordon Smith, of Hibernian.

In club matches, he looked marvellous, but during the last war, Scotland tried him time and again, giving him chance after chance, without success Something seemed to go wrong and he never quite clicked.

More than a decade passed before Smith, a veteran by then, was recalled by Scotland, played for them in Budapest against a strong Hungarian team in 1955, and inspired the Scots to a 3-1 victory. He had come good at last.

Apart from the tensions of the occasion, international football, as has so often been said, is a very different type of game from club soccer.

Graham Taylor, the England team manager, was recently lamenting the three-month gap between international matches in a season, which causes his players

Italian captain Bergomi made his international debut in the 1982 World Cup

to lose their edge for the games they have to play. Especially, it might be said, against the very different problems posed by foreign opposition, with their more subtle and complex methods.

Quite often, a player picked on his club form may be obliged to play a different kind of game in an international match. Yet there are those who seem to adjust with supreme ease.

One of these was the versatile Italian defender, Giuseppe Bergomi. He was only 18 and had never played a full game for Italy when suddenly, in Barcelona, in a vital World Cup game against Brazil, he was pitched into the fray.

Dino Zoff, the veteran goalkeeper, gave him a few encouraging words, and Bergomi settled down instantly against a brilliant attacking team.

Though what teenager has ever adjusted as fast as Pele, a Brazilian international at 16, scorer of two marvellous goals as a 17-year-old in the World Cup Final of 1958 in Stockholm?

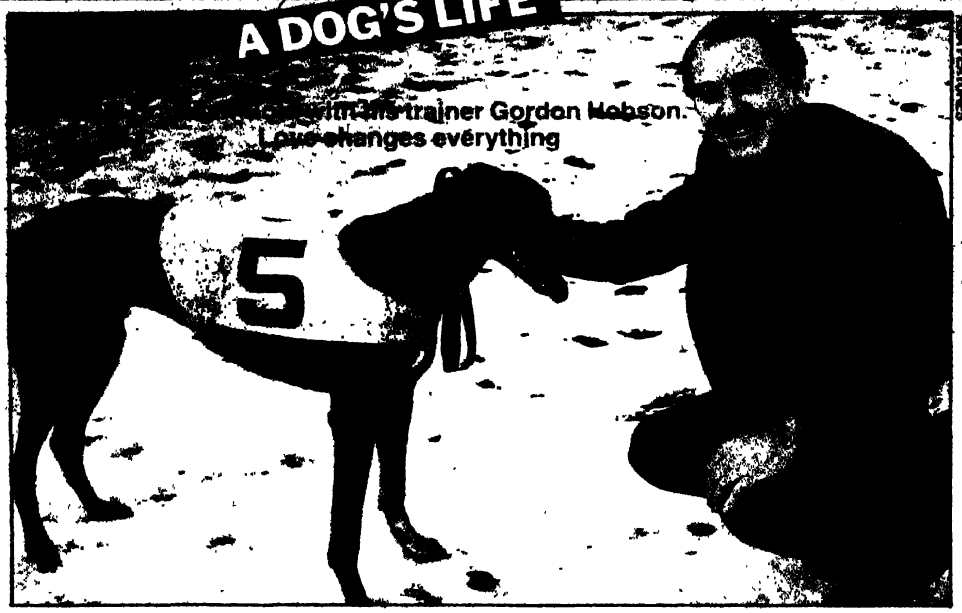
Compared with Pele, most other achievements pale into insignificance—the Big Match Temperament incarnate.



COLORSPORT

DIFFERENT STROKES

A DOG'S LIFE



with his trainer Gordon Hobson. Love changes everything

ASM FEATURES

GREYHOUND BRAZILIAN GOLD is a canine who is special to a helluva lot of people. However, six months ago he would have remained just a memory and even memories get dim. Six months ago, Brazilian Gold lay lifeless, after slipping on the first bend of a race at the stadium in Hove, East Sussex. The dog's neck was broken and he had stopped breathing. But his trainer, Gordon Hobson wouldn't give up on his dog. "Even though the dog wasn't breathing, I was sure I saw a glimmer of hope in his eyes," he said.

It was here that a doctor—who prefers to remain anonymous—took up the challenge to restore the dog to full health. In six months he was flying gloriously down the track and after a few initial defeats Brazilian Gold was back at the top.

Tessa swirls around in her flashy Harvey Nicholls creation



DRESSED TO SKILL

ASM FEATURES

AFTER you've finished ogling at her, take some time off and try and guess who she is. Pass? She's Tessa Sanderson, the former world javelin record holder and she's looking mighty fine in those fancy clothes. Tessa's doing quite well for herself, thank you. Apart from throwing the javelin, she is currently a TV producer on Sky News and has starred only recently in a pantomime.

Life in the global athletic circuit can be pretty gruelling, which is why Miss Sanderson prefers to stay as close to her roots as possible. She has other passions, dressing up real fancy being high on the list. The make-up has to be just right and ditto when it comes to matching shoes and dresses. She's quite hung up on Giorgio Armani and his male fashions. Trousers that accentuate the bottom is just her bag. "I'm a bottom freak as far as men are concerned."

Personally she freaks out on Harvey Nicholls and shows off a cute number designed by him. She's collected around 40 pairs of shoes and would be more than willing to give half of it to charity. And thank God for one thing, she's proud to be a woman. She's got the look!

THE ENGINES ARE COMING!

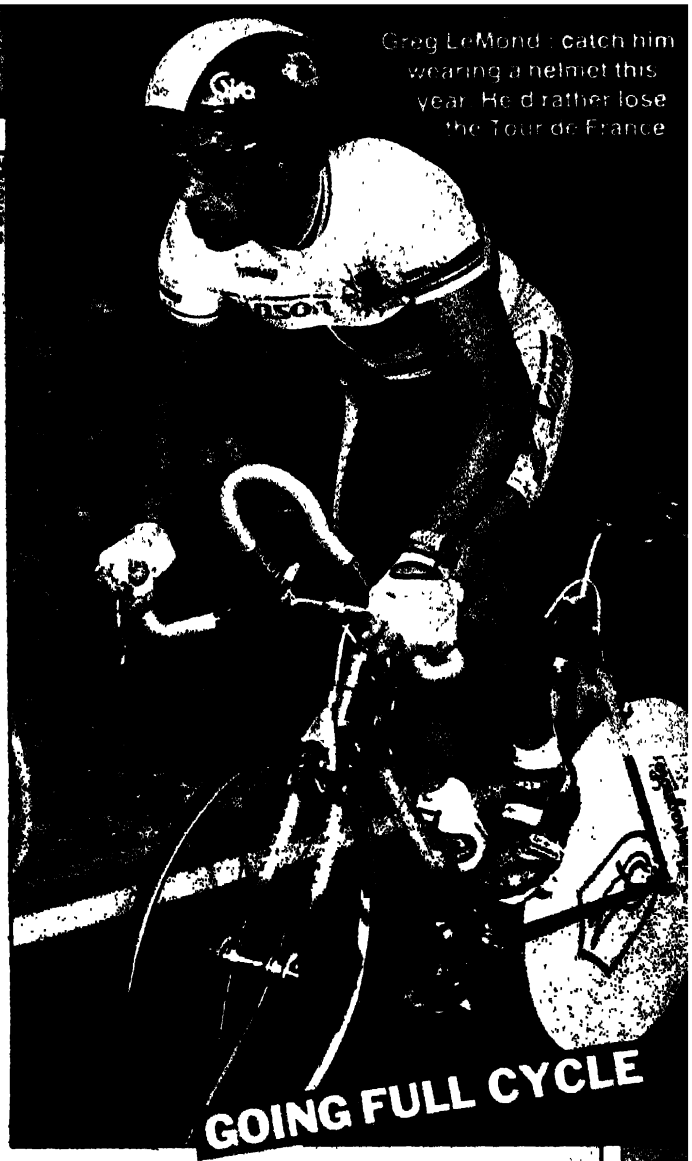
EDDIE JORDAN designs cars. It's easy to tell cos' the guy talks so much you think he's got an engine running in his mouth. "They tell me I talk a lot. I'm Irish," he says. As though we need an explanation.

Nevertheless, Jordan has a vision. He is leading a brand new team into the gaudy money-covered world of Grand Prix racing. Soon he should be able to see the 7-Up-Jordan team lining up alongside the McLarens and the Hondas.

Cars can be seen undressed, designed and engineered in Jordan's garage. And as one mech buzzes away at the internals of a Jordan special he is heard muttering something like a "mean, green Eddie Jordan racing team." Jordan calls himself an entrepreneur, at least he was one. He always wanted to have his own garage which he eventually did. At least 20 drivers including Ayrton Senna, Jean Alesi and Ivan Capelli all drove for him. Jordan believes that with a little bit of luck, his green and blue cars could be among the points in the F1 circuit. Some people call it a lot of bull. We call it bravery.



Eddie Jordan with one of his creations. He's got the gift of the gab, too



Greg LeMond : catch him wearing a helmet this year. He'd rather lose the Tour de France

GOING FULL CYCLE

PROFESSIONAL cyclists all over Europe have decided to revolt. Their main contention is that they refuse to wear helmets on the race courses. Shades of Calcutta. They are backed by a lot of professionals including one Mr. Greg LeMond.

LeMond has protested against cycling's controversial rule insisting on the wearing of hard shell helmets, by declaring he will defy it during races held in the mountains. LeMond protested, "I am sure we will all do that in the Tour de France. I definitely won't put them on for the mountain stages and in the 100 degree farhenheit French heat." LeMond believes that pro cyclists should have the right to choose whether to wear a helmet or not. Or, if the rule exists, it should be waived specially during the Tour de France. He claims that it is difficult for the spectators as well as the media to identify the riders. "Safety is important and it should be recognised. But cycling tradition has been made on recognising riders. And people come out to see events like the Tour de France and their favourite riders."

Trying to tell us something, Greg?

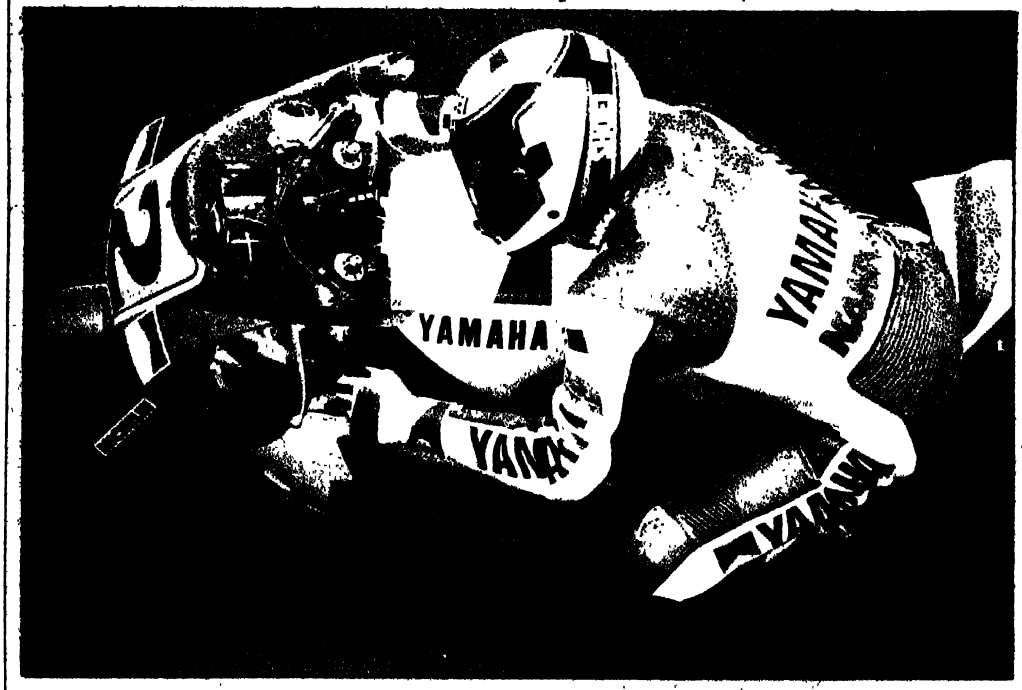
TWO WHEELED TROUBLE

HERE'S a surefire recipe for success. Take a basic motorcycle. Pour a million dollars worth of souped-up machinery into it. Top it with a multi-million dollar daredevil. And allow to stand in the sun with yet more millions being ladled on to keep the winning flavour. Yamaha swear by it. So do Suzuki. And Honda.

Success, did you say? Others—the Federation Internationale Motocycliste (FIM), supreme body of motorcycling events, included—beg to differ. The overdose of millions is killing the competitive flavour, they say. While Yamaha, Suzuki and Honda burp the heady taste of victory, the lesser mortals are finding it difficult to even put their plates forward.

Things came to a boil last year. With barely 18 or 20 machines making it to the starting grid for 500cc Grands Prix, the FIM finally caught on to being the inclusion of the 750cc—more affordable, hence more palatable—bikes into the premier motorcycling races. That would swell the numbers, FIM said. But it would also cause lethal confusion on the track. The 750s, being much heavier than their thoroughbred counterparts, would therefore be slower. And could lead to misjudgements by the riders. Almost like putting Said Aouita into a 100m sprint with the likes of Carl Lewis, Ben Johnson and Co. They'd be tripping each other up in their haste to get past him!

Fortunately better sense prevailed. As an FIM spokesman said: "The mixing of different types of machines could create substantial danger, given the differences in performances of each category". Added to this was the fear that the 750cc Superbike championship—another moneyspinner for the





World champion Wayne Rainey and his Yamaha are almost unbeatable

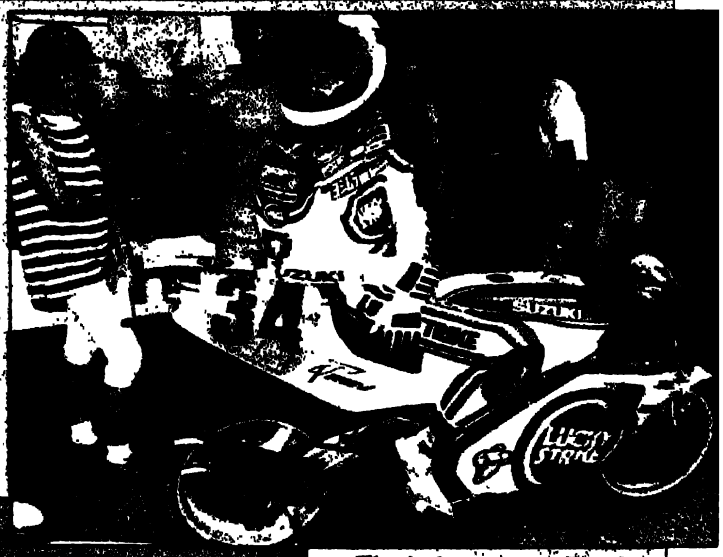
the evils of excesses. Sure, the hotshots were going even faster. But the rest of the field was getting left so far behind that they were losing interest. The equation was simple. No small-time team or privateer, no competition. No competition, no crowds. No crowds, no Grands Prix. Savvy?

The search for an antidote was immediate. The first prescription

FIM—might suffer from this merger.

Realising that such a move didn't do much to help 500cc racing, the FIM has turned back to the original problem. That of the sport getting pushed out of reach by a few companies. And the suggestion is that the Yamaha, Suzuki and Honda works-teams provide engines for talented privateers. Cagiva, the Italian race team, has responded. They're putting out three extra bikes for the 1991 season. And there is talk that former world champion Kenny Roberts might run a second string Marlboro Yamaha team.

However, it isn't in the lack of machines that the real problem lies. It is in the privateer riders. Rather, the lack of them. With works riders like Wayne Rainey (Yamaha), Kevin Schwantz (Suzuki) and





The heir apparent Kevin Schwantz (inset) uses the Suzuki power to the limit

Wayne Gardner (Honda) spraying all the champagne, the privateer is slowly but surely headed the way of the dodo.

And with them, the production line of men like Rainey, Schwantz and Gardner. Men skilled enough to ride these 360kmph (200mph) missiles.

What Yamaha, Suzuki and Honda would do well to realise is that they haven't just pushed the competition away. They've virtually cut off the lifeline of 500cc Grand Prix racing. If talented and enthusiastic privateers cannot afford a £500,000 bike (that's a cool million in dollars), they're going to hit the stop button. And if they do, who's going to take over from Rainey and Co. once they're past it? Maybe they plan on luring former greats like Kenny Roberts and Barry Sheene out of retirement.

Hey, Kenny, Barry...hellooo...where are you guys?

Pradeep Paul

DADDY'S HOME

Nobody's child



Peter Graf: it 'pays' to be innocent

WHEN Jose Canseco, baseball player, claimed in his book that the reason for Steffi Graf's gradual decline was due to her father's amorous pursuits with a Disney model, the truth was revealed.

Steffi's father, Peter, has been cleared of all charges that were levelled against him, claiming that he had fathered a child by model Nicole Meissner. A court in Frankfurt threw out the charges when a blood test proved conclusively that 58-year-old, Herr Peter could not have possibly fathered Meissner's child.

Meissner, 23 and an ex model claimed that Peter was the father of her little girl. The charges fell flat on her face. Meissner and her boyfriend, a former boxing manager now face counter charges of blackmail. It was alleged that they had forced Peter to part with 800,000 Deutschmarks in order to bury the whole issue.

Well, as they say, 'There's a sucker born every minute!'

SHIFTING PRIORITIES

Tennis or Karen

LOOKS like the No. 1 spot is going to elude Boris Becker for sometime now. To be fair, he's hurt his leg thus the break from tennis. But to be a little nasty we



Becker with Karen Schultz: Mauritius seems to be a welcome break after the after the ongoing No. 1 battles

PRIVATE EYE

WE LOOK WHERE WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO!



Nonita Lal with her betrothed Faizal. Love goes across the countries barriers

SPORTY MARRIAGES

Across the lines

should tell you that 'Bonking' Boris has gone back into the arms of his ex-flame, Karen Schultz. They've packed up their suitcases (they're travelling light) and left for the sunny beaches of Mauritius for lots of sun and...

It had seemed once that Boris had put an end to the way his career was shaping up that he ended his five-year-old relationship with Karen. He wanted to get to the top, he said. No room for his ...

Tennis stars ... more ... and ... the ...

TIS' the season for getting married! Love is in the air and all that stuff. Indo-Pak nuptials are few and far between. But someone always has to prove us wrong.

Like golfers Nonita Lal and Faizal Qureshi. Nonita is our nation's charm, while Faizal is a newly turned pro. Both have a thing for each other (and golf!). Faizal first came to India on the amateur circuit. He was ... Nonita in Delhi and his heart went 'putt'. The man is ambitious or so he says, though he has made little impact on the Indian circuit (except on Nonita).

No, Nonita is not going to leave us. She will continue to play in the country and hold her Indian passport. Hubby-to-be will head for the South East circuit as he claims there's a lot of money to be made there.

While talk on the subject of ... matrimony we might as well give you the latest on the domestic sporting circuit. There are romances brewing here too. A little bird told us that ace athlete Vandana Rao is all set to legalise a growing relationship with hockey ace Jaochim Carvalho. They're rumoured to be getting married soon. They could now at least sit down and figure out why Indian athletics and hockey are the pits.

Congratulations anyway to all of you.

freewheeling

When Oscar Wilde was hauled up by some customs officials and asked to declare the goods he was carrying, he said, "I have nothing to declare but my genius."

But genius according to Thomas Edison is "90 per cent inspiration and ten per cent perspiration.

Influenced by Wilde's confidence,and Edison's advice, the Sportsworld gang decided to try our luck and risk our reputation at Calcutta's latest invention: The Merchants Cup inter-office quiz.

When it comes to Merchants Cup competitions, Calcutta has the works, from cycle polo to rowing and lawn bowling to swimming. You name it, they have it.

Having gone on record claiming that we don't only write about sport but actually play it, we do try our luck from football field to swimming pool.

But quiz, now that's something else. Granted, we ought to know more than the average person does about sport, but what about films, entertainment, food and drink, general knowledge etc? Yes, we had to improve that facet of our knowledge.

Taking it for granted that our knowledge of sport was superior to anyone else 'the quiz gang' began brushing up on their G.K.

We even unearthed the origin of the word quiz.

The story goes like this: A manager of a Dublin theater laid a wager that he would introduce into the English language, within 24 hours, a new word of no meaning. Accordingly, on every wall and all accessible places were chalked up the four mystic letters QUIZ. All of Dublin was inquiring what they meant. The bet was won and the word remains current in the English language.

That's the answer we had ready if the question did crop up in the Merchants Cup competition.

It didn't. But we did get to know that the word saucer originated from the sauce it held and that an 'Off-white' wedding is one when the bride is pregnant and therefore cannot wear the traditional virgin white gown.

And if we did surprise a few people with our general knowledge ,our knowledge of sport was exposed quite often. We were shocked to learn that basketball jersies were numbered from 4-15 only. That the British secret service MI5 comes to a standstill once every year when England plays a Test match at Lord's. And that the KGB sponsors the Moscow Dynamo football team.

But in case you are sniggering at our lack of sports knowledge let's set the record straight. Did you know that Abbas Ali Baig and Brijesh Patel were the first two Indian cricketers to be kissed on a cricket field? Or that the official drink at Wimbledon is Robinson's Barley water? Or that Victor Korchnoi's seconds used different colours of yoghurt to send coded messages to him when he played Karpov? That Edberg, Pat Cash and Borg are the only three players to win both junior and senior Wimbledon titles?

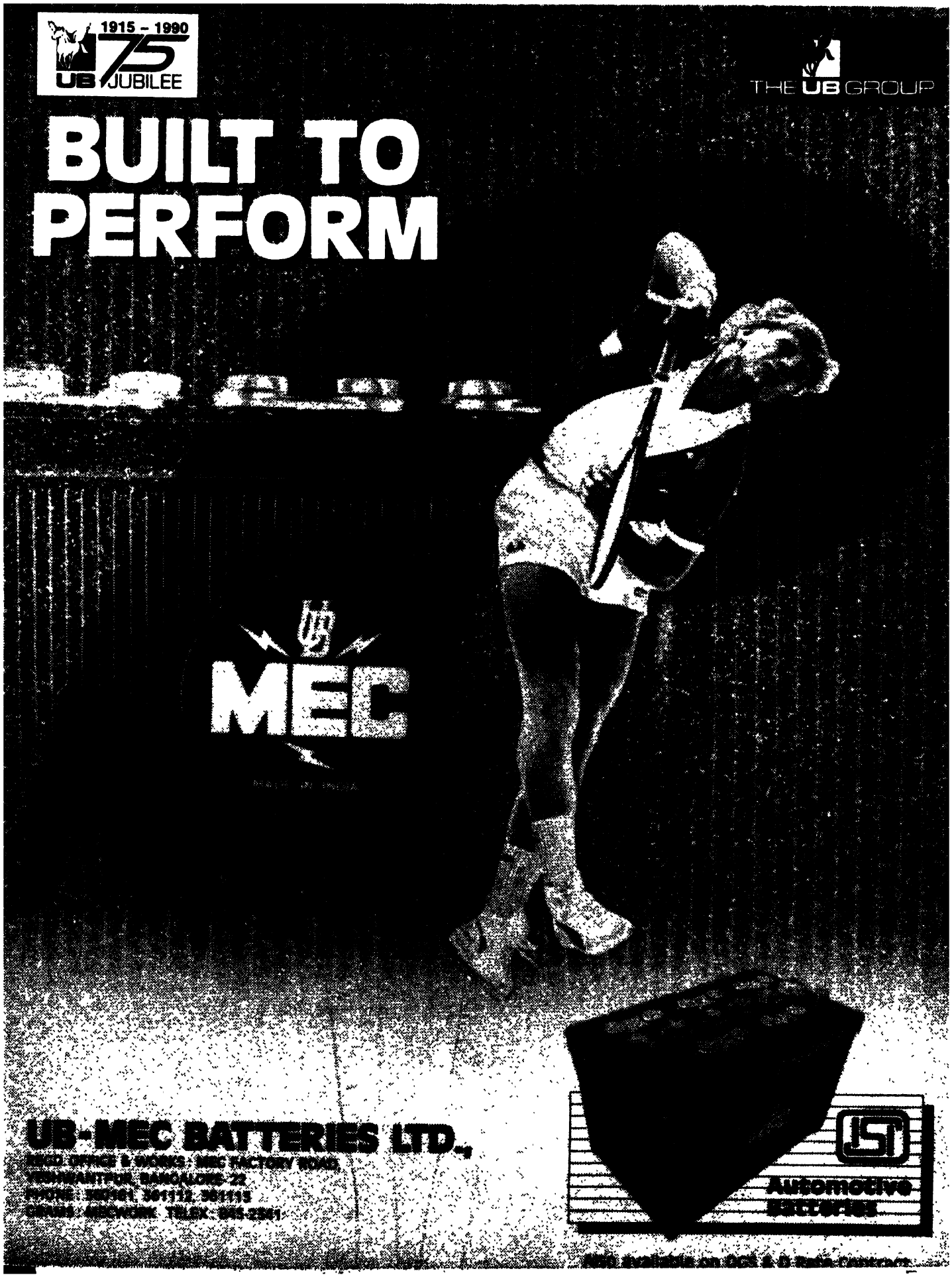
Oh yes, we scored on all of those questions. And many more. But there were two blunders we will never live down. The first was not being able to identify the face of Devon Malcolm, the English fast bowler. But by far the worst bloomer was not recognising Saleem Yousuf. The slide on the screen showed the Pakistani wicketkeeper playing snooker. The picture had appeared in *Sportsworld* and Mudar Patherya was the photographer. Yet when it was shown on the screen we were foxed. The quiz master rubbed salt into our wounded egos publicly announcing that he had copied the photograph from our magazine.

What no one knew, was that it was yours truly who was playing against Yousuf when Patherya had clicked that particular shot.

Andy O'Brien

The man who foxed us: Pakistani wicketkeeper Saleem Yousuf




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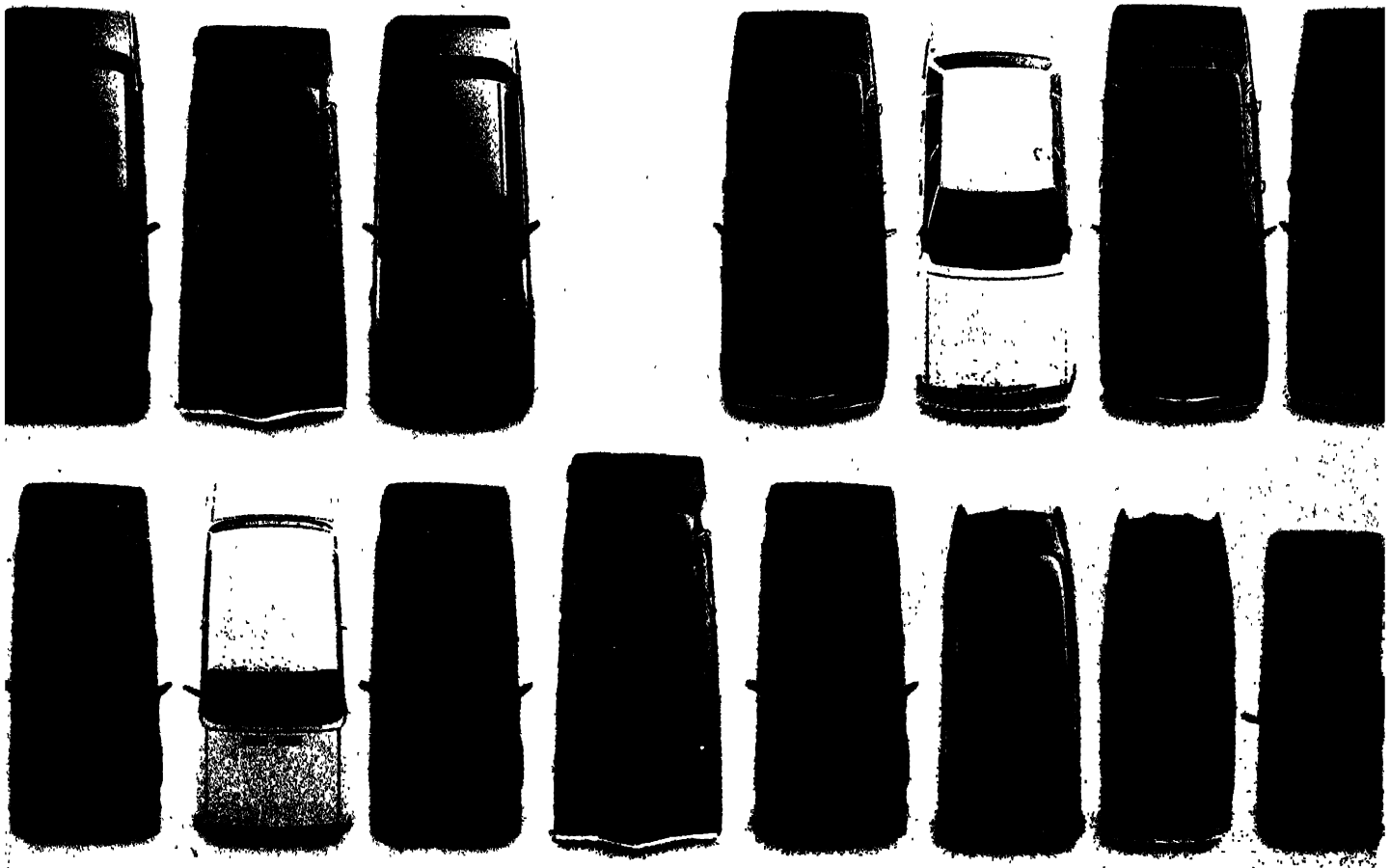
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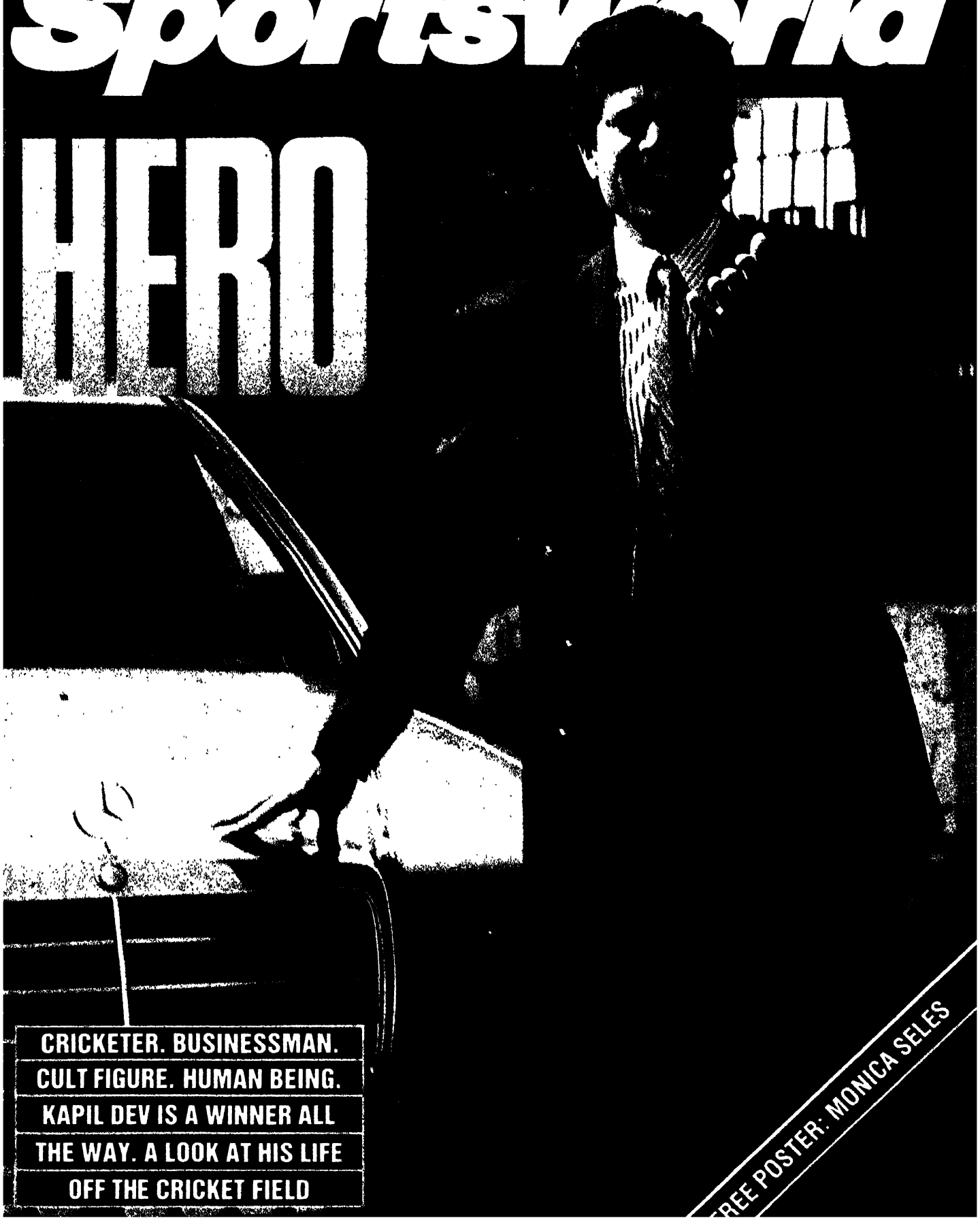


JK TYRE

LIFE STILL GOES ON: BY CHRIS EVERT

Sportsworld

HERO



CRICKETER. BUSINESSMAN.
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KAPIL DEV IS A WINNER ALL
THE WAY. A LOOK AT HIS LIFE
OFF THE CRICKET FIELD

REE POSTER: MONICA SELES

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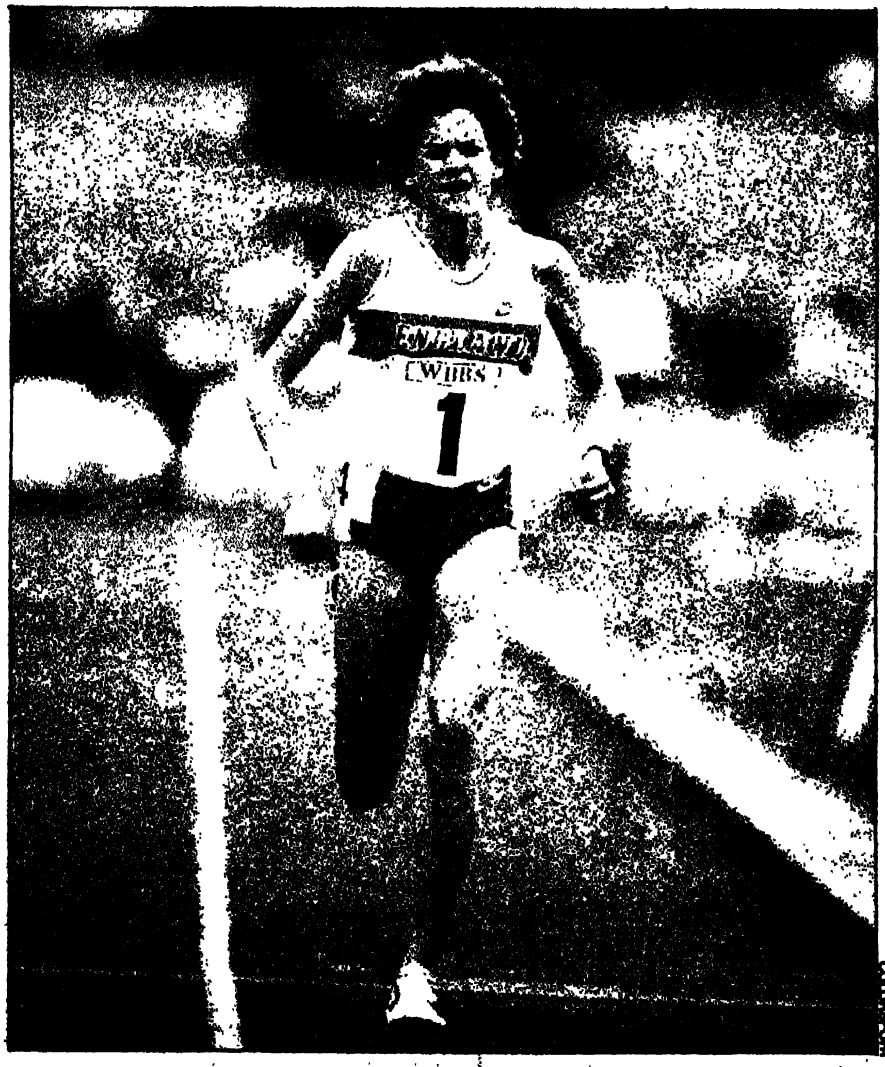
VOICES

"It's not political. It's the 'in' thing. I want peace...it's cool."
JENNIFER CAPRIATI, on the earring with the peace sign, that dangles from her left earlobe.

"...the eighth wonder of the track and field, not a two-legged calf, not a legless woman, but a sprinter without steroids."
MICHEAL MAURER, (writer for the German newspaper, *Struttgarter Zeitung*), heralding Ben Johnson's arrival in Sindelfingen, where he was to run a race.

"The main reason for my comeback is to get back what I lost. Money is not the reason."
LARRY HOLMES, (41) on his comeback plans. Shades of a certain,George Foreman.



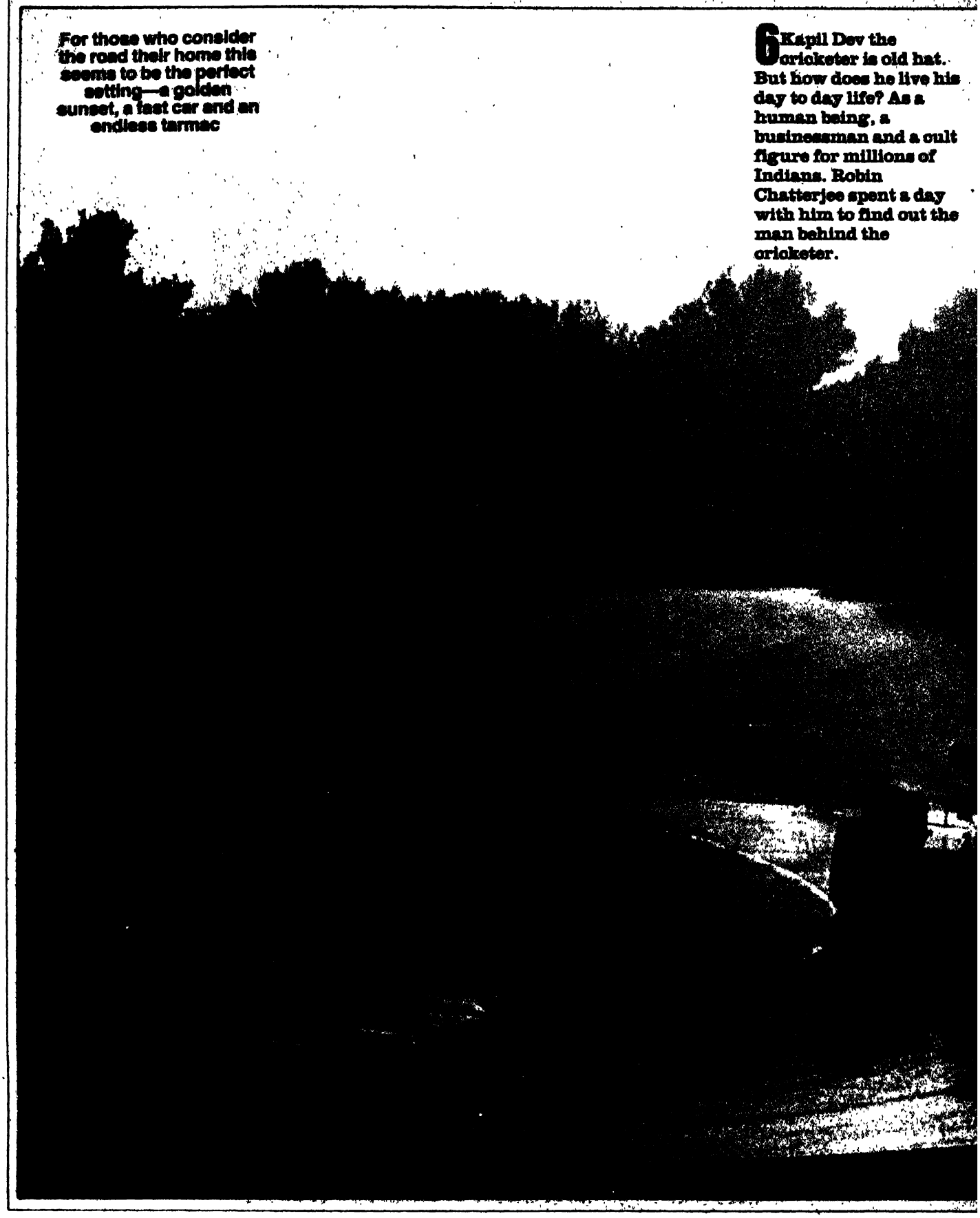


"If South Africa is readmitted to international athletics then I would like to compete abroad, but I'm not doing anything to get into the world competition before that."
ZOLA PIETERSE, nee Budd, seems in no particular hurry to return to the world arena.

"I know I'll get my fair share of bouncers. If you bat higher up, you're going to cop it. I'll just try to stick it out and see what happens. It will be like starting all over again for me. Everything I've done before will mean nothing."
Batting prodigy, GREAME HICK, who's confident of making his Test debut for England, against the West Indies.

"I'm tired of travelling to all these cities. I'm just doing too much of PR right now. All my races are just for training for the outdoor season. It's a matter of getting my confidence back."
BEN JOHNSON, on his five city, three week European tour, during which he had to do innumerable TV appearances and interviews.

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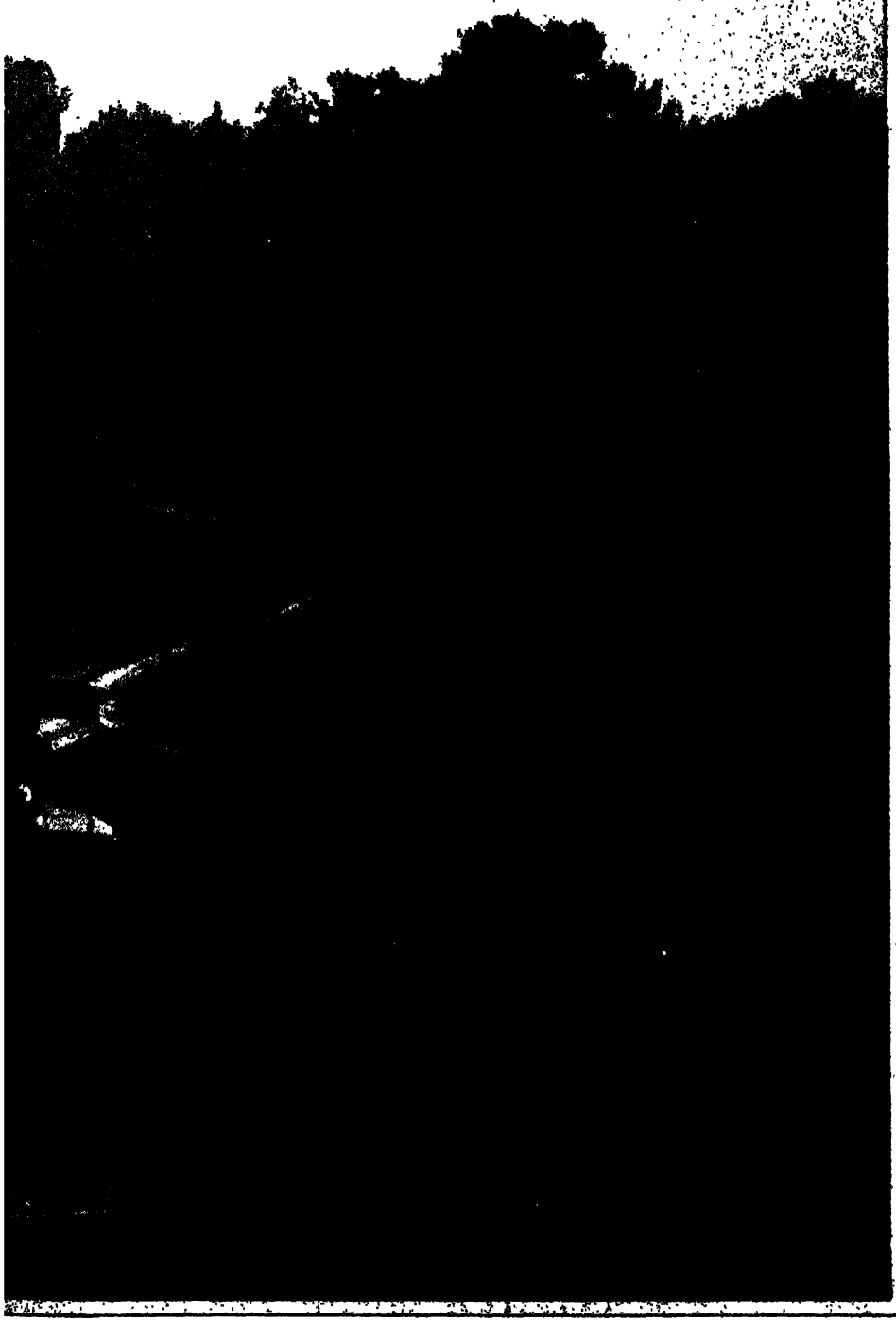
For those who consider the road their home this seems to be the perfect setting—a golden sunset, a fast car and an endless tarmac

6 **Kapil Dev the cricketer is old hat. But how does he live his day to day life? As a human being, a businessman and a cult figure for millions of Indians. Robin Chatterjee spent a day with him to find out the man behind the cricketer.**

TOMMY HINDLEY

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76 'Like Father Like Son'. The perils of the racing track are no stranger to Paul Stewart, son of former world champion, Jackie Stewart. Although his father is worried, Paul is determined to make his mark on the fast track.



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Editor Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi

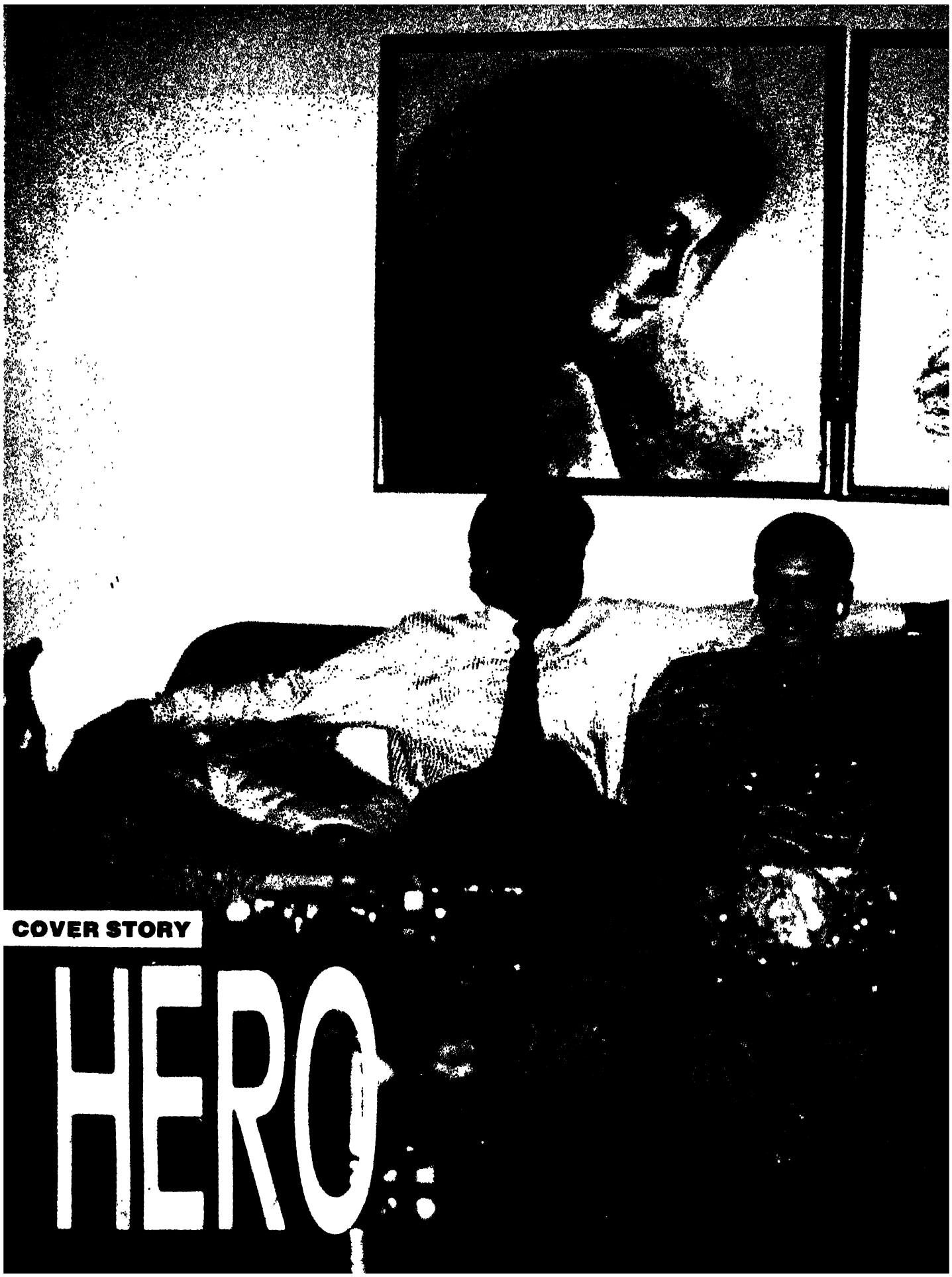
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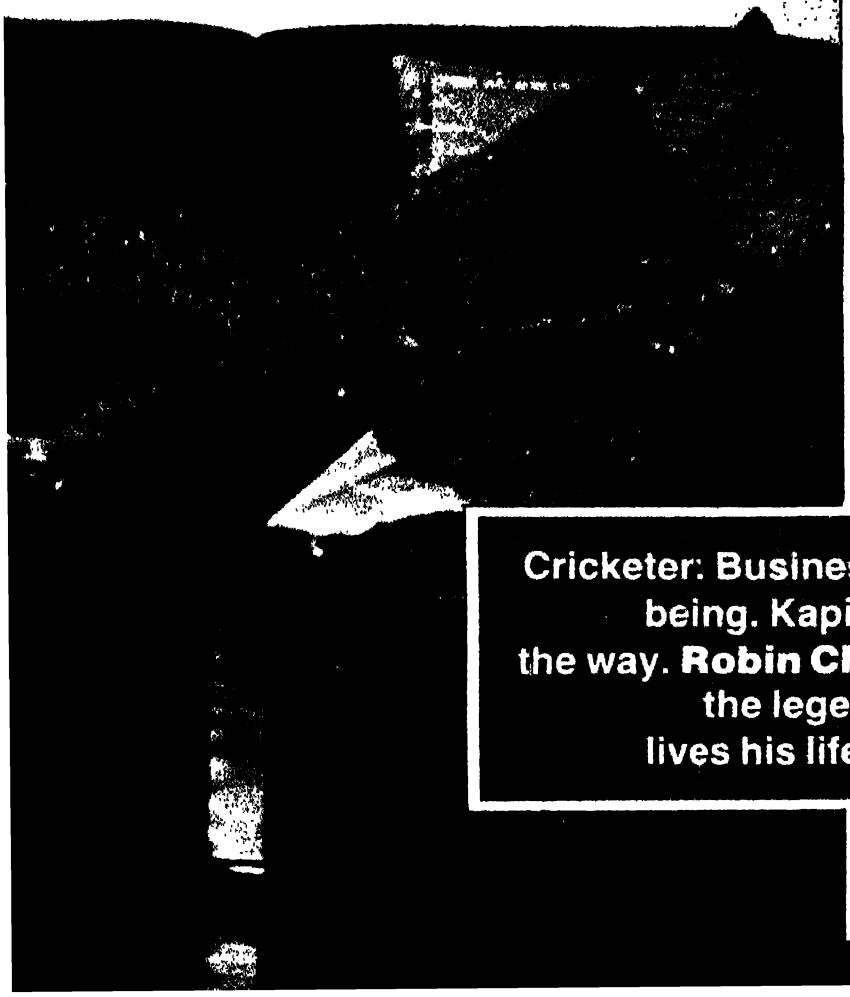
Air surcharge for Srinagar, ex-Delhi and Tripura 20 paise North Eastern States—25 paise



COVER STORY

HERO





Eight Indian summers ago, a 24-year-old young man stood on the balcony of Lord's cricket ground in England. He held in his hands the Prudential Cup. His smile was one of unbridled joy, as he reverentially proferred the cup out to the world, so that all could see...and believe.

The vast crowd standing below the balcony at Lord's--and those countless Indians who had till then sat nervously before their television sets back home—saw...and acknowledged, this simple yet meaningful gesture.

Then champagne bottles were uncorked and as the spray flew out and kissed the faces of those who had gathered to cheer, one felt unquestionably proud to be an Indian.

For Kapil Dev Nikhanj, the Indian captain who had held that trophy, the saga had already begun.

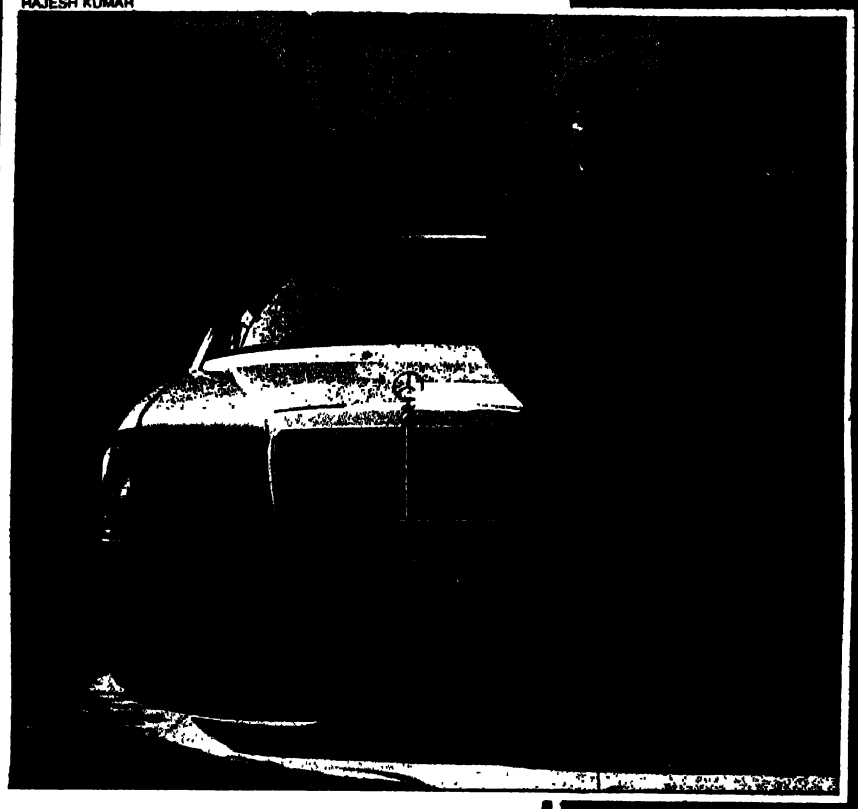
MEDIA created celebrities in New Delhi are *passe*. Obviously it's a different story in the other cities altogether But in Delhi? There are too many of them around-- read: mainly politicians --for you to take seriously. Almost any road, at any time of day could be blocked because there's a VVIP about to pass through. The strict security arrangements in the capital reinforce the belief that this is where the action is.

Okay, so we're talking politicians and

Cricketer: Businessman. Cult figure. Human being. Kapil Dev is a winner all the way. Robin Chatterjee spent a day with the legend to see how he lives his life off the cricket field

Mr. and Mrs. Kapil Dev at home. A photograph of this nature is rare. For them, even time has a price tag

RAJESH KUMAR



The things money can buy. Like a swank Mercedes and some jazzy suits. And it suits him to the T

the odd showbiz bigwig. But how do Delhiites react to a guy like Kapil Dev?

If you're zipping down Lodhi Gardens in the morning, it's impossible to miss or ignore the Pepsi Cola banners strung across the road: 'Kapil is coming, Kapil is coming!' they gasp. Just in case you're really wondering what the message is all about, look a little closer and you'll find the words 'To your home', also inscribed. To a smart Delhiite it would read: 'Kapil is coming! To your home.'

IF you're 32-years-young, a good cricketer with a lot of fight left in you and an equally good entrepreneur to boot, then Delhi would probably react to you.

It's also appropriate that Kapil should

Kapil with his prized momentoes. The bat he is caressing is the one with which he blasted Zimbabwe out of the World Cup. 175 not out. A world record


POWER



At the bar with his new friend De Niro. The pup has become a regular at the Dev household

stay in a place called *Sundernagar*. It all fits and appears as if previously ordained. Where else could he stay, in a place called South Extension? No, he could probably name his TV company after that place.

An impeccable bungalow houses the Dev's amidst all the lawyer and doctor neighbours. But don't even pause to think that he's just a guy with a lot of money and little else. In fact, when he comes out onto his balcony on mornings in his dressing gown with his cuppa, he's probably looking right across the clear Delhi skyline, way beyond the MP's quarters and probably even Rashtrapati Bhavan, his head swimming with ideas. No longer does Kapil Dev only think inswingers; now it is concepts, deals and tie-ups, in short: heavy duty business. Just because he can bat and bowl a bit (sorry Kaps!) doesn't mean he hasn't got ambition. He has, and tons of it. There's one thing he doesn't have though: his personal business card. But then he doesn't need it. His face itself opens all corporate doors.

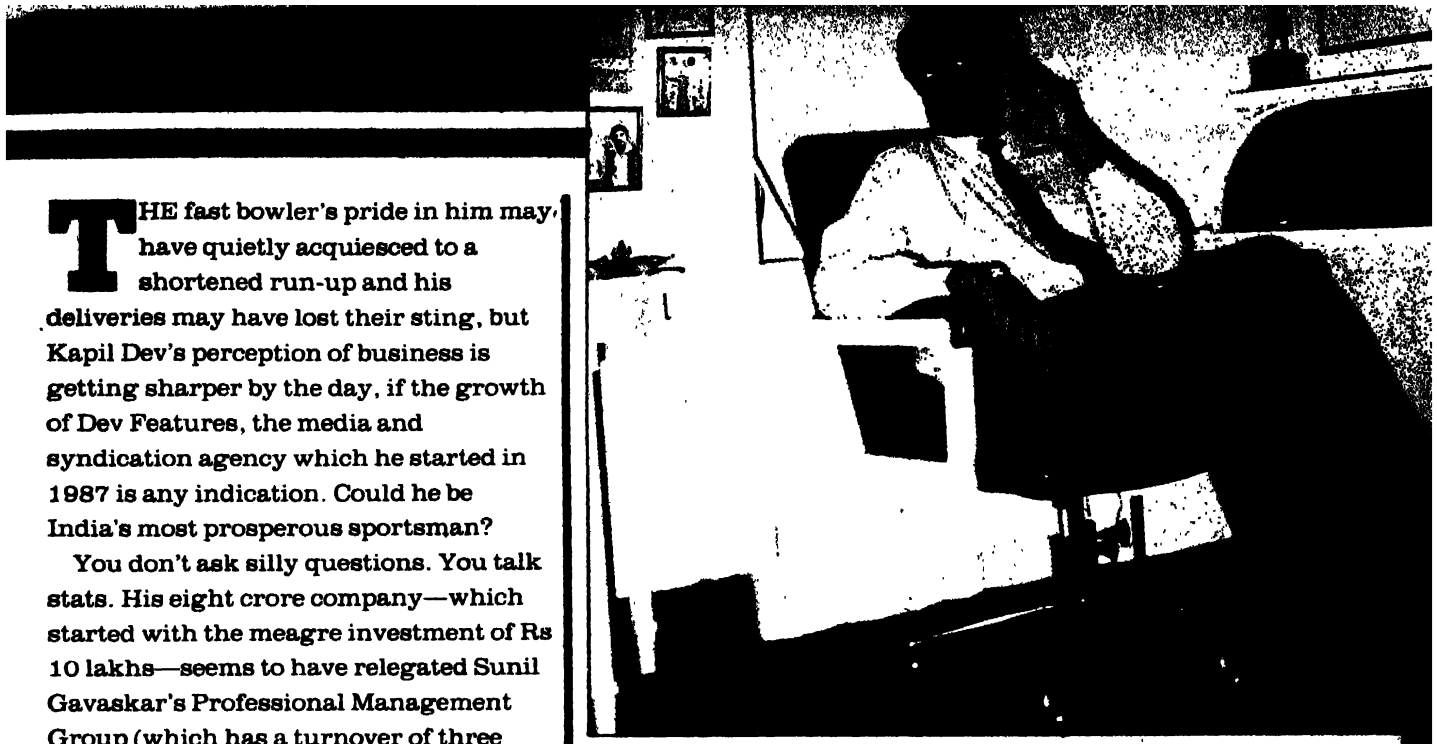
But why is Kapil going to people's homes? He's not just going to pay courtesy calls to the Delhi Janta, or is he?

"Actually, we're doing a tie-up deal with Lehar Pepsi. It's a campaign for two products: Pepsi and Sports Channel." Kapil says. "It's a way of getting to know where the product stands (specially Sports Channel). An advertisement inviting Kapil to your home was to be filled out by the applicants. In return for Kapil's visit, the lucky winners would have to offer him a sip of Pepsi. Kapil in turn would give them a certificate and a six month free subscription of his sports cassette. So how's that for business?

"Basically I feel it is the promotion of the game," Kapil analyses. "Yes, it is the promotion of products,but I also think that meeting people is important." His eyes appeared forthright and honest after the statement, so no argument.



Kapil and Romi at their bar. Together they're the toast of the town!



THE fast bowler's pride in him may have quietly acquiesced to a shortened run-up and his deliveries may have lost their sting, but Kapil Dev's perception of business is getting sharper by the day, if the growth of Dev Features, the media and syndication agency which he started in 1987 is any indication. Could he be India's most prosperous sportsman?

You don't ask silly questions. You talk stats. His eight crore company—which started with the meagre investment of Rs 10 lakhs—seems to have relegated Sunil Gavaskar's Professional Management Group (which has a turnover of three crore) lower down the order. "We're aiming for 22 crore next year," says Dilip Rangnekar, the cool and efficient General Manager, Marketing for Dev Features. No argument here, either.

Kapil in his study. It is from here that he directs operations. Unless he's doing it on the field

Kapil's priorities now include syndicating columns from the top writers in the country,managing sports tournaments (the fact that he's on the Board of Directors for Escorts acts as a bonus),doing TV programmes and also bringing out a video sports magazine every month: Sports Channel. No wonder he doesn't have the time which is why he is delegated most of his immediate family and employees to run the day to day business. The money seems easier to come by and why not? If you sit on top of a gushing oil well you can only go up.



Kapil actually took his stance in the world of business in 1983. His family opened hotel Kapil in Chandigarh. Simple, with no frills, the 13-room hotel houses a bar called Sixer, a restaurant known as the Oval, and a banquet hall, Pavilion. The annual turnover? A cool Rs. 45 lakhs. The hotel was opened just for kicks

Kapil actually took his stance in the world of business in 1983. The World Cup euphoria was still in the air and his



For Kapil, a deal is a deal. And he tries his best to live up to his end of it. It's no secret that companies are quite happy paying him a high price. If you look at the phenomenal sales of Palmolive shaving cream and Boost, the health drink, you'll know why. Kapil Dev delivers the goods

family capitalised on this and opened hotel Kapil in Chandigarh. Simple, with no frills, the 13-room hotel houses a bar called Sixer, a restaurant known as the Oval, and a banquet hall, Pavilion. The annual turnover? A cool Rs. 45 lakhs. The hotel was started off just for kicks.

Kapil with the fairer sex at Lady Shri Ram College. P.S.: he's shy of women

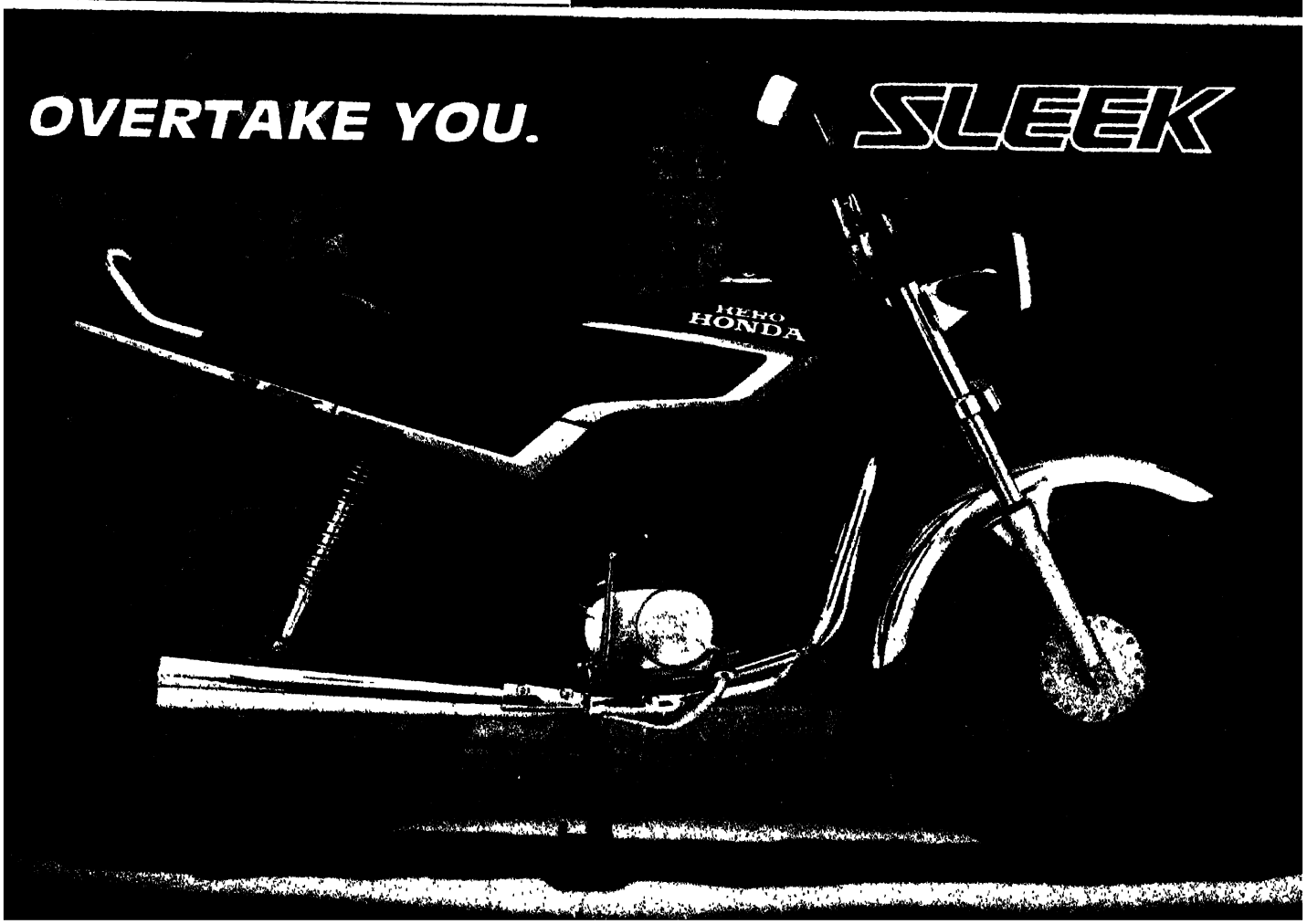


He's human too. In the sense that not everything Kapil Dev does has a price tag attached to it. He can be largely generous. The Escorts cricket team can testify to this. He has moulded a group of talented individuals into a team without taking any adequate mileage out of it

If that was by chance, then the birth of Dev Features was by no means preplanned either. Journalist Lokesh Sharma, in the course of an interview with Kapil, actually spoke aloud the idea of syndicating a Kapil Dev column. It



With a fan who covered his house with paintings and slogans of Kapil. It's a red letter day for the kid





A dog is a man's best friend. Kapil waltzing away with Don

became Kapil's mouthpiece. No more the fear of being misquoted by the media. "Everybody say(s) something. But when I say something, they (the press) change the meaning of it altogether," he argues. "I mean in one sentence you can have two meanings. Like, if I say that Chetan Sharma is a very good bowler but he's not bowling well, the Press says: 'Chetan is not bowling well, and that is what Kapil says.' It can get pretty irritating. So I felt that if I feel this way lot of other people do too."

Dev Features was thus born and is being run jointly by his wife, Romi Dev and Lokesh Sharma. "The company

No longer does Kapil Dev think inswingers; it's concepts, deals and tie-ups, in short: heavy duty business. Just because he can bat and bowl a bit doesn't mean he hasn't got ambition. He has, and tons of it

belongs to Romi and Lokesh," agrees Kapil. "But I'm the advisor. Basically it's a growing company and we want to build it up. We try to do each others work. Always helping each other out. Me? I advise," he claims proudly. One things certain, he's doing a damn fine job of it. Lokesh is obviously not missing journalism.

The Pepsi crowd have by now gathered and everyone's ready to move out for the second day's campaign. Soon the convoy reaches the first home. The cars grind to a halt and the security guards, four strapping Gorkhas, surround the Contessa and open the doors.

The outline of a little face can be seen at a window. Kapil comes out of the car and looks up.

"Hi!" he yells. The face at the window appears frozen in shock. The kid can't believe it!

"Can I come up?" asks Kapil.

The face disappears as if in the affirmative. By the time we get upstairs, we can hear the distinct hustle and bustle of rooms being crammed up. After the formal intros are made, Kapil asks for the kid. The little specimen walks gingerly into the room. The boy's father saves the situation by shouting out towards the kitchen. "Ha bhai, bottle kholo aur lao (C'mon open the bottle and bring it)!

Kapil: "No formalities please"

Dad: "We all have to go through this."

Kapil. "Mat kholo, bacche ko do (Give it to the kid)."

He then bends down to talk to the boy. "You're the lucky one. You know that?"

Kid A look which says:" I guess so if you're here."

Kapil. "Do you know what I'm going to give you?"

Kid· Looking down to see if the floor still exists.

Kapil "You're going to get a certificate like this (hands him one) and a cassette like this for the next six months. But tell me, did you fill up the form or did your father do it for you?

The little mite looks at his father for permission but the dad takes off on a tangent, "Allow me to introduce myself... in fact my company is one of the sponsors| of your cassette...I work for Indian Shipping Products...you met my counterpart in marketing a few days ago." The kid looks at his dad in disgust and Kapil gets ready to leave. This is not the time for corporate talk. As the car moves off slowly, Kapil looks back and waves goodbye to the kid. The kid waves back and sighs...

As the convoy makes its way to the next house Kapil takes over. "The best part of this campaign is the people you meet. There was one house I walked into where the couple were deaf and dumb. They were so thrilled at seeing me. They were surrounded by a host of relatives who did all the talking for them. Afterwards, the husband made me sign every poster that he had collected of me." Later, at another home, a young boy with great love and care drew pictures of his hero. He also put up massages of childish affection all over his house. He wanted a picture with Kapil, who obviously obliged.



Kapil's public relations acumen is unmatched

WHICH makes us once again study the depth of Kapil's business acumen. Considering the large number of endorsements and promotions that he's already got under his belt, would he possibly be doing this Pepsi campaign for free? After all, he's also promoting his own product as well.

"Huh," he shakes his head in disbelief.

The query is repeated.

"Who would do it for free, tell me that."

Well, you could.

"C'mon let's not kid around!" he states fiercely. "Do it for free, basically it's been done for people who don't have access to



me. And I'm on a contract."

A pause, and then he mutters disbelievingly, "nobody does it for free. I won't do it for free. Why should I?"

Because there are kids involved

"Then I would do a coaching camp or something. I've done things like that before." A little snooping revealed that the money involved in this campaign was not so astronomical. Some people could put this down to poor business strategy, but when you realise that he's marketed his own product in the bargain almost free of cost you conclude that he's not in it for kicks.

In other words, there is little or almost no compromise. A deal is a deal. And he tries his best to live up to his end of it. It's no secret that companies are quite happy paying him a high price. If you look at the phenomenal sales of Palmolive shaving cream and Boost, the health drink, you'll know why. Kapil Dev delivers the goods. In addition to all this when you make something around Rs. eight crore from your own business, when Kapil must be surprised how it all adds up. The money from endorsements and campaigns seems...small.

Just because he can bat and bowl a bit doesn't mean he hasn't got brains

People know his achievements as a cricketer well enough. A hard core Kapil Dev fan could rattle off his statistics before you could say Dev Features, but do they know that the company is planning to diversify into four different fields from next year? The fields specifically could not be divulged for purely competitive reasons. Or the fact that maybe Kapil hasn't finished with Pepsi, when he says, "Actually it's a good thing that Pepsi's around. They're interested in sponsoring sporting events. If more money comes into sports it's good for the sportsmen." Then he announces a sudden brainwave, "Maybe we'll have a team for kids sponsored by Pepsi. We can call it the Pepsi XI." And then with a pause... "Actually I don't know how you look at it." One thing's for sure, *he's* not confused.

He's human too. In the sense that not everything Kapil Dev does has a price attached to it. He can be largely generous. The Escorts cricket team can testify to this. He has moulded a group of talented individuals into a team without taking any adequate mileage out of it, "If we win a tourna ment, I don't take the prize money. I give it to the youngsters of the club," he disclosed.

"The people in Calcutta are so different," he remarks. "They are a bit more personal than the others. And they address you in so many different ways," he added like an excited child. "Dada, guru," he crooned. "Arre yaar, you can't even get out of your hotel. They dive straight for your legs. Koopilda, they say..."

There have also been instances when he has helped junior players in the Indian Test teams. Like when a junior cricketer came up to him and asked him for money in order to build a house. "No names please," he interrupted. "Yaar, if I have the money to give someone and if a cricketer want(s) to build a house, I would love to help him. I feel that a cricketer must have his security.

The player now has a house

The Pepsi brigade now moves into another colony. The place is deserted except for a few kids who are playing in the hot afternoon sun. The hot Delhi breeze makes the dust go swirling high into the air. The kids pay no notice to the fleet of cars till Kapil comes out of it. You can't mistake that face.

The kids' face strain for some kind of recognition. Then realisation dawns and they shout out to each other, "Kapil Dev, jaldi aa. Aare jaldi aana, Kapil aaya hai." Kapil hearing their excited cries turns around and waves out to them. Their manner suddenly changes, they don't know how to react. They stare dumbfounded as the car moves off. Kapil then slaps me on my thigh and asks excitedly, "What will happen if we do this campaign in Calcutta?"

His marketing manager speaks up, "They'll go berserk, Kapil. They'll just go berserk."

Kapil nods in acknowledgement, "Yah, I thought so myself.

Another colony. The people have obviously been wait ing for Kapil for a very long time. A few middleaged ladies are holding garlands. Kapil squirms in his seat in obvious discomfiture. Then seeing some humour in it he wisecracks, "Kyon, election mein khara ho jaye." A twitter follows inside the car. "It's like going for an election campaign," he concludes.

"You might just win Kapil," interjects a lady reporter.

"Arre baba mere ko nahi khara hona election mein," It's time to meet the lucky winner.

We soon leave the colony after Kapil completes his formalities. Back in the car he remarks. "They are a bit more personal in Calcutta . And they address you in so many different ways," he added like an excited child. "Dada, guru," he crooned. "Arre yaar, you can't even get out of your hotel. They dive straight for you legs. Koopilda, they say. It's never Sunil, but Shoonil Not Ravi, but Robi." And then he mimics, "Soochin aa gaya, Soochin."

"May-be he'll be a hit," someone spoke aloud. Kapil retorted, trying to sound comically blase, "In Calcutta, anybody can be a hit."

WHILE on the subject of money, there are two questions that automatically suggest themselves. One, does money really play such an important role in the man's life? Two, does his easy-going character reflect in his business dealings?

His answers are surprisingly precise and measured. "I personally feel that you should have money. A good limit. I mean what I'm living on today shouldn't decrease. Why do sportsmen struggle?" he asks with vehemence. "Once they stop playing, they fall on hard times. So you should use the contacts you make in your playing days." He pauses...

"Life should be straight...smooth. And if you have a smooth life, you can do better things. Just look at a cricketer from the '70s. Some of them have worked harder then I have. But when I go and meet them, I feel sorry. Sorry because they can't even offer you a glass of beer or a cup of tea. It shouldn't be that way."



Kapil is the epitome of fitness

There's always time for a little stretching in the midst of everything.





"Life should be straight... smooth. And if you have a smooth life, you can do better things. Just look at a cricketer from the '70s. Some of them have worked harder then I have. But when I go and meet them, I feel sorry. Sorry because they can't even offer you a glass of beer or a cup of tea. It shouldn't be that way." His words rest in the air-conditioned air.

And his character?" I'm very cool," he states with a finality. "The kind of impression people have of me on the ground is different from what I am off it. On the ground people think I'm aggressive... and I am! But off it I'm totally opposite. I don't get annoyed. Even during my business dealings."

"You can prove a point by saying something. But you cannot get angry and get a result." Just then the car turns into the gates of Lady Shri Ram College. "Kapil," Dilip warns. A group of girls are standing in front of the college gate preparing to form a human chain....

Fifteen minutes had passed since Kapil got off at the gates of LSR College—he was forced to walk from the main gate by the girls— and entered the main hall. The screams, sighs and shouts never seem to dissipate. In fact, they are getting more strident and more boisterous by the minute. Kapil till now hadn't managed to say a word. How could he?- -as he begins to speak, the girls start screaming. "Kapil touch me, look at me Kapil." Finally it is time to interrupt the hysteria:

Kapil. "Now can I talk."

"Yeeeaaah," they scream.

Kapil: "I presume the hostess in the mess must be looking after you well."

Screams again.

Kapil: "I believe you have 300 girls here"

More screams!

Kapil: "So I have asked them to give you 300 bottles of Pepsi."

"Free?"

"Free?" he shouted back.

The girls now take up a chant of 'Yeah, yeah'. Another group takes up another chant. "We want a T-shirt, we want a T-shirt."

"Okay I'll send those too," Kapil promises

"Extra large please," someone yelled "Shoo," corrected another.

Meeting over, everybody scrambled back to their cars. Kapil looked at Dilip triumphantly and asked, "So you wanted to see girls," he shouted above the din. "Puri college dikha di maine."

IS this guy human or what? How calculating is he? Sure he sports a naked ambition. He admires success and the frills that come with it. If today Kapil Dev Nikhanj is a business force it isn't entirely because of the people who work for him or with him. He has ideas of his own and they come very fast. Talk to him in business parlance and his eyes shine like crisp 100 rupee notes. He has tremendous reserves of confidence in his own abilities but he also has the humility to be selfless Unfortunately it is this quality that lands him in a mess.

"It hurts when people you try to help, turn against you," he explains. "They do so many irrational things."

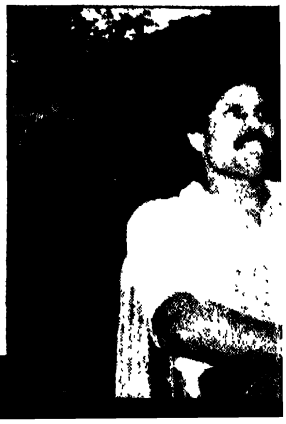
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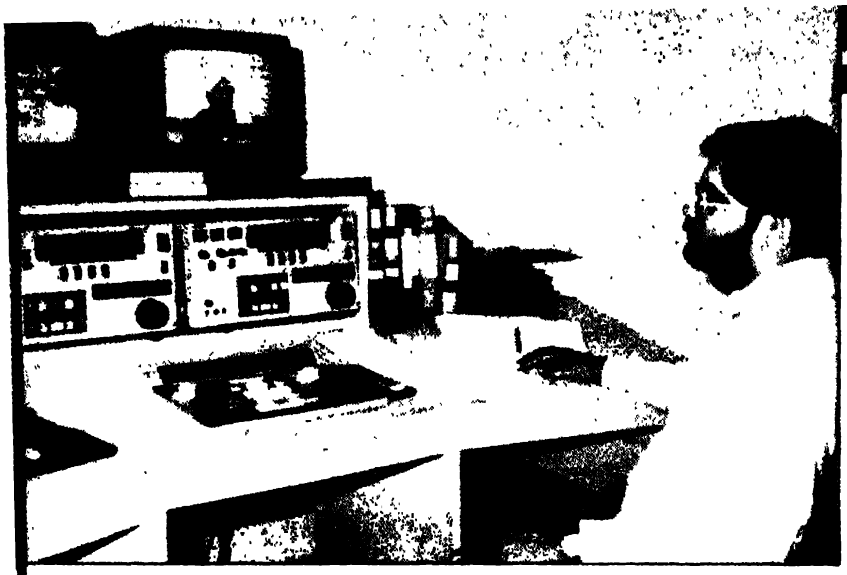
"For example, something that took

The Dev family indulging one another at home.



Kapil at the NIS grounds after the days campaign





Lokesh Sharma doing some quality control. Dev Features and Sports Channel are raking in big money



At the home of one of his lucky fans. Girls relate to him better though



place in the Board meeting regarding the Duleep Trophy fiasco Manoj Prabhakar suddenly spoke out against me. I have always tried to work with him but then suddenly he lands up in a soup during the Duleep trophy and without even consulting me, goes and speaks to the Press, saying that, "My captain asked me to bowl bouncers and beamers. 'This is lying. I mean you have so much time for those guys and when they lie against you it hurts."

Could Manoj have reacted under pressure?

"No he must have reacted in the heat of the moment," Kapil corrects. "I've done the same things in my younger days," he says in a forthright manner. Then he leans forward and adds, "But when you get caught, it's wrong. If you don't it's okay."

The convoy thunders into yet another colony. This time his fans don't just want to drink Pepsi. They want to play cricket with him as well.

"C'mon, I'll bowl," he says resignedly. A young boy takes his stance. Kapil takes two steps and bowls. The boy plonks a foot forward spanks the ball right out of the ground. There is worse to come. It is now Kapil's turn to bat, and the boy who had faced him earlier thunders in to bowl. The ball rears up and hits Kapil on the head. It is time to leave and not a moment too soon. No one hits Kapil Dev on the head with a bouncer. Inside the relative safety of his car, Kapil speaks, "Mujhe bouncer maar diya," and then adds with a smile on his face, "I suppose he'll talk about it for weeks. Saying he got me with a short ball."

"But you know," he says, "I noticed one good quality in that boy. He had that extra something. We call it 'khunnas'. That makes all the difference. It did for me."

The campaign is over.

WHERE does he go from here? The question is thrown at him as we sip hot coffee at the NIS grounds. He's grown as a cricketer, businessman and human being. And all so young. Has he ever stopped to think about it?

Maybe he has, because he answers without any great deal of thought. "Well the sky is the limit. If you want to become something you don't look at it from the outside. If and when you reach the top, you check to see if there's anyone ahead of you and you proceed to cross him. There are no end of people succeeding in their fields.

"I've changed a lot in 10 years," he suddenly confesses. This is the result of going out and meeting people. *Perhaps* my way of thinking is different."

Perhaps? I mean, this is a guy whose Dobermann is called Don Corleone, because he 'likes the guys who play the Mafia Dons in the movies.'

And Don Corleone's three week old puppy, what about him?

"Either Al Pacino or De Niro, I think," says Kapil.

Ah, what the hell, he always was a class act. Didn't you know, 'Kapil Dev da jawab nahin. Even now!

PHOTOGRAPHS: PANKAJ SHARMA

'We are due transitional period..'



...Says CLYDE WALCOTT, president of the West Indies Board of Control, talking about the future of the game in the Caribbean, the changing attitude of the cricketing nations toward South Africa, and looks at the change in times and cricketing psychology the world over...

THE West Indies, whose power in the boardrooms of world cricket has grown in proportion to their success on the field, are ready to amend their stance significantly on South Africa, offering the first hint of encouragement from a black nation to the outlawed country.

The West Indies are also preparing an initiative to reform standards of discipline and they will make concessions on slow play in which they have long been considered by some to be both guilty and intransigent.

These were some of the issues to emerge when Clyde Walcott, president of the West Indies Board of Control, spoke on the future of cricket in the Caribbean, where the game is rich in talent, passionate in outlook, financially destitute and yet more influential over the rest of the world than ever before.

South Africa's continued isolation from international cricket has been paramount in West Indian policy for two decades and in 1988 they, along with England, were responsible for the introduction of automatic Test suspensions for anyone visiting there to play or coach.

Now, however, the rapid political change in South Africa, allied to the projected merging of cricket's two racially-perceived bodies, has convinced Walcott that the initial barrier, one of basic communication, can be dropped. As the West Indies' spokesman at the International Cricket Council in July, he will raise no objection when South Africa makes its annual plea, traditionally rejected out of hand, for an audience.

South Africa now will win, surely the required support to put their case to the Test-playing nations for a review of their game's long-claimed, but widely disputed, non-racial status. So long as their two bodies, the predominantly white Cricket Union and the non-white Cricket Board, are united by July, they are likely to ask the ICC to send a fact-finding mission.

> WE want to see the apartheid system totally dismantled so that South Africa can eventually come back into the fold and I am interested to hear about the progress within cricket....Walcott.

for a



PRADEEP MANDHANI

> YOU will not see cricket on the beach, or on waste ground, quite as much because the young have more to divert them. In my day, cricket was all there was...I am optimistic of the future, even if we must not expect to dominate as we have done...Walcott

On this, Walcott cannot promise automatic support. He explained: "I would have no quarrel with the idea of a merged South Africa authority addressing us informally at the ICC. I have quarrelled with it before, of course, but like every other country we are encouraged by what has happened in South Africa.

"We want to see the apartheid system totally dismantled so that South Africa can eventually come back into the fold and I am interested to hear about the progress within cricket. As for any ICC mission to the country, I would have to study the situation further.

"On purely cricket matters I am able to speak for the West Indies. But I represent not just one country but a whole region, and when a sensitive political issue is concerned I must consult with governments so that we as a board are not in conflict with them."

On the topic of discipline, Walcott needs to refer to nobody This imposing, statesmanlike man, now aged 65, has a pained expression when he discusses standards which have dropped incalculably since the times in the 1950s when he was averaging 56 in Test cricket, carefree cricketing times which, he freely admits, will now never return.

"We never had problems of behaviour, but then we were not playing such a commercial, scrutinised game as the players of today. Money is at the root of the problem but it is important that we, as administrators, first accept that discipline in the international game has deteriorated, and then act firmly to put it right."

West Indies are much in favour of the international code of conduct which the ICC will put in place by October of this year. They believe that independent umpires should be mandatory, if only they can be funded. Interestingly, Walcott is also set to propose a worldwide convention of leading umpires in an effort to achieve uniformity on such matters as intimidatory bowling, time-wasting and players conduct.

"The umpires need to get together so that they can be stronger and more consistent in many areas," says Walcott, citing the calling of wides in one-day cricket as an example of widely

varying interpretations.

Time-wasting is another, and although West Indies, with the battery of rechargeable fast bowlers, have always opposed over-rate fines, they are now more conciliatory. Fines, they say, should be imposed, but the 90 overs per day rule ought to make time allowances for fall of wickets, drinks breaks and injuries. The ICC is unlikely to agree on this, but on other points Walcott will win support.

"Short-pitched bowling is still a worry and although I am totally against a limit of one per over, as it gives an artificial advantage to the batsman, it is true that too many are sometimes bowled. The umpires should be discussing a uniform line on what they regard as intimidation.

"We acknowledge that discipline is poor throughout Test cricket and this is one very good reason for imposing mandatory independent umpires. I believe 95 per cent of the problems with dissent and bad behaviour come as a result of umpiring decisions, which may or may not be right, but are perceived by players to be wrong due to home-country bias.

"So, while we do not think the umpiring will necessarily be any better for a complete change, it will be more acceptable to the players because of its obvious impartiality."

The delay in implementing a traveling panel of umpires is entirely due to finance and, here, the West Indies cannot help. Success has brought them no riches. Indeed, even in the past three years, their dilemma of trying to sustain a high-profile team and the stratas of the game beneath it, has been further complicated by the devaluation of several Caribbean currencies against the US dollar.

Explains Walcott: "All our outgoings, such as expenses and players' fees, are based on the US dollar so we have suffered badly. We lost money on England's tour

> CRICKET will not collapse here, but we have to act like humble men. Our administration is not like England's or Australia's. Until recently we had only one paid officer. Now we have two and a typist, to deal with everything. We want to expand our secretariat onto the marketing side. We want to run a A-team like England. But we do not have the money to finance it...Walcott

The West Indian pace battery celebrates yet another scalp



PHADEEP MANDHAN



PRADEEP MANOHAN

here last year and we will lose again on this current series with Australia, even after television income

"Cricket will not collapse here, but we have to act like humble men. Our administration is not like England's or Australia's. Until recently we had only one paid officer. Now we have two and a typist, to deal with everything. We want to expand our secretariat onto the marketing side. We want to run an A-team like England. But we do not have the money to finance it."

Walcott revealed that England's proposal for an A-team tour of the Caribbean, initiated last year and now revived, will be rejected reluctantly again because of the lack of a sponsor. With the established West Indies side soon to shed some of its elder statesman, this particularly grieves him.

"We are due for a transitional period," he says. "It must come, and all around the Caribbean there is public disquiet about it. The people see that their heroes are not as dominant as they were. They sense we are ready to lose and there is a fear of losing, because it has not happened for so long. From the administrative point of view we understand it and we will not panic."

The West Indies will name their captain for the England tour,

> MONEY is at the root of the problem (behaviour) but it is important that we, as administrators, first accept that discipline in the international game has deteriorated and then act firmly to put it right...Walcott

What do you do if you can't get a ticket? Perch yourself on a tree with a transistor, that's what

which will be managed by Lance Gibbs, early next month. The 16-man party will be announced around April 24. But expect little to change.

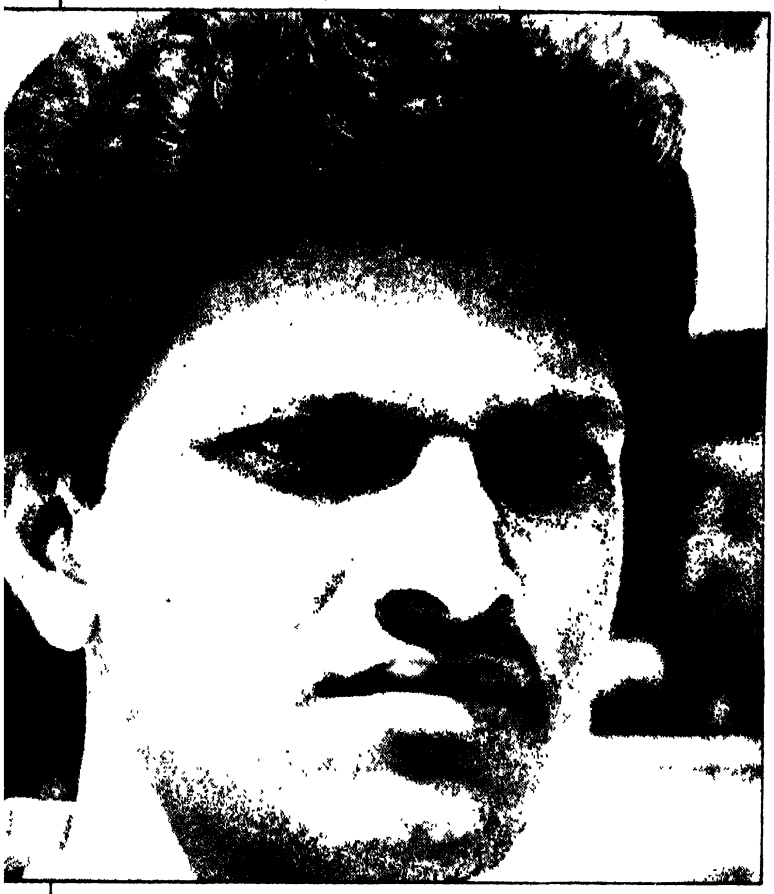
"I look around the region and I see a new generation of fast bowlers," Walcott says "I see very few spin bowlers. I hope I am wrong, but the youngsters are bound to copy models they find attractive."

Walcott is a realist. He knows the game does not grip the nations here quite as it did. But he is not pessimistic. "You will not see cricket on the beach, or on waste ground, quite as much, because the young have more to divert them. In my days, cricket was all there was. But I can see a couple of young players who will excite people and I am optimistic of the future, even if we must not expect to dominate as we have done."

Alan Lee
COURTESY THE TIMES, LONDON

WOORKERI RAMAN

'The Ball Never Seems To Be In My Court'



After making an encouraging start to his Test career, W.V. RAMAN, despite his remarkable promise of emerging as an all-rounder, has gradually faded into obscurity, being a mere passenger in the Indian squad, for, he thinks, no fault of his own, as he explains in this exclusive interview with Partab Ramchand in Madras

SPORTSWORLD: You have been in international cricket for over three years now without actually establishing yourself in the national squad. Why do you think this has been the case?

WOORKERI RAMAN I haven't been given the opportunities to prove myself If you look at my career, I have played my first three Tests in three different series Then I had three matches in a row in New Zealand,was not considered again during the tour of England I have been in and out of the team generally filling in for an injured or indisposed player When you know the axe is always waiting to fall upon you then it is not easy to perform

Still, in keeping with your talent and your fantastic record in domestic cricket, your international record is only about average, don't you think so?

Look, I got runs in my first Test Unfortunately that was the last Test of the series and I had to wait for another ten months before the next match I failed and was dropped I was not initially chosen to tour the West Indies in 1989 and only went as a replacement for an injured Srikkanth I played only one Test got 17 and 15 and was dropped For the tour of New Zealand in 1990, neither Srikkanth nor Shastri made it, so I was drafted to open the batting I played all three Tests got two fifties in five innings and finished third in the averages On the entire tour, my aggregate was next only to Azharuddin's. In the one-day games too, I did well with one half century in four innings. In England, I did not play in any of the Tests, but in the first class games I finished with over 550 runs at an average of 50, with one century and finished sixth in the final tour figures So, all in all, I can honestly say that I have performed well in the limited opportunities I have got.

You have never had a settled place in the batting order. How far do you feel this has hindered your



progress?

You may not believe this, but in my six Tests involving ten innings I have gone in at six positions in the order--everything from number one to number six. In my first Test I went in at number four and number three in the two innings. In my next Test I went in at number six In the West Indies, it was number five. And in New Zealand I was drafted to open the innings

But do you prefer to open the innings or go in the middle order?

Frankly, I have never fancied myself as an opening bat But then did I have a choice? Things have been thrust upon me And, to get into the eleven I am prepared to go in at any position Basically, I am

Frankly, I have never fancied myself as an opening bat. But then, did I ever have a choice? Things have been thrust upon me. And, to get into the eleven I am prepared to go in at any position. In the limited opportunities, I have got I have not done badly. I enjoy my cricket, shall continue to do my best and I don't think I can ever get frustrated

just trying to get a game. I would rather play than sit in the pavilion and if this means that I have to open, then so be it. And honestly, I don't think I have done badly in that position. Two fifties in five innings in New Zealand against Richard Hadlee and company is a pretty good record even if I say so myself.

But don't you think you benefited from Bedi's pet theory of having a left-handed—right-handed opening pair?

When the team was chosen, V.B. Chandrasekhar and Sidhu were listed as the team's first choices as opening batsmen. I was taken as a third opener. In New Zealand, the cricket manager had this theory and so I was drafted to open with Sidhu. But then this theory was not adopted in England and Shastri and Sidhu opened the innings. I felt I was a bit unlucky not to play in a Test in England, particularly with Sidhu failing. I was among the runs, getting a hundred and a number of fifties. But here again, it was a case of the four selectors picking the experienced or established player (Sidhu) instead of me.

You are a natural left-handed batsman and given the paucity of left-hand batsmen in Indian cricket don't you think you should have established yourself at least from this angle?

Here again, it all depends on the team's think tank. If they feel that the team does need a left-hander then, they should persevere with me. After all, I got runs in three Tests in New Zealand, but then I was not played in England. The ball never seems to be in my court. It always seems to be in someone else's court.

Have you felt a bit of frustration about how your career has been going?

No, never. If I was failing then there might be frustration. But then in the opportunities I have got I have not done badly. I enjoy my cricket, shall continue to do my best and I don't think I can ever get frustrated.

Have you ever thought about establishing yourself in the One-day squad?

Here again it boils down to what my role should be. Do I open or do I go in the middle order. I am only mentioning this for I have done both roles.

THE JOURNEYMAN

"ASALIM DURRANI in the making". That is how a Calcutta newspaper headlined an article on Woorkeri Venkat Raman soon after he made his Test debut against the West Indies at Madras in January 1988. The comparison, for once, did not seem to be outrageous. There was indeed much of Durrani's best qualities in Raman's cricket. That same lazy, casual elegance in his strokeplay. The same flight and biting turn in his left arm spin bowling. Also, Raman was as tall and slim as Durrani was at his peak nearly 25 years before. And, yes, the similarity also extended to a negative quality—Raman's fielding was as sub-standard as Durrani's!

A 22-year-old cricketer, who makes 83 in his first Test against Walsh and Patterson, and then goes on to take a wicket in his very first over, a feat performed by only four other Indian bowlers can justifiably hope to be a permanent member of the Indian team for some time. Or, at least, he should be allowed to play at least the next three or four Tests. In Raman's case he played only one more match before receiving the first of many rejections.

A couple of months later he scored 313 in a Ranji Trophy game. And everyone felt that this knock had helped him clinch a place in the team to tour the West Indies in 1989, but when the team was announced, Raman was not in. It was incredible and was really hard on an otherwise jovial Raman.

For the next few days, he remained



PRADEEP MANDHANI

Or should I be taken as a batsman who can bowl a bit. But here again, even in one-day cricket, I seem to be filling in for a player who is injured or indisposed.

Talking about bowling, don't you think you have neglected your bowling? After all, you first made your mark in first-class cricket as a bowler?

I have not neglected my bowling. I still practise a lot and love bowling. But what opportunities have I got? I got a wicket in my first over in Test cricket. I believe that is a rare feat done by only three or four Indian bowlers. Then against New Zealand at Bombay I got the wicket of Greatbatch. Again, at Auckland last year, Azharuddin gave me a long spell of 19 overs and I gave away only 23 runs. I admit I haven't been bowling much in first-class cricket in the last two years since I have been concentrating on batting. But I am aware of the fact that if I can also take wickets that would be a plus point that might help me establish myself in the team as an allrounder of sorts. And that is why I am still keen on my bowling.

Two things have been held out against you, possibly as reasons why you have not yet established yourself in the national squad. One is your casual attitude and the other your fielding which frankly, need some improvement. Do you agree?

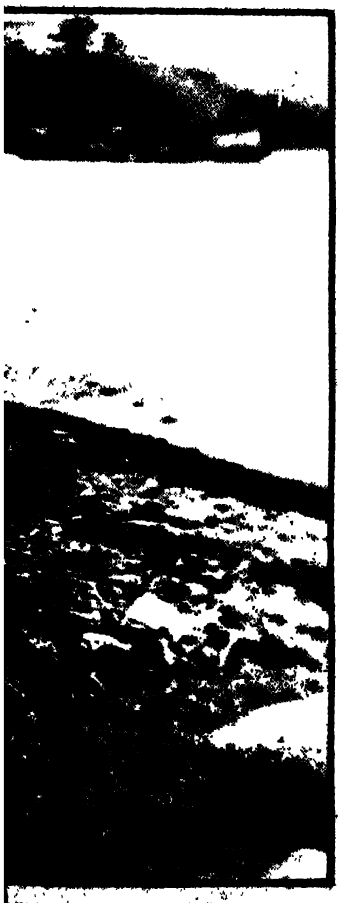
Yes, I have heard about my seemingly casual attitude. I can only say that I am dead serious about the game like any other top level cricketer. I may appear casual, but that possibly has a lot to do with my strokeplay and my general attitude to batting. Each cricketer has certain characteristics and I can't change my style. Again, a casual player can never be captain and I have led various teams. One more point. If I was casual in my outlook then I would have thrown in the towel by now, with all the limited opportunities I have been getting. I certainly would have, after being dropped for the tour to the West Indies in 1989 and after getting a triple hundred in the Ranji trophy. Instead, I stuck around, got two more double centuries and broke Rusi Modi's record. As regards my fielding, I am the first to admit that when I entered international cricket it was not up to the required level. But since then I have taken steps to improve this aspect of my game and I can say that now I am a vastly improved fielder. One reason for this possibly is that I take greater care of my fitness these days. ●



In England, I did not play in any of the Tests, but in the first-class games, I finished with over 550 runs at an average of 50, with one century and finished sixth in the final tour figures. So, all in all, I can honestly say that I have performed well in the limited opportunities I have got...

dumb-founded as a boy whose stocking is empty on Christmas Eve. Then he shook himself off the stupor, took his bat, scored 200 not out against Maharashtra and followed it up with 238 against Bengal in the Ranji Trophy semi final at Calcutta.

It was a knock that Raman regards as his best ever, and one that helped him put a famous 44-year-old record in the shade. Rusi Modi with 1008 runs held the record for most runs in a single season in the Ranji Trophy. With a tally of 1018 runs Raman now was the record holder. His confidence restored, Raman flew to the West Indies as a replacement for the injured Srikkanth. He played one Test, did not do very well and was dropped.



Desperate to establish himself in the Indian team, Raman got a chance through cricket manager Bishen Bedi's pet theory of a left-handed—right-handed opening pair. Drafted to open the innings in New Zealand last year—against Richard Hadlee and company—Raman acquitted himself creditably with scores of 96 and 72 not out. Playing in all three Tests, Raman at last seemed to have clinched a regular place in the side befitting a player of his class, talent and skill.

And yet Raman has not played in a Test match again.

Partab Ramchand

IT'S SUMMER

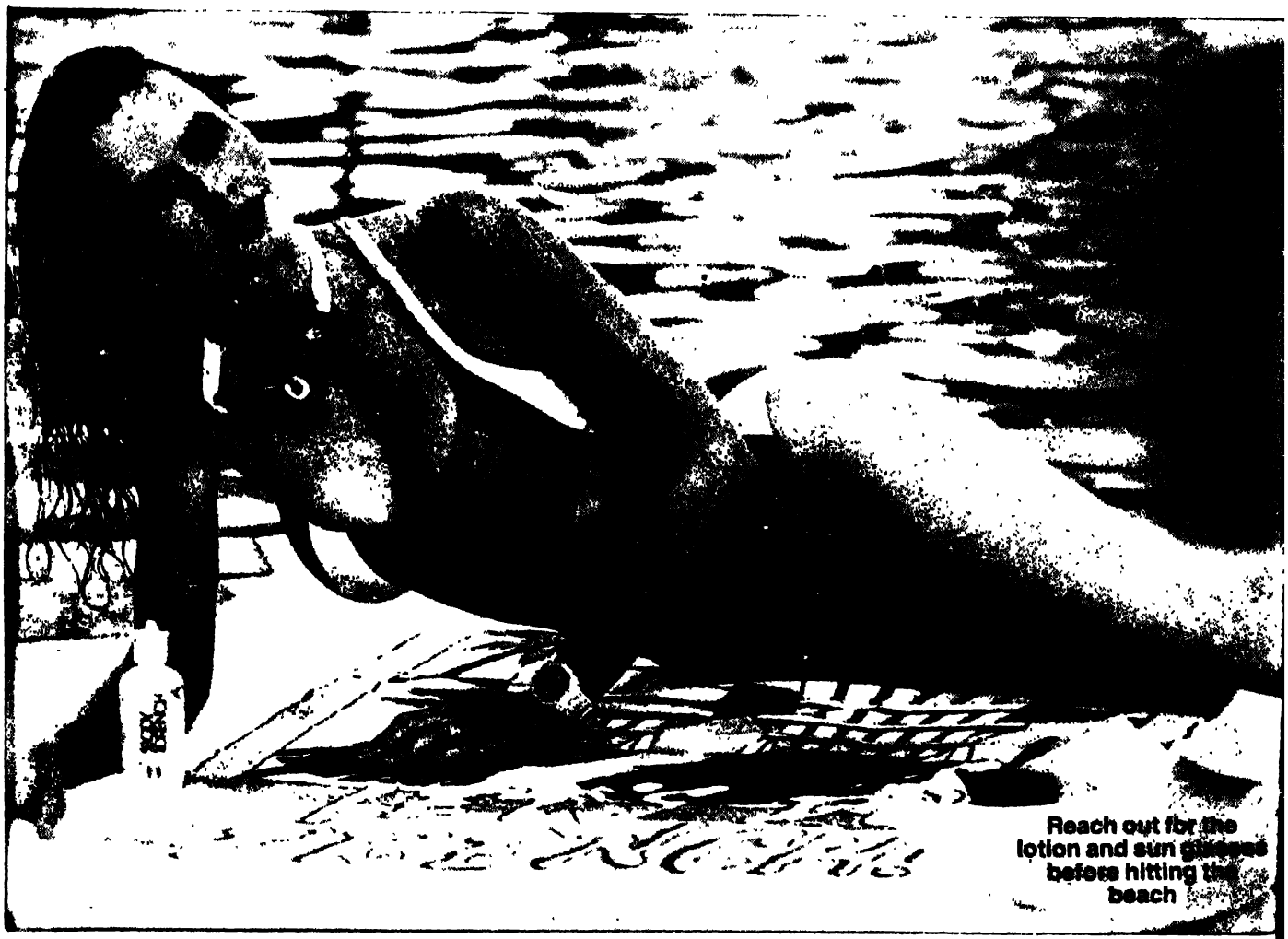
So it's summer time, again, folks. Time to get into those T-shirts and shorts and show off the physique that you've been sculpting over the past few months. Time to hit the swimming pool, time for football, tennis and all the outdoor sports you've been wanting to play again. All ready for summer, are you? Here a few time tested tips to look good during summer, when the heat plays havoc with the body.

With gaps in the ozone layer, the sun beats down ferociously in summer. Unprotected exposure to sunlight, (we tend to be careless) leads to skin damage, causing it to sag. The sun is also responsible for the leathery skin, premature wrinkles and even skin cancer.

The sun hits the earth at the most direct angle between 10 a.m and 3 p m. Try to stick indoors during this time span, or else take extra precautions like wearing a hat and sunglasses. If you are susceptible to sun burn, apply a cold towel to the burnt areas, and have a cold bath.

Skin (specially male skin) is prone to dryness during the summer months. Skin during summer tends to lose moisture at an alarming rate and this leads to dehydration. After shaving remember to put on a moisturizer so that it traps the moisture inside. Also drink 6-8 glasses of water a day. Remember, the body's active drive for thirst is low during summer, so don't wait till you really feel thirsty Reach out for the glasses of water with a regular frequency.

When you perspire, remember it's fluid that you're losing. It has been proved that jogging in summer for an hour, makes an athlete lose about a pint of water Severe water loss can result in depleted energy, and cramps.



Reach out for the lotion and sun glasses before hitting the beach

TIME AGAIN



Over exposure to the sun is responsible for a host of skin disorders

THE HEALTH COLUMN

Hence top up the body with fluids.

Ultra violet rays from the sun can cause real bad damage to the eyes, resulting in eye strain and headaches to long term eye damage. Our eyes naturally adapt themselves to a certain amount of light. Anything more is glare and this is what causes the damage. The best way to avoid this is to wear good sunglasses that cut down the glare. The skin around the eyes has fewer ducts and therefore needs extra protection. Use of moisturizers for the area around the eye and the lips is a must during summer time, otherwise be prepared to have premature lines and wrinkles around the eyes.

Hair is the area that suffers most in summer. The summer sun wreaks havoc on the hair and leaves it brittle and dry.. with no bounce or fall. A hat or a cap is the best way to preserve some bounce in the hair. Only, see to it that the head gear is well ventilated and is loose fitting, so that the perspiration has a chance to dry off.

Heading for the swimming pool, are you? You may have been waiting all these months to get into the pool. However all we're telling you is to take some precaution to keep the crowning glory in shape. Chlorine put into the pool, has the same effect as sea water on the hair. It makes it dry, coarse and brittle. Sometimes copper is put into the pool to prevent the growth of algae, and that further complicates matters.

Just remember to avoid prolonged exposure to natural or artificial sunlight, salt water or chlorinated water by wearing a hat, swimming cap or whatever possible means of protection.

These time tested measures should see you looking sun-sational all through the year. So folks, here's to another summer. ●

Take Off Those Trousers,

OVER the years we have found that most sports disciplines have altered their playing apparel in tune with the changes of tim and taste. Tennis for instance, used to be played in long trousers by the heroes of yesteryear . Even as late as in the Fifties, we find the awesome physique of Pancho Gonsalves swathed in a pair of loose-fitting trousers.

Ladies' fashion has undergone changes beyond one's wildest dreams. Those wide flowing skirts of ankle length—graceful though they were—have been relegated to the museums. Contemporary sports, demand that men and women dress in a manner that would help them in their movements and not impede speed. Consequently sports like tennis, badminton and table tennis to highlight a few, have opted for shorts for men and short skirts for women. Not that there is any compulsion but for all practical purposes, top sports people have found this attire to be comfortable and it also cuts down wind resistance.

The trend in the athletics world has gone a few steps further. The majority among both sexes is settling for skin-fitting tights. Surely, you will agree, a far cry from those days of 'Bermuda shorts' and midi-size skirts.

One very important consequence of the change in dress has been the immense stride made towards improvement in performances as the record books readily testify. I am not for a moment saying that the greats of the past would be no match for the modern masters. Far, far from it. However, logic cannot deny that replacement of the long skirts by minis has raised the speed and mobility of ladies at tennis. Similarly, in athletics the dowdy dresses of the past have made for skimpy tights and consequently towards improved timings Even in swimming, the short and already tight apparels have become shorter and tighter with the passage of time and, without any semblance of doubt, have led to better timings.

In the same vein, we may think aloud about the clothes that cricketers wear. Actually even in the conservative cricket world, the codes of dressing have undergone vast changes over the centuries.

The earliest days of cricket saw men in frock coats and tight skin-fitting trousers. Evolution brought billowing skirts, top hats and full-length trousers. Some wore long, knee-length shorts buttoned at the knee with long, white stockings. Then, by the late 19th century the loose-fitting flannels pervaded the scene and was universally popular till about the '70s, of this century.

Players of today go in for tight trousers, which resemble track-suit 'lowers' rather than the well tailored trousers in pleats of the 50s and 60s. Even shirts with long sleeves have made way for half-sleeved shirts and tee-shirts. Actually the dress of the modern cricketers is reminiscent of the tennis players of the 30s.

Changes, whatever be the nature, have never been without its opponents. In every period of time, people have criticised the changing nature of dress codes. But, in time, they had to bow down to the dictates of the majority. Time and taste finally has to have the upperhand and old world has to give way to the new.

Even today we have reservations about the tee-shirts and the seemingly track-suit 'lowers' that almost all the modern cricket stars exhibit. We feel that the aesthetic appeal of the game is being harmed, but there is no reason to feel threatened.

No reason to think that the bastion of cricket is being attacked. Actually cricket has such strong foundations that it can take the dictates of time in its stride as it has been doing over the centuries.

Crickets, as enunciated by the laws, has no dress compulsions. But conventional custom makes certain demands. It is in this area where

By RAJU MUKHERJI



we may raise the issue of introducing shorts in addition to the accepted trouser.

We should of course allow players to use their discretion as regard their apparel. Just as soccer players wear either shorts or tight 'lowers' depending upon the temperature. Why not allow cricketers to choose shorts instead of trousers if they feel the need for it?

For all one knows, as in tennis, the advent of the shorts may lead to a further improvement in the pace of the game. Frankly, I have no doubt that the introduction of shorts would lead to greater mobility and consequently would appeal to the fielders all the more. And, moreover, those who swear by the aesthetic appeal of cricket should be pursuaded to think again: if the tee-shirts do not offened the eyes any longer, why would shorts?

Coming to think of it, even in cricket we have already seen the advent of shorter and tighter dresses among the ladies. The huge, billowing skirts made way for midis and now we have the micro-minis for greater speed and mobility.

Makes you Wonder why the men are not following the ladies. Is it just another form of male cricket chauvinism? ●

Gentlemen!

SPORTING TRIVIA

PYJAMA GOLF

AUSTRALIANS it looks like, love playing their games at night. They are famous for giving the orthodox followers of sport, one heart burn after another. One Kerry Packer came up with the idea of playing cricket at night, and oh, what a sensation he created. Now the latest in the Australian night scene is, hold your breath, golf.

The world's first night golf course opened up in the 167-year-old Glenmore Country Club, in the west of Sydney, on the 12th of March. Thanks to Steve Defina and Warwick Askew. Defina, a former manager of a rock and roll band and Askew, a lighting engineer, decided to do something when they couldn't play golf (their favourite game) on a pleasant night, under the star lit heavens.

They designed a golf ball, that was injected with a chemical that glowed in the dark. The course made by them is filled with light from ultra-violet lamps. The tees, greens, flags and caps are all specially illuminated. The golfers put special reflective adhesive tape on the clubs, irons and shoes. Add to that an overall lighting system of 400 watts, and you have virtually a kaleidoscope of colours.

The entrepreneurs are sure that the idea will catch up in the world soon. A number of local players who teed off into the night were pretty impressed. Said one of them, "You definitely need a torch, but I loved it and so did my mates. We'll be back often."

First we had pyjama cricket, and now we have pyjama golf. What's coming up next?



TRUST ON TED

THE England committee, chaired by Ted Dexter, was reappointed for a further 12 months at the spring meeting of the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB). In spite of some criticism, following defeat in Australia, only one undisclosed first-class county voted to return to the previous system of selection.

"There was healthy discussion, but no sense of hostility towards Dexter and Mickey Stewart," Alan Smith, chief executive of the TCCB said. "Everyone accepted that England did not perform as well as expected, but it will be surprising if Graham Gooch is not reappointed England captain this summer."

Other topics which were discussed were the aspect of England's tour, injured players, poor standard of fielding, problems with the itinerary, press relations and the possible use of colour clothing in the Refuge Assurance Sunday

PATRICK EAGAR



Ted Dexter, has been reappointed for a further 12 months

League in 1992.

However, one topic which was not raised for discussion was the indiscipline of the English players.

BRAZIL RULED OUT

SUB STANDARD facilities will prevent Brazil from hosting the 1998 World Cup Soccer finals, according to Joao Havelange, president of FIFA.

Havelange said, "FIFA is only prepared to invest in countries with strong currencies and adequate infrastructure. Brazil will be ruled out



Joao Havelange has ruled out Brazil as a possible country to host the 1998 World Cup soccer

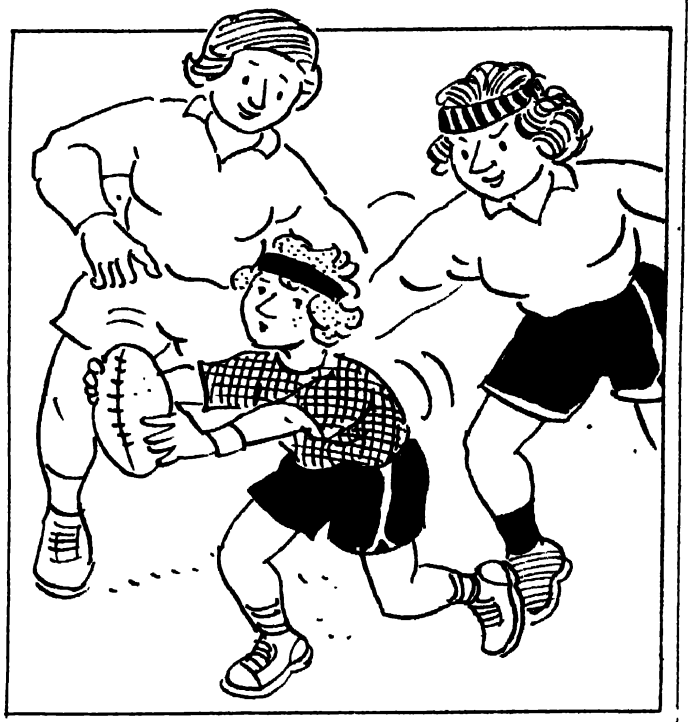
on both counts plus the possible problem of filling the stadia for unattractive fixtures."

Eight other countries--England, Chile, France, India, Morocco, Nigeria, Portugal and Switzerland—have expressed their interest in hosting the 1998 tournament.

HOOKER'S DILEMMA

THE 'hooker' in rugby is generally the smallest member of the team. Apparently the person who is to play this role in the Russian team, which is to participate in the 12 nation Women's Rugby World Cup, is a former ballet dancer!

One wonders how she will face up to the pressures from 'the locks from hell'. The people being referred to here are Tara Flanagan and Tam Breckenridge, the 'hookers' for the United States rugby team. Apart from rugby, these two also play basketball for UCLA. Both are more than six foot tall and both are body-builders. Oh, and they work out at the same gym as Arnold Schwarzenegger!



HOSTAGE REQUEST

THE National Hunt Festival at Cheltenham is the highlight of the English horse racing calendar. This year, there was a very special person at this grand event. He was John Joyce, a former member of Saddam Hussein's human shield. Joyce was detained in Bagdad after the invasion of Kuwait and feared he would miss the highlight of the racing year.

Last December, as the world inched towards war; he managed to smuggle a letter out of Iraq which was addressed to the Course Manager. "I would like to ask a favour," Joyce wrote. "I'm a keen racing man and due to my predicament, as a hostage, I do not know if I will be out in time to get my club badges for the festival."

Joyce in his letter requested the course manager to get in touch with his wife and make the necessary arrangements. The manager did that and personally welcomed Joyce to the course. ●





Andre Carson of the United States raises his arms in victory after his splendid run in the 60m while Ben Johnson, standing behind, finished a dismal fourth

WORLD INDOOR ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

THE OLD ORDER CRUMBLES

A new wave of stars have emerged in this championships showing little respect to the reign of established stars like Said Aouita and Linford Christie and Merlene Ottey

A NEW wave of young talent, hungry for success and eager to take on the old guard, emerged to shake up the established hierarchy of the track at the World Indoor Athletics Championships.

American Andre Casson and Irina Sergeyeva of the Soviet Union, both only 22, set the pattern by winning the men's and women's 60 metres finals on the opening day of the three-day meeting on Friday.

Their shock victories over entrenched favourites Linford Christie of Britain and Jamaican Merlene Ottey, both 30, sounded a warning that the old order may be changing.

With the World Outdoor Championships in Tokyo less than six months away and the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona drawing

nearer, some track veterans may be forced to scale down their ambitions.

Christie received a second jolt in the 200 metres when he came off second best to yet another 22-year-old, the powerfully built Bulgarian Nikolai Antonov

But generally the new generation showed scant respect for their elders on the track.

Algerian Nourredine Morceli, only 21, but already inviting comparisons with the great Moroccan middle-distance runner Said Aouita, simply destroyed the opposition in the men's 1,500 metre when he tore the field apart with his merciless turn of pace.

Frenchwoman Marie-Pirre Duros, 23 and without any major credits to her name previously, boldly took the women's 3,000 metres from the front and beat a host of more experienced runners.

Ludmilla Rogachova of the Soviet Union capped a bad meeting for the old guard by winning the women's 1,500 metres where defending champion Doina Melinte of Romania finished out of the medals.

Kenyan Paul Ereng, who came from nowhere to win gold in the men's 800 metres at the Seoul Olympics, was among the few to retain his indoor title though he won only after the disqualification of compatriot William Tanui for breaking lanes too early.

At only 23, Ereng is in the vanguard of the young generation anyway.



Switzerland's Werner Guenthoer won the shot put event with a throw of 21.17m

Not that the established stars were incapable of fighting back. Ottey showed that when she exacted revenge on Sergeyeva in the 200 metres final, equalling the 22.24 seconds world record she set seven days earlier.

The best performance by a veteran came from 32-year-old American Greg Foster, crowning a comeback after breaking an arm twice, by winning the men's 60 metres hurdles.

In the field events, the old order looked much more solid with Soviet pole vaulter Sergei Bubka clearing six metres once again to win gold.

There were five outright world indoor records at the meeting with reunited Germany claiming brilliant wins in the men's and



Sergei Bubka: once again a winner in the pole vault

women's 4×400 metres relays, thanks to magnificent anchor legs from Thomas Schoenlebe and Grit Breuer.

Mikhail Schennikov of the Soviet Union recaptured the world record in the men's 5,000 metres walk and German Beate Anders beat her own best time in the women's 3,000 metres walk.

Inessa Kravets of the Soviet Union also broke the record in the women's triple jump, an invitation event.

China pulled off a notable coup by producing their first gold medallist at either a world championship or Olympic athletics event when shot putter Sui Xinmei heaved her way to victory.

But some things never change and even an united German team was unable to put the Soviet squad in the shade.

The Germans claimed six golds but the Soviets stayed on top of the medals table with 17 places in the victory rostrum, including seven golds ●

PHOTOGRAPHS AP/PTI



Ben Johnson with former coach Loren Seagrave (left) during more optimistic times



The Letdown Of The Decade

Ben Johnson comes a cropper in the indoor championships

AFTER the humiliating defeat of sprinter Ben Johnson at the World Indoor Athletics Championships, the comeback of the year could become the letdown of the decade.

The Canadian crept out of the championships without a win in three races and without a medal in the 60 metres, an event he considered his own when propelled by years of steroid taking.

Before the Seville meeting, Johnson had boldly announced that the 60 metres final was one of three events he planned to win before retiring in 18 months, the others being the 100 metres at the Tokyo World Outdoor Championships in August and the Olympics in Barcelona next year.

His two-year compulsory lay—off for his positive dope test at the Seoul Olympics in 1988 has clearly left him with a lot of ground to make up.

"My speed is 100 per cent but my start is only 80 to 90 per cent. That's what I'm working on," he said.

'My speed is 100 per cent but my start is only 80 to 90 per cent'-Ben Johnson

Johnson's performances in Seville suggested these figures are both wrong. In a field minus Leroy Burrell of the United States, the world's top sprinter, Johnson could not get the better of young American Andre Cason, Britain's Linford Christie or Chidi Imoh of Nigeria.

If he could not beat these men over 60 metres, how could he expect to match Burrell or his old arch-rival Carl Lewis over 100 metres was the question on everyone's lips.

Johnson's domination of men's sprinting was based on a rocket-like thrust out of the starting blocks. To achieve it he needed extraordinary strength and muscle power, acquired by years of massive steroid consumption.

"I'm working hard on my starts, that's what I need right now," Johnson said, though he still appears almost naively convinced that with luck he can be the 'Big Ben' of old.

His form on his Seville comeback where he failed to break 6.60 seconds was barely competitive for a man who, with help from drugs, ran the 10 fastest times ever over the distance, all of 6.50 or under with a best of 6.41.

Such performances reduce the glitter of a rematch with Lewis and make it largely irrelevant. Neither can claim to be the force he was [illegible]88.

A showdown between Lewis and Joh[illegible]ith the winner pocketing in the region of [illegible]lion dollars, has been planned for later thi[illegible]r.

The sprint duel of this year will have t[illegible]ature Burrell. His most outstanding rival may t[illegible]n out to be 22-year-old Cason. ●



COLORSPORT

FITNESS

Pedal Power

HERE's some tips on how to get the best out of your exercycle. If you were one of those who got caught up in the rush to fit one of them into your home, you might as well get the most out of it.

Let's look at the plus points first. It's basically quite hassle free. No bumpy, pot-holed road to contend with. No weather restrictions—hey, it doesn't get searingly hot or rain in your flat, does it? And best of all, no pure, unadulterated carbon monoxide to fill your lungs.

And on the minus side: boredom. Just sitting on the bike and staring at your bedroom wall can bore you to death. So much so that the enthusiasm with which you mounted the machine soon dulls. And before you know it, you're letting the spiders weave patterns on the exercycle.

These machines are really good for you. They strengthen the legs. Tighten the buttocks. Tone the thighs. Strengthen lower back muscles. Improve cardiovascular fitness. And, best of all, lose weight in the process.

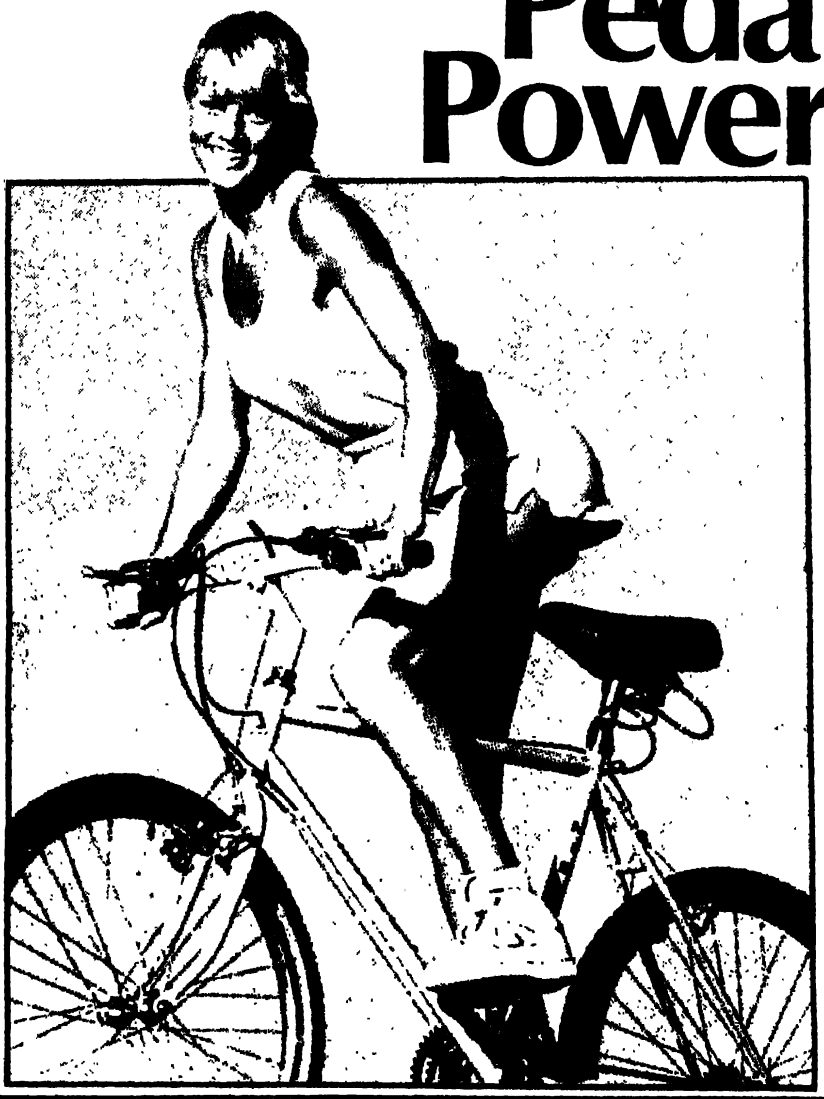
For all those of you fitness enthusiasts who wince in pain every time you jar a knee while jogging or playing some high-impact sport, this is heaven-sent. The smooth flow of the legs over the pedals prevents the knees from being hit by sudden impacts. The net result being a relatively low impact workout which pampers the knees.

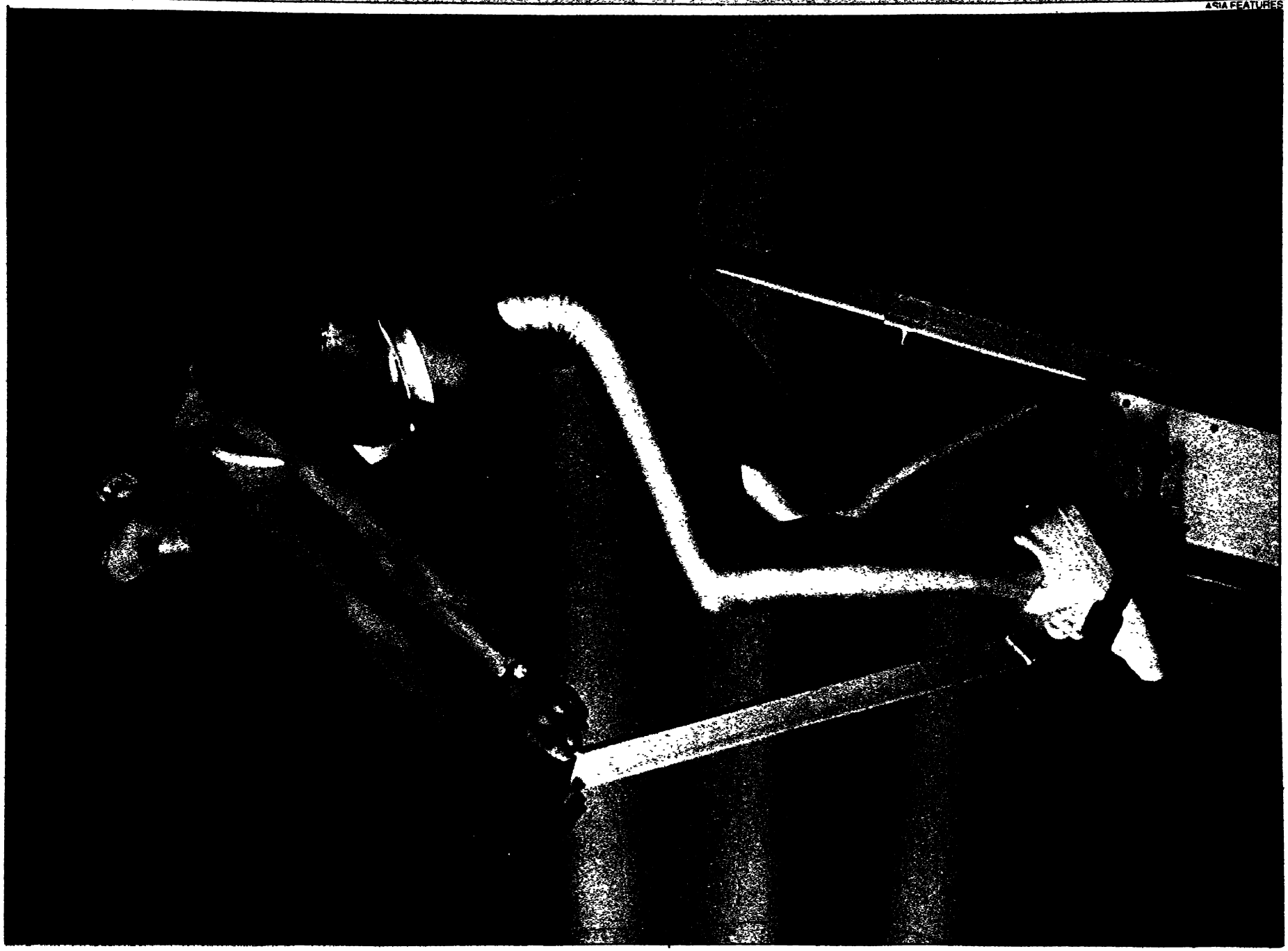
As for the boredom bit, don't get too put off. Any form of exercise—apart from competitive sport—will tend to become a bit repetitive after a while. It's up to you to inject it with a measure of variation and excitement. Play around with the settings. Make it real tough, and clench your teeth as you struggle to get the pedals over. Then, switch it to the lightest setting, and feel your heart race in tune with the pedals.

You could even position a television set in front of the exercycle. Watch a movie, or just some good sporting action. That'll take your mind off the monotonous pedalling your feet are doing. Or try music. Either turn up the volume on the stereo or use your walkman if you don't want to disturb the rest of the house.

And, if you're still not satisfied, use your best weapon. Your imagination. Close your eyes and imagine you're racing down a sweeping, country road. The wind tugging at your hair while you bank into a right-hander only to haul the bike around to the other side for a sharp left.

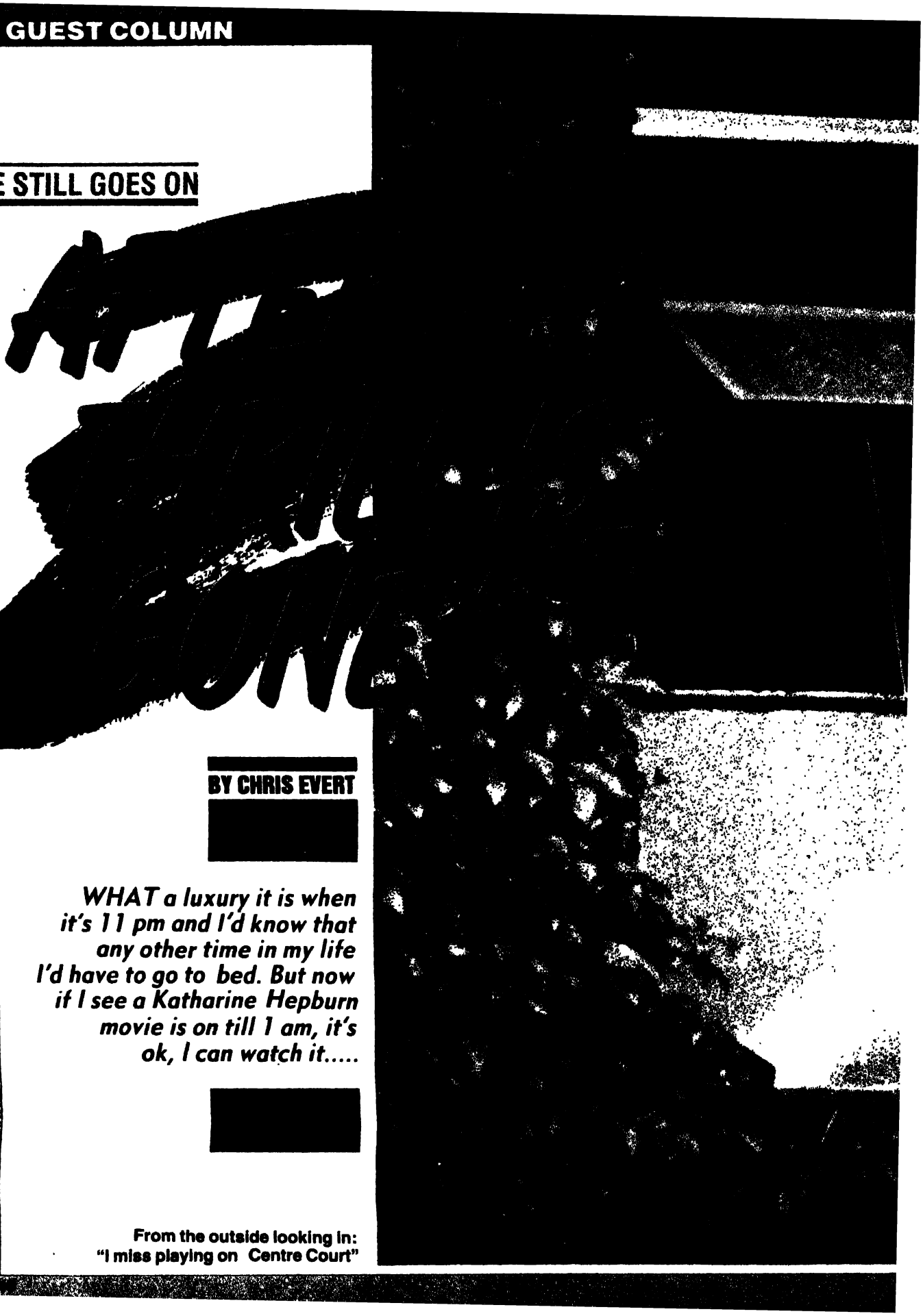
Whatever you do, just remember that you're one of the lucky few to have access to a machine like this. So make the most of it.





GUEST COLUMN

IFE STILL GOES ON



BY CHRIS EVERT

WHAT a luxury it is when it's 11 pm and I'd know that any other time in my life I'd have to go to bed. But now if I see a Katharine Hepburn movie is on till 1 am, it's ok, I can watch it.....

From the outside looking in:
"I miss playing on Centre Court"



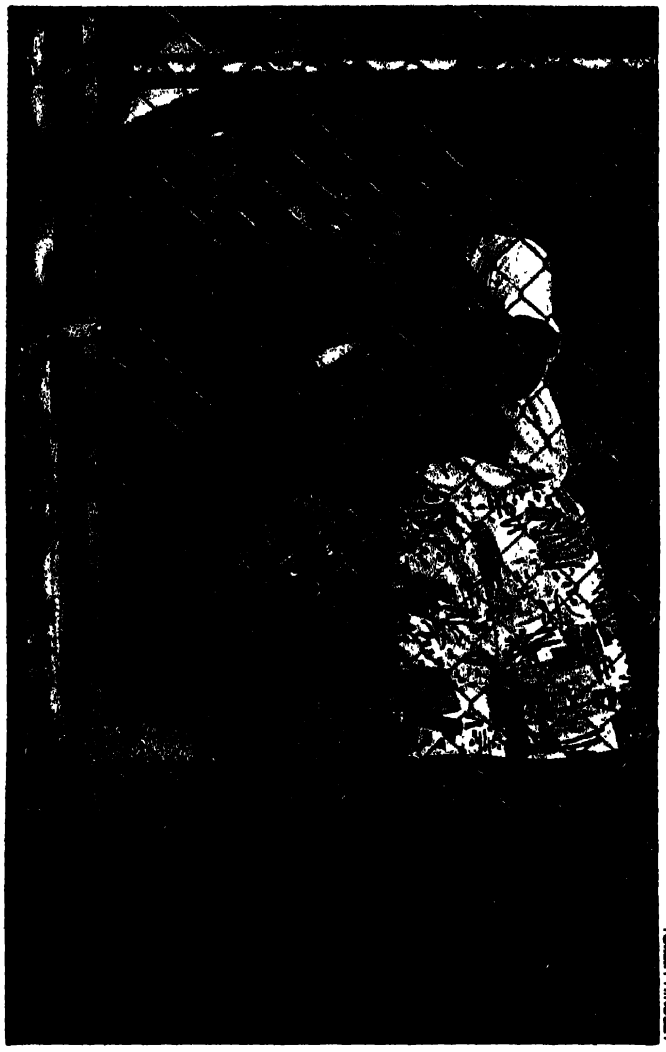
With former boyfriend Jimmy Connors. Both are now TV commentators



Sometimes I wake up in the morning with knots in my stomach and I realize I don't have to prove anything anymore. I'm not winning and I'm not losing—I have to tell myself that. What a luxury it is when it's 11 P.M. and I know that at any other time in my life I'd have to go to bed. But now, if I see an old Katharine Hepburn movie is on till 1 A.M., it's OK, I can watch it; I can get up at 9 A.M. as opposed to 7 A.M. Or if I want to eat a little piece of cake or something, it's allright. I have the freedom to do whatever I want, and I'm beginning to like it.

Yes, I've been very comfortable with my retirement, but maybe that's because I've kept so busy. After the 1989 U.S. Open I couldn't afford to have a letdown because I had to play Federation Cup in October. Then I hosted "Saturday Night Live," played exhibitions with Martina Navratilova in November and had the whole family out to Aspen, Colorado, for Christmas. Something was always happening, so I didn't have time to get depressed or start reminiscing.

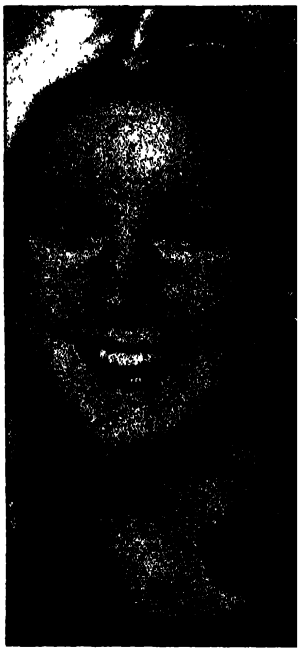
What a change! All of 1989 was a struggle because I wasn't enjoying tennis; I would have liked to stop at Wimbledon, but the U.S. Open was my first big tournament (I was 16) and I felt I should end my career there. My tank was on empty. It was the right time for me. I could have squeezed out another year but I might have finished up at No. 6 or 7 and I



TOMMY HINDLEY

With husband Andy Mills: They are expecting their first baby in October





[redacted]

I was never one who liked to ask people for favours. If Martina has a tough match and NBC wants an interview, I feel awkward because she's my friend and my loyalties are to both my job and my friendship. I think the older players understand my position.

[redacted]

wouldn't have liked that.

When I was 16 I was No. 4 in the world. Then I slowly went up—3, 2, 1—and stayed on top for a bit and then went back—2, 3, 4. Last year was the first year I realized that I didn't have a shot at being No. 1. I played a whole year knowing that Steffi Graf was just too tough and that Monica Seles and others could only get better. At 34, it was tough enough just to stay in the top four and maintain that level day in and day out.

At the beginning of 1990 I was travelling with my husband Andy Mill in Europe while he did his shows for World Cup Skiing. And then, before I knew it, it was time for me to do the French Open and Wimbledon on TV and then the Open. I've been real active, but I've managed to spend more time in my homes, which was one of my goals. I didn't want to be on the road the whole time.

When its time for the major tournaments I still get pangs, which is normal. If I'm doing exhibitions and playing well, I also get pangs. I think a lot about the stress I had at 30, 32, 34, when I started to feel a little more strain because it's like I was going against the natural rhythm of my life and body, something I didn't feel when I was 15. I'm still shaking off the residual stress I accumulated the last few years. And I'm still trying to relax; I was so intense for so long.





Chrissie down the years 1971, 1976, 1984, 1989

My NBC commentating, keeps me very busy. It's great, though I must admit I find it difficult at times to talk about the rallies I'm watching. First of all, as a player, I trusted my instincts; I didn't have to rationalize what I was going to do on each point. What makes it even tougher is that some players think three shots ahead, and in order to talk about strategy and working a point, I have to put a lot more thought into it.

The same goes for doing interviews, which has always been difficult for me. I was never one who liked asking people for favours. If Martina has a tough match and NBC wants an interview, I feel awkward because she's my friend and my loyalties are to both my job *and* my friendship. I think the older players understand my position. Some of the younger ones have more difficulty.

I didn't have problems working in Paris last year because physically and mentally, I had put the French Open behind me. Watching Steffi and Monica, I was really glad I wasn't out there. But once I got to Wimbledon, I found I missed playing on Centre Court. I was very nostalgic at the final, especially when I saw how the draw opened up after Steffi lost to Zina Garrison. The pangs were short lived, though, once I started thinking rationally again.

I think I've learned a couple of things now, like how you treat people on the way up comes back to you when you retire. I've also learnt that everybody has to retire sooner or later—it's not a crime and it's not the end of the world.

Being president of the WTA is another time-consuming activity; we have four board meetings a year and I'm a voting member, so I have to know everything that's going on. It keeps me involved with tennis. And remember, I played about 12 exhibitions in 1990. In the fall, Martina and I went to Japan for a bit. (I'm now playing with the Wilson Profile racket. I hated it in the beginning but I like it now.) And as if that's not enough, I've got 10 contracts and have to make public appearances for each.

Yes, it's been busy, but I think the first year after any top player retires is going to be busy. Two or three years down the road I'll have maybe one-half or one-quarter of the workload. That realization has made my transition into retirement easier.

I think I've learned a couple of things now, like how you treat people on the way up comes back to you when you retire. I see how selfish and isolated an athlete must be to excel. When everything is wonderful and you're winning matches and on top of the world, you've still got to treat people well. I've also learned that everybody has to retire sooner or later—it's not a crime and it's not the end of the world.

I think it's too soon for people to treat me differently; I'm sure that will change two or three years from now. Believe it or not, though, some people still think I'm playing on the tour. When I went to New York last August, the bellman at the hotel wished me luck at the Open. ●

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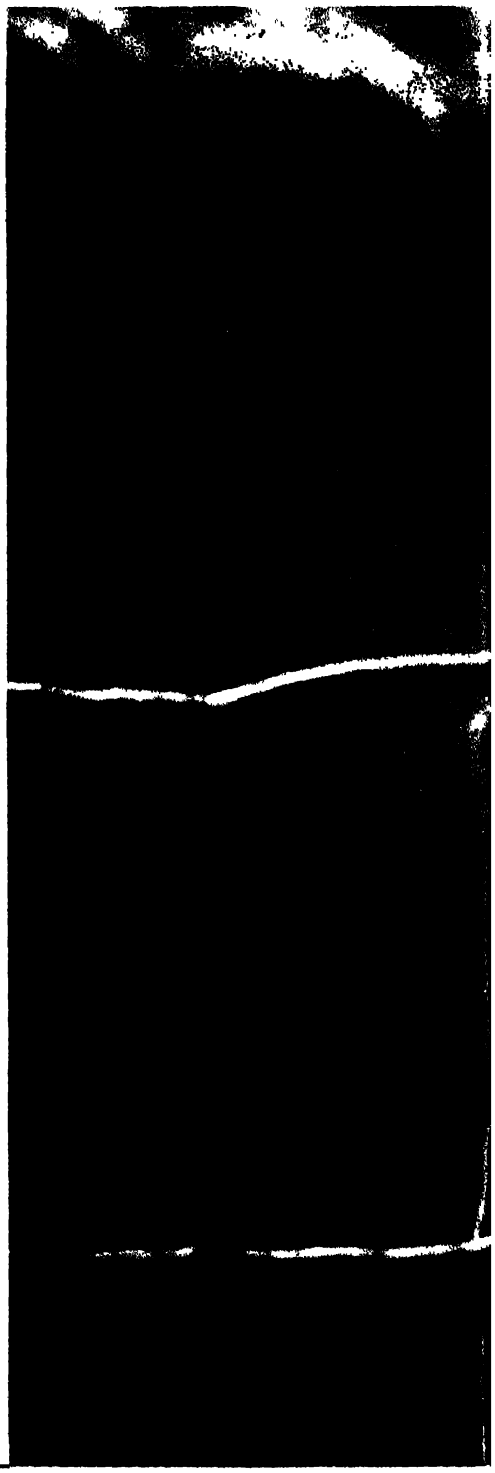
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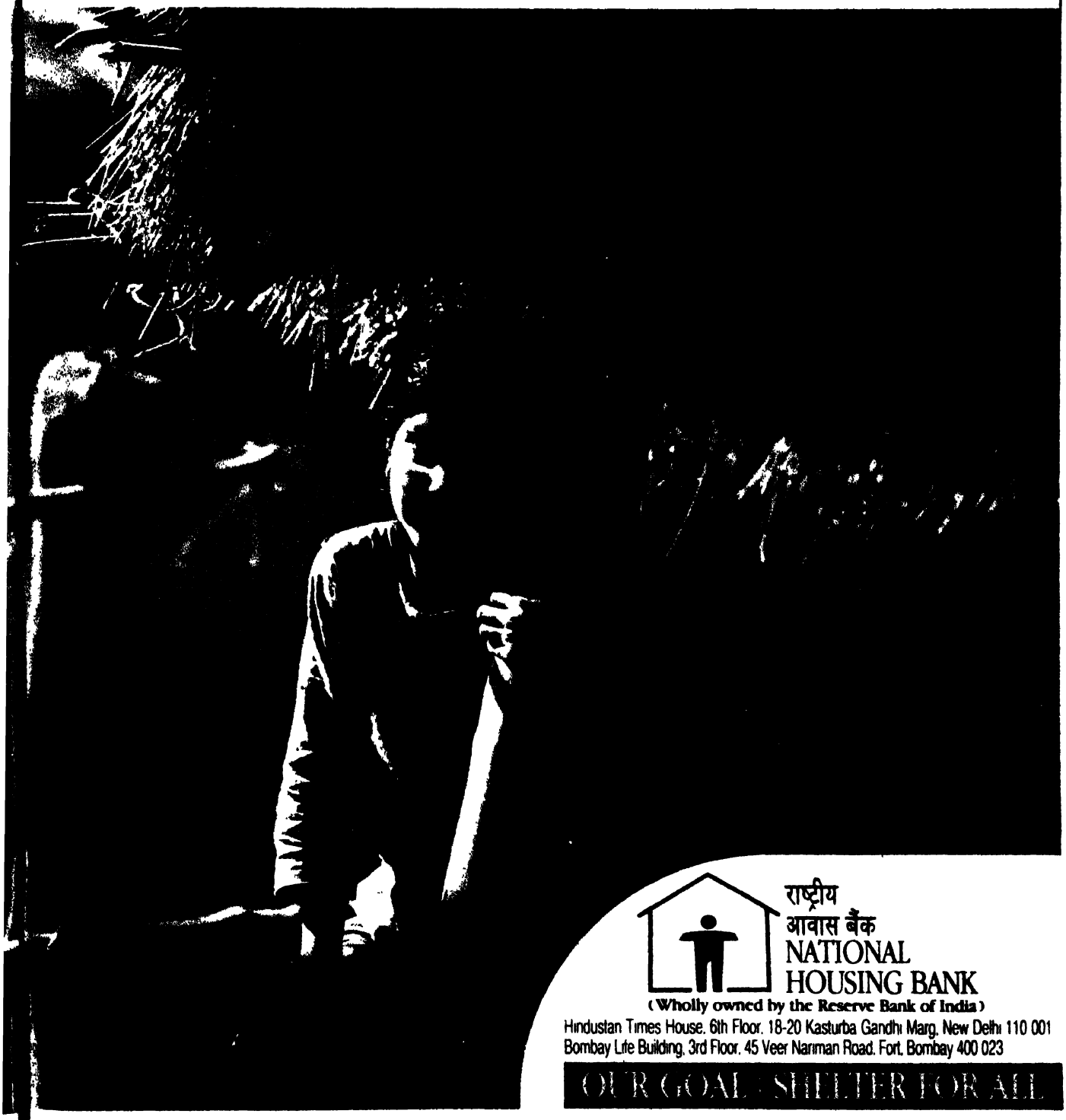
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OUR GOAL : SHELTER FOR ALL

SPOTLIGHT

ZEESHAN ALI

Great Expectations?



Once India's great hope, Zeeshan Ali is not running out of time, but answers

In Calcutta, a young man walks the tightrope between winners and losers, searching hard for that balance of talent, the nerve, the strength, to take him across

THROUGH time, through change, sport has retained one significant characteristic: it is cruel.

It is not a business of forgiveness and compassion. It does not appreciate pain and despair. It embraces winners with a smile, a million dollar contract and a promise for fame. It shuns losers with a cold, distanced stare and a silence. It is often not about people, but numbers—in tennis, rankings and money. If it gives too freely, it takes away too abruptly. And there is only one password into the realm of success —talent. Talent is both innate and acquired and does not merely encompass playing skills. Indeed, it is an amalgam of motivation, fitness, athleticism, racket skills, desire, aggression and fearlessness. Very rarely is a player successful without these requirements.

And so, in Calcutta, a young man walks this tightrope between winners and losers, searching hard for that balance of talent, the nerve, the strength, to take him across. Zeeshan Ali, once No. 126 in the world and now No. 550 may not be running out of time, but answers.

Only 21, it is too early, too premature, to hastily consign Zeeshan into the past. "I don't think it's too late", he asserts, "I'm not going to be a journeyman. I mean I see guys at 32 losing in the first round of a satellite tournament and that's no life".

Yet, at 21, each successive year makes it increasingly difficult for Zeeshan to start afresh and carve out some reputation for himself on the international circuit.

"I'm disappointed in myself", he says with disarming honesty, "in the sense that I have not achieved the goals I set"

ZEESHAN IS IN DANGER OF BECOMING THE 'ALMOST THERE' MAN, ON THE FRINGE OF BREAKING THROUGH, UNSURE OF WHAT HE IS LACKING, TO DO IT

Why?

He thinks ruefully, trying to match words to his thoughts and says, "I guess it comes down to confidence".

It is not difficult to find a compassion for him, for the last 12 months have been a waking nightmare. His ranking plumetted, his back ("my first major injury") gave way necessitating months of inactivity; his main contract with sponsor Mcleod Russel is expiring (he deserves another); and with the emergence of Leander Paes (it is good for me) his status as India's rising hope has begun to gather rust.

"It bothered me mentally", he explained about the injury, "because I was thinking 'what the hell, I've practiced so hard'. But then I thought of guys like Pat Cash, who've had so many injuries, and said, okay things arent that bad. Okay, I'm nothing compared to him but still..."

Yet, beyond the injury, India's four-time national champion, and strokemaker of impressive fluidity, knows that his on-court performances have been rarely heartening. He says he looks at the Top 100 ranking list and sees names that he has beaten, yet he knows not why he is not there himself. He is in danger of becoming the 'almost there' man, on the fringe of breaking through, yet confused, unsure of what he is lacking, to do it.

Although he had a wonderful win over Slobodan Zivojinovic on grass at Beckenham, Zeeshan's 1990 is best reflected by his experiences in the Grand Prix qualifying rounds. In six such tournaments, he lost in the final qualifying round of five. Significantly, usually in the third set tie-break. And this to players such as Todd Woodbridge and Nicholas Periera, no mean talents.

Zeeshan, the 1991 model, subdued, unsure



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA



Zeeshan, the 1987 model, exuberant, exhultant

Yet, if there is a solace in having got so close, there is the niggling question of why he did not get through. There is no such thing as losing with honour—losing can never be qualified.

"Perhaps I had lost the aggression", admits Zeeshan, "because a year back I would have never lost a tie-breaker. Then after losing third set tie-breakers in a few Grands Prix, when the situation arose again, I would think maybe I'm going to lose it again. Maybe I lacked the confidence to pull it through".

One answer is, of course, not to get into such a situation in the first place. The second is, if you do, you need the edge, that winning attitude, to get you through. Zeeshan has often been accused of lacking this, and again despite his candidness, his confusion is evident.

"I've always been mentally tough. But maybe I didn't have that extra thing at 6-6 in the third set. But maybe it was tactics. Yes, I think it was tactics, you know playing the wrong shot at the wrong time".

Maybe you're timid?

"No, I'm not timid, no way".

In his strokeplay too, Zeeshan has become inhibited and it was fellow player S. Vâsudevan who mentioned, "He had so many shots when he was young, now he doesn't use them".

Zeeshan agrees: "Vasu is right. In India I was winning by just pushing the ball, taking no chances, so I thought I could do it all the time and get away with it. Recently I saw video tapes of my earlier matches and then of my recent matches and there is a difference ...I'm not doing enough with the ball".

IF HE IS TO BE UP THERE IN THE TOP 100 LIST WHERE HE THINKS HE BELONGS, HE MUST FIND WITHIN HIM A NEW RAGE. TO WIN

Having identified some areas of weakness, Zeeshan asserts that he has made a renewed committment to himself and his game. "I can't let the past stop me... it's over. I'm thinking differently now, to the future. I've made up my mind, I've given myself a period to achieve certain goals (both of which he will not specify). And when I set a goal I always go through with it".

What then is he going to do?

"I'm going to work very hard, I'm going to kill myself in practice (earlier he mentioned that 'perhaps I took things things easy when I was No. 126.') I'm going to give it 100% and if I do that and I know my game is good enough how will he (his opponent) beat me?"

If these are committments that Zeeshan has made before, it does not matter, for in the end he is answerable only to himself. His, is the face in the mirror every morning

Yet, despite his impressive intentions, there is the fear that Zeeshan has missed something when he adds, "I'm not going to think I should not lose. If I lose I will go back and try harder".

Of course he will lose some, but perhaps what Zeeshan requires is the belief that he should not. That he can't.

However much he expands his stroke repertoire, however diligently he practices, there will be others who do the same. Often, the man who wins is the one with the greater desire.

Zeeshan Ali has the elegance, the shots, the courtcraft, but if he is to be up there in that Top 100 list where he thinks he belongs, he must find within him a new rage. To win. It is a question to which only he can provide an answer.

Rohit Brijnath



Swing the left leg behind you and turn 270°, performing a mawashi-uki as you go into a left kokutsu-dachi (inset)



Step forward into zenkutsu-dachi and deliver a four-finger strike with the right hand



KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND

CONTINUING with the kata, move into *zenkutsu-dachi* and deliver a lower *you-nukite* (four-finger strike) with the right hand, the left hand supporting it from underneath. Now swing the left leg out behind you and turn 270° so that you're facing right again. As you complete the turn, go into left *kokutsu-dachi* and perform a *mawashi-uki* with the left hand. Follow this by moving your right leg forward and facing 45° to your right and your right hand performs a *mawashi-uki*.

By Shivaji Ganguly

Kyokushinkaikan karate

PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA





Step forward to a 45° angle on your right and perform a right mawashi-uki

SANTOSH TROPHY FOOTBALL

MAHARASHTRA'S TRIUMPH

MOMENT OF TRUTH

THERE'S an old saying: —among the blind, an one-eyed is king. Quite an apt description of the way the Santosh Trophy is behaving these days. In a sea of mediocrity, the slightly better equipped Maharashtra team became the 'champions of the country'. And mediocrity was no better exposed as in the team that finished runners-up. It was as if the referee had said 'Let Kerala be in the final' and Kerala were. That was the amount of honesty the gentlemen in black had shown. Not that Kerala are the greenhorns in the football scenario, but the national runners-up tag should have been attached to a team that deserved

Md Quadeer foils a Swapan Pal attempt in the semis. Bengal lost to Maharashtra







The jubilant Maharashtra team with the Santosh Trophy

it. Kerala reached the final, but they hardly deserved it. Bengal, the 'giants' of Indian football, suffered constipated progress and somehow managed to make the semi-final grade where they were dispatched by Maharashtra. Overall, the last of the great under-23 national meet experiments, can be best forgotten. Indian football has not benfited by it. If any, the fate of the sport has only gone worse.

Landlocked Palakkad is Kerala's hottest zone and therefore the Nationals should not have been held there at all. And if the All India Football Federation cared two brass farthings as to the well-being of its players, it rightly deserved the mediocre fare that was dished out in Palakkad (formerly Palghat). The authorities did not bother to provide the players with any respite. The championship was scheduled at a place where the voltage in the evenings was so low, one couldn't even switch on neon lamps, forget the high power halogen lamps that would have had been required for night matches.

And, add to that the chaos that was created with the federation restricting the meet to players under 23. The hosts complained against almost all the teams in the fray. The others complained against each other. And this is what one had to say: "If everything were proved and everybody suspended, there would be no need of the tournament. The winners of the trophy would be decided off the field. Who needs the crowd, who needs all the setup? And who needs the football?"

The final was a strange affair. Kerala, with their outdated mode of attack, which was attractive to the eye, though, hoped to take on a team that wanted to fight the second half on the energy of the hosts' first half enterprise. The Kerala boys ran and ran. The Maharashtra boys simply cut

The Unholy Alliance

M. G. SUVARNA, the referee from Maharashtra, has become famous for his giving a clean chit to a Mohun Bagan-Mohammedan Sporting Airlines Gold Cup match in Calcutta (to oust PSCB) when all concerned, including the players and certain officials of the two clubs had conceded that they had "fixed" the match for their benefit. The Indian Football Association decided not to allow Suvarna to officiate any match in Calcutta.

But what made the organisers select Suvarna for this crucial match? The official reason is that he was the only Fifa badge-holding referee in the meet. There are two strange things about this. First, how can the national championship be held with only one Fifa-badge referee on the panel? And secondly, how can a referee, who can almost never keep within the requisite 15-20 yards of the ball, manage to keep the Fifa badge and pass the compulsory Cooper Test prior to the meet? If one considers the way Suvarna went about his work on the field—panting his way up to the spot of action to find that the ball had by then already shifted to the other side of the ground—it was surprising that the organisers even allowed him anywhere near the field.

The unofficial (and never spoken of) reason, was however, soon very clear. The Bengal players had been playing well and in the eighth minute a Samar Mazumder free-kick from near the edge of the box went high to near the dead-ball line to the left. Kuljit controlled well to put life back into the ball at the goalmouth and Ranjit Saha finished the job with elan. Kerala struck back, as expected, and tackles were getting tougher, not exactly rougher. But Kuljit failed to control himself and got himself booked on flimsy grounds. The Suvarna era had started. Off one of the several attacks that Kerala mounted after the goal, a P.S. Asheem initiative moved into the Bengal box. Samar, Sujit Dutta and Rehmatulah Khan duly tackled the attacker, all above board affairs. Not only was the tackle from the front, the ball (and not the leg) was aimed at, and Asheem even managed to clear the hurdle before tripping on a diving goalkeeper Sudipto Chakraborty and falling.

Mr Suvarna, as usual, was way back, laboriously making his way up to the frontline. He arrived at the scene, and it took him several seconds to take in the scene. He pointed to the spot. Had it been a clear case of a foul in the box, Mr Suvarna should not have hesitated a





Mohd. SC's Vijaykumar (right) and Bagan's Sishir Ghosh shake hands before the imfamous Airlines tie which was superivised by Suvarna

second to order a penalty shot. And when he was nowhere near the scene of action it is difficult assuming that he clearly saw what transpired.

I.M. Vijayan converted the penalty. Kerala put through two more to make the issue safe. But before that, Kuljit again lost his temper and let out a string of abuses. The red card was only waiting for him. Bengal were down to ten men before the second half had started.

When this correspondent asked Suvarna after the match as to what made him order the penalty, the referee,in police escort, said: "There was a tripping in the box." "Who tripped who?" I don't know." You would at least know the chest numbers of the players involved? "I don't know who." That makes one feel Suvarna had actually assumed that there had been an intentional tripping in the box.

The Goans, in the other group, went from strength to strength, finishing second with six points from four matches, only because they wanted to.

Sujit Bhar

them down in their defence zone Sometimes, the attention wavered, and Maharashtra too mounted offensives. Shanta Kumar struck early in the second half and that was that. The winners of the trophy had been decided How much football was played will never be asked.

Ten teams, divided into two groups, went to war. Group A comprised Goa, Maharashtra, Assam, Punjab and Karnataka. Group B had Kerala, Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh In the first match, expectedly, MP accounted for UP 3-0. But the team Punjab fielded in the next match versus Karnataka, surprised all. The under-23 pre-requisite had left at home all the stars. And Kuljit Singh was playing for Bengal, and Inder Singh's son Harjinder was yet to grow up. Karnataka beat them 3-1 and Punjab were from then, destined to be among the also rans. That is what happens when a national championship is straitjacketed.

Technical director Josef Gelel patiently hears Goa coach Peter Vales while Mario Soares and Bruno Coutinho look on

Then Bengal came into the scene In their first match, versus a lowly UP, a goalless draw ensued. It was a shame for a state which has emerged triumphant on more occasions in the national meet (23 times) than all the other states of the country put together.

Karnataka chalked out their second win in as many matches the day after when they accounted for Assam 1-0. Assam coach Md Latif said: "The state is in disorder. It is difficult to get good players to come and play. With trouble everywhere, no incentive seems to be big enough. I have to make do with whatever I get."

In Madhya Pradesh, there is a fine mixture of players who have, at one time or other, played in first or second, or even third division clubs in Calcutta. Limited success at those clubs have forced them out of the state, and lo! They not only manage a place in the MP state team, but also give off performances that put the Bengal stars in disarray. Waking up from their drowsy start, Bengal somehow managed a one-goal win over MP.

Assam got the better of Punjab 2-1 before the ultimate champions, Maharashtra, came onto the scene and managed a low-key 1-1 draw with Karnataka. Then came reigning champions Goa. Assam were despatched with a 4-0 defeat, their star striker Bruno Coutinho scoring a hattrick, the first and only of the meet.

It was MP again, who came up against Kerala in the hosts' first match. And the hosts were held



Kerala's second goal against Goa in the semifinal

goalless The tournament had started to show the mediocrity that had assembled. The crowds did not like what they saw in their local heroes They decided to stay out. The organisers were in a fix Then Bengal beat Andhra Pradesh 1-0 and Kerala beat UP 4-0 to bring back some of the spectators who had left

Then, slowly started those off-turf calculations which more often than not decide how the ball should move on the turf Kerala were meeting Bengal to decide the crucial issue of who could go into the semi-finals from group B. "This will be the final," said one member of the organising committee. And the hosts were prepared for it. They selected M. G. Suvarna of Maharashtra as referee for the Kerala-Bengal match. And obviously Bengal lost and Kerala finished on top of their group (see box).

The Goans, in the other group, went from strength to strength, finishing second with six points from four matches, only because they wanted to. The Maharashtra victory over Goa, which put Maharashtra on top of the group with seven points, was somehow expected. Not only did they throw out Karnataka, on five points, but also let Goa meet Kerala in the semi-finals. Bengal were the stronger adversaries, the Goans felt They also earned themselves a day's rest in the process, having to play only in the second semi-final.

Bengal entered the semi-final too, as AP almost gave away their match to Kerala. Somewhere, there was this feeling that the wheeling dealing had been gone through. 'Fixed' matches have become strategy, and neither the organisers, nor the federation officials seem to take notice.

Shanta Kumar of Maharashtra accounted for Bengal, the lucky semi-finalists. Coach Subhas Bhowmick believed his boys lost out on morale. However, Maharashtra coach Derrick D ' Souza's strategy of playing the 4-4-2 system to advantage, paid off. Maharashtra's was the thickest defence line in the meet. And the Goans put themselves out. They started off with their reserve goalkeeper and a couple of non-regular defenders, and by the time their regular goalkeeper could warm up and come in, their reserve had conceded three goals.

The match was interesting in that there were seven goals scored in the first half itself. It says reams about the great forward line that the Goans have, with Bruno Coutinho the spearhead. In the second half, however, Goa failed to produce their first half form and lost their crown.

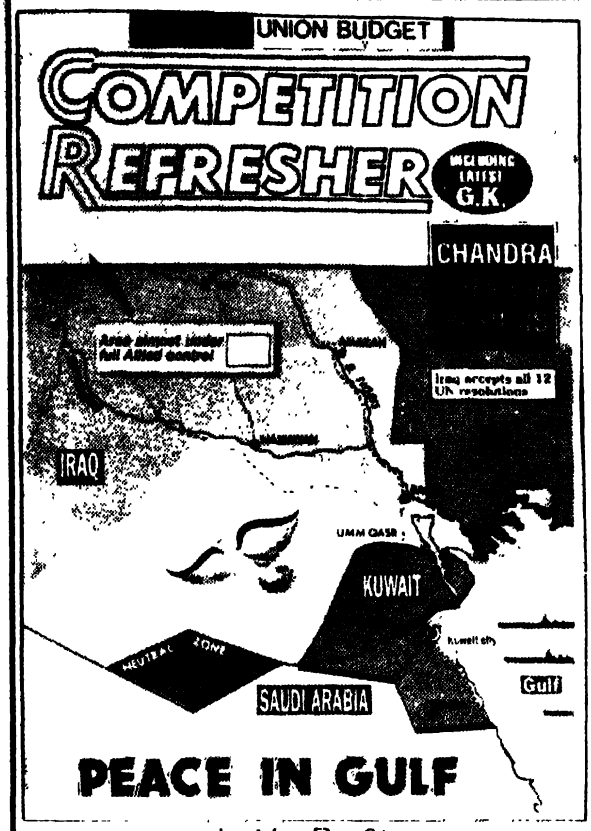
The Maharashtra-Kerala final went the way it should have. Kerala have a rather primitive way of inciting attacks. They were easily contained by the thick Maharashtra defence. And the weak Kerala defence showed up clear as Shanta Kumar struck home the winner.

It was Maharashtra's third win. They first won in 1953, as Bombay, then as Maharashtra in 1963. Both times in Madras. In 1953 Derrick D'Souza's brother, Neville, had scored the winner, in '63 it was Derrick. This time as coach. Quite a family affair.

Sujit Bhar, Palakkad

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AIRLINES GOLD CUP FOOTBALL

PK'S PARTING GIFT TO BAGAN

IT was PK Banerjee's parting gift. A "valuable" gift coming in the last days of the 1990-91 season which saved Mohun Bagan falling from grace, especially at a time when the club's image took a big jolt due to internal rumblings. But in the midst of an apparent euphoria there was the nagging feeling that it was a case of minimum achievements (two titles) for an enormous price (several lakhs of rupees to the players).

Yet this relieving triumph in the absence of triple crown winners and reigning champions East Bengal was no great shakes. But then for academic interest it was Bagan's only knockout tournament victory this season. But let the records show that Bagan provided a 2-0 win over Tata Football Academy in the final at the East Bengal ground. This was the first time in six editions that the final was not a all-Calcutta affair.

Again had PK's team lost to the TFA boys—who had actually shown glimpses of being able to win the final, especially in the first session—the Bagan technical director would have bade goodbye to the Calcutta maidan with a bitter memory. PK has put aside local coaching for a more ambitious—and lucrative programme awaiting him at Jamshedpur, courtesy Tatas. He will soon become the new TFA technical director after relinquishing his job in the Railways.

PK had always shown the desire to train talented boys. And a person like him will only be too glad to groom the junior prodigies: especially at a time when the so-called stars of Calcutta have become indifferent, inconsistent and suffer from the lack of true grit...and motivation. Yes it is a good decision PK has taken after two decades of coaching at the club and national level. It is with a certain amount of pride that he bids farewell to Calcutta soccer.

Bagan, it would have been noticed last season, had done atrociously in all-India tournaments whenever PK was absent: be it in the Durand or the Federation Cup. Not that PK can claim Bagan performed farely well in the Airlines Cup although the club won it. His players knew only too well that this four-team competition played in the round robin league would automatically qualify

for the semis. The idea of having four teams playing a league and all four going through to the semis was not only a waste of time but also was not conducive to producing good soccer.

For all its sleek organisation the Airlines Cup which is already on the down swing failed to attract public response: one doubts if 11,000 turned up for the matches in as many days. It was all too obvious that the more distinguished East Bengal's absence robbed whatever little charm remained of the meet. And the sultry weather fluctuating between 36-38 degrees celsius was another factor for the tournament being almost a no-show.

MD. Habib's TFA boys came to Calcutta to gain experience. They displayed good moves, passes, tackles, penetration but their finish was poor although in the league match versus Border Security Force they scored twice. In a match in which BSF's Jagmohan Singh should have been given marching orders for dangerously booting Gautam Ghosh whose speed and body feint is superb The Tata lads went down 2-3. Besides Ghosh, Swapan Dey, Ahmed, Aloke Das, Kabui, Chandan Dey and Litto (who had to be hospitalised due to a concussion sustained in the match against Mohammedan Sporting) are great potential. They had finished runners-up in the Nizan Gold Cup at Hyderabad. A team never to be underestimated. In the last IFA Shield match against East Bengal, they taught us how effective it is to be groomed under modern techniques.

Though TFA lost all their league matches in the Airlines Cup, the boys didn't show any signs of sagging confidence. They are fighters, as was evident in their semi-final match against BSF which they won by a lone goal. It was only the grimy conditions in the final that the Tata boys found unbearable.

The more mature Bagan played themselves into the final only in the latter half. Out-of-form and perhaps in his twilight days as a striker Sishir Ghosh, without any effort headed in the winner, thanks to some inspired wing play by substitute Sudip Chakraborty, who also did the spadework for veteran Subrata Bhattacharya to add another goal. TFA went back with *The Telegraph* trophy not in the least bit disheartened.

If Bagan broke a drought then it hasn't been a good year at all for Mohammedan SC. They participated in this tournament merely to earn some money to meet arrears and hopefully to try and win at least one trophy. But all their efforts came to nought. They scored two goals in the tournament, both by Nigerians Christopher Kem and Chibuzor. Their only consolation was that they beat the ultimate winners in the league but lost to Bagan in the semis. This is all they had to tell the members...and the showcase still remains empty.

The fourth team in the meet, BSF journeyed back home with one consolation: Darbara Singh was top scorer with three goals. But what consolation the organisers derived from this medicore tournament is hard to tell!

Subhash Sarcar



TFA defender Aloke Das who won the best player of the meet, gets the better of Mohd. SC's Christopher Kem

NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

World Enterprise Yachting Regatta: Indian pair beats the

DAME Luck was very much on the side of the Indian Navy duo of Lt. Farokh and his crew Lt. Kelly Rao, when they took on the might of Brittania's fancied sailors to emerge triumphant with the tag World Champions by topping the 51-strong fleet in the Modi Xerox World Enterprise Yachting Regatta. recently held off the Bombay harbour.

That the ultimate margin of victory was no more than 0.25 points is as much an indication of the closeness of the contest, especially between the Indian combine and the British runners-up Richard Estaugh and Andy Service. as the part played by Lady Luck in the final analysis.

Just visualise this scenario on the fifth day of the six-day, six-race series. Tarapore and Rao, after having two firsts and a second position in the first three races, were trying hard to overcome the disappointment of coming 15th in the fourth race, despite the prospect of another 'team racing' tactic as was employed by the British in the previous race

At the completion of the first triangle (each race was fought over three triangles. formed by the leeward. windward and gybe marks, with an upwind leg finish to the windward mark called the beat—in short a ten-lap affair) the Indians were trailing eighth, two places behind their closest rivals,Estaugh and Service with the Pakistanis, Lt. Mamoon Sadiq and Lt. Javed Rasool, at the helm of the bunch.

The order was the same at the conclusion of the second triangle except that Estaugh and Service had moved into the third position. Tarapore and Rao were unable to improve their final finishing position by more than one place. At the same time they watched helplessly as Estaugh and Service moved past fellow-Britons Vincent Horey and Peter Rowley to clicth the second position and surged ahead of the Indians in the overall standings.

At the end of the race, in which the Indians employed the unusual procedure of using the jib-stick (which is the rod joining the smaller of the two sails to the mast) on the leeward side, the Indian pair faced a protest from two British pairs—which did not include Estaugh and Service-- and lodged a counter-protest for 'intimidation' against the British for verbally telling the Indians to stop the 'illegal' usage of the jib-stick

The situation changed dramatically for the Indians who moved up to the fifth place in the race, which put them 2¼ penalty points ahead of the leading British pair of Estaugh-Service.

The Indians promptly dropped their protest which was reciprocated by the British pairs.

If this was not luck then what followed for the Indians on the final day, could not be termed anything else. For the third day running a Pakistani pair, this time Beijing Asiad gold medallist Munir Sadiq and crew Iftikhar Yosuf, was leading the way with Estaugh and Service close on the Pakistanis heels.

Tarapore and Rao, who were hopelessly trailing at 12th place in light wind conditions of 7 to 10 knots. made a determined effort and passed quite a few boats on the second leg to the gybe mark to be seventy when fortune smiled on them.

The British duo of Mark Lunn and Paul Aldred. which was just



Indian World Enterprise champions, Lt. Farokh Tarapore and his crew Lt. Kelly Rao, flanked by family members. Mrs. Tarapore, left and Rao's father, right

world...

WINDFALL



Zimbabwe's all-woman team of Louise Fernandes and crew Cathrin Brebner (in the forefront) with their boat.

ahead of the Indians, was unable to control its boat in strong tides and consequently touched the mark while trying to round it and incurred the penalty for doing so—a 720 degree turn on own axis—to fall behind.

Tarapore and Rao, who were sixth then, continued to maintain their position till another similar offence committed at the same mark during the second triangle by Vincent Horey and Peter Rowley (Britain) enabled them to inch forward to the fifth position just behind compatriots Jimmy Unwalla and Zarir Karanjia.

The Indians, sensing the god-sent opportunity, outstripped the Unwalla-Karanjia pair soon afterwards before finishing fourth behind Munir Sadiq-Iftikhar Yosuf, Estaugh-Service and Keith Wilson-John Horey.

It was no wonder when the 30-year-old Tarapore, a medallist at the last three Asian Games including a gold in the 1982 Games hosted by India, said after his triumph, "This is not the first time I have won a regatta due to luck. You need it to win any regatta as it definitely plays a major role".

Sriram, Bombay
MAHARAJA FEATURES

Pride Of Haryana

HAVING resided in Chandigarh for almost two decades, I'm proud of Kapil Dev (born and brought up in Chandigarh) the Haryana captain, for having offered to withdraw his team from the Ranji tournament. This will enable the teams from Delhi and Punjab to play in the knockout rounds for the North Zone. A few years ago, against Sri Lanka in Cuttack, Kapil Dev offered his 'Man Of the Match' award to Dilip Vengsarkar, who felt that he deserved the award. What a sportsman! He surely deserves the Padma Bhusan that was recently conferred on him.

ARVIND G BHAGWAT,
Bombay.

Dream Come True

BENGAL clinching the title from Karnataka in the recently concluded Ranji Trophy was a dream come true. Srikant Kalyani and Snehasish Ganguly should be applauded for their heroic deeds. It was a match that the people of Bengal will cherish for some time to come.

KAUSHIK MAJUMDAR,
Calcutta

Superb

THE issue dated 6-12 March, '91 had some really interesting features. Patrick Eagar's photographs in the issue, specially the one of Greg Matthews, was real good. It requires the genius of a master photographer like Patrick Eagar to capture that rare moment of photographic excellence. The article 'Mr Indisputable' on Joao Havelange was also good reading. The way, the 75-year-old disciplinarian wields authority in the soccer world is commendable. And to top it all we had the well written article on P. T. Usha. This goes without saying that we do miss her at the tracks. Keep up the good work, guys.

ARTHA MISHRA,
Cuttack



Monica Seles; the new No. 1

State Of Decline

IT was a real shock to read about Steffi Graf relinquishing her world No. 1 title to Monica Seles. This came as a shock because Steffi had a hold on the title for a record 186 weeks. On the other hand Monica, now that she is the youngest girl to become the No. 1 has a lot to prove. Steffi's graph is surely on the decline. She lost all three matches to Sabatini, in their last three meetings. Let's hope that Steffi overcomes her problems and once again makes it back to the No. 1 spot.

SUBRAT SAMAL,
Burla

Fascinating!

THE cover story on Boris Becker and Stefan Edberg by Rohit Brijnath (6-12 March, '91) was indeed a masterpiece. It was as fascinating as their duels. This bought back memories of the Hoad and Rosewall duels. Their matches though not very publicised, was nevertheless very fascinating.

Becker and Edberg, will continue to enthrall tennis fans for some time to come and here's wishing them all the best.

B.S. VISWANATH,
Bangalore

Gladdening!

SUBHASH AGRAWAL'S triumph in the National snooker at Calcutta was heartening news. His ability to go in for the big breaks, is what made him a champion. While others had to struggle to make it to the knockout stage, Agrawal just steamrolled the opposition and cruised through, to clinch the title he truly deserved. Let's hope that this win gives Agrawal the necessary inspiration to win other tournaments that he is participating in.

SRINIVAS NYAPATHY,
Rajahmundry

A correction

In Raju Mukherji's article "Quotient" (Sportsworld 13-19 March) the new quotient formula should have been Y/X and B/A, and not the other way round as was mentioned in the copy. The error is regretted.

CALCUTTA

State Tennis

AT 29, Enrico Piperno is not only 8-year-older than Zeeshan Ali, he has also not beaten Ali in the past five years. One would believe that Zeeshan is upwardly mobile and that Piperno is winding up his career. By that logic Ali, considering his form in the tournament thus far, should have thrashed Piperno in the Bengal State final as he is wont to do Only one problem; Enrico Piperno is totally, absolutely and completely unconcerned with logic He has always been crafty, and now he has found the physical strength to carry out his plans He demonstrated this perfectly in the finals, destroying Zeeshan 6-3, 6-1, leaving the crowd with their mouths open

Zeeshan, he knows, is prone to error when under pressure. So Piperno kept the ball in play, varied his pace,but it was his outstanding retrieving that gave an insight into his commitment to win Perhaps Piperno knew he had a chance, for he prophetically remarked after his exhausting semi finals, "Maybe against Zeeshan I'll pull out one of my yearly surprises," his reference being to last year's surprise win over Leander Paes

Without belittling Piperno's efforts in the least, Zeeshan was so terribly off-colour that his later admission that "I had a bad day" seemed an apt summary Nothing that he did or tried worked. It would be silly to read too much into this loss, especially since Zeeshan was playing rather elegantly till the finals He was fast and furious against an erroneous K.G. Ramesh in the semi finals winning 6-2, 6-4 and looked quite set to win the championships. Ironically, it was Piperno himself who appeared uncomfortable in his semi final against 'Chubby' Navendranath, wasting a 5-1 lead in the first set which he lost 6-7, but dominating finally to win the next two sets 6-3, 6-3. Formbooks in tennis don't count for much it seems.

In the boys under-14 section young Calcutta prodigy, Sourav Panja, progressing rapidly under Nandan Bal's tutorage at the Batra Tennis Academy, won quite easily, beating Siddharta Verma in the final 7-6, 6-2. Panja's serve requires attention, but it is his fine courtcraft and agile tennis brain that points to what could be a very interesting future.

In the ladies section, it may have been Manisha Mehta who eventually won, but it was 11-year-old Runumee Das from Assam who captured all the attention. Small physically,b ut marvellously self-assured she has impressive aggression and a nice preciseness of shot which helped her beat the No. 2 seed Sheetal Khanna,but nevertheless was not enough to overpower the well built Mehta in the final.

The boys under-18 championship was won by R. Ramanand who beat Bengal's improving youngster M. Bachawat 6-7, 6-2, 6-3 in the final.



All winners at the State tennis championships: (From left): Enrico Piperno, Manisha Mehta, Saurav Panja, and R. Ramanand

NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

Taj Trophy

THE 11th Ladies 54 Hole golf competition for the Taj Trophy, organised by Taj Bengal, Calcutta proved to be a cliff hanger. Played at the Tollygunge Club golf course, the last four cards had to be counted for determining the winner. Mrs Chandana Dutt edged out Mrs Tsuji and Mrs Anu Bindra to lift the coveted Taj Trophy. Ms Simi Mehra played a fine round of 73 gross to take the Best Gross from Ms Vandana Agarwal.

The organisers this year introduced a Medal Round for the men on the final day of the tournament, for which 70 golfers participated. Mr S.R. Ghosh Dastidar was declared the winner with a nett score of 64 followed closely by Mr S.N. Singh with a nett score of 66. Mr R.S. Sabharwal won the Best Gross with a score of 75.

TRIVANDRUM

Inter-University Aquatics

DESPITE three meet records, the 48th Chapter of the All India-Inter University Aquatic Championship failed to provide excitement, as many top swimmers skipped the meet due to off seasón and examiniations. Eventually, the hosts, Kerala stole the limelight winning both the men's and women's team's championship.

Bombay's one man army, Gaurav Kapoor bagged six golds which included a record breaking performance in the 100mt butterfly stroke. He timed 1:03.48 sec erasing the existing mark by 02.36 sec Gaurav's other golds were in the 100(59.99) and 200 (2·14.88) mts freestyle, 100 (1:09.52) and 200 (2.38.17) mts breast stroke and 200 mt individual medley (2:31.59). He claimed the individual championship with 30pts.

Farnaz. Y Engineer, another lone entry from Bangalore University won the honours in the women's section. Farnaz collected 5 golds: in the 100m (11.17.54) & 200m butterfly, 200m breast stroke (3:13.59), 400m individual medley (6:07.90) and 200 backstroke (2:57.03).

In the women's 4×100mt medley relay, Kerala's foursome sunk the eight-year-old record of Calicut University. The Kerala girls who led from gun to finish clocked 5:28.26 sec and were 70 mts ahead of the silver medallists, Delhi Kerala set yet another mark in the 4×100 mt freestyle relay clocking 4:51.83 sec.

Kerala's upcoming star R. Saritha timed 2:35.38 in the 200m freestyle relegating Farnaz Y. Engineer to the second spot. Saritha also came first in the 100m freestyle (1·15.54) and 400m freestyle (5.27 74).

Poona University outscored Kerala University 13-1 in the waterpolo final.

Sajeev Kumar T.K.

SAJEEV KUMAR T.K.



Farnaz Engineer: women's individual champion in the Inter-University Aquatic meet

HYDERABAD

National Hardcourt Tennis

ASIF ISMAIL (BAT trainee) and fourteen-year-old V. Nirupama (Coimbatore) won the Four Square National Hardcourt Tennis Championship at Lal Bahadur stadium tennis complex outclassing rivals S. Narendranath 7-5, 6-0 and Sahiba Chaddha of Chandigarh 6-1, 6-2 respectively.

However, for Nirupama it was a golden double. Partnering Sahiba Chaddha, the duo overcame Neeth Devaiah and Sheetal Khanna 6-2, 5-7, 6-2.

The Maharashtra pair of Nandan Bal and Gaurav Natekar shattered the dreams of Asif Ismail of scoring a grand double. Asif combining with Enrico Piperno went down, 6-0, 6-2.

Former Davis Cup player S.P. Misra lifted the veteran's crown defeating Rajiv Verma 6-0, 6-2.

Ex-Asian junior champion, Asif Iqbal started off on a rather nervous note unable to get his first serves going. But as the game progressed, Asif improved on his serve and put enough pressure on Narendranath, who faltered by sending the ball over the baseline very often.

Narendranath, unable to overcome his problems he was facing, chose to play from the baseline. But his change of tactics proved futile as Asif came to the net to return the shots with some rasping backhand crosscourt drives to clinch vital points.

Narendranath overcoming the initial hiccups began to play a serve and volley game. And this change made him close the deficit to 5-6.

In the 12th game, BAT trainee, Asif broke Narendranath's serve to win the first set in just under 35 minutes.

The second set saw Asif in total control, firing four aces, and making his presence felt at the net frequently. This game-plan of Asif unnerved Narendranath who committed a number of unforced errors and finally caved in meekly. The second set lasted 15

minutes.

The women's final was a battle from the baseline. Sahiba Chaddha began her campaign on a rather inauspicious note in the first game itself. Determined to win the coveted plate, Nirupama broke her opponent's serve thrice to gain a commanding lead of 5-0. By the time Sahiba realised her mistake, Nirupama wrapped up the first set at 6-1.

Asif Ismail was the winner of the men's singles of the National Hardcourt Tennis championships

Continuing her baseline game, Nirupama traded well with her angular shots in the second set. However, Sahiba came back into the game despite losing some points initially to break Nirupama's serve in the sixth game when her rival double-faulted twice.

After gaining some valuable points, Sahiba stopped taking risks. Fully aware of Sahiba's psychological problems, Nirupama used her double-fisted back-hand effectively to take the set.

A Correspondent



KANPUR

Ordinance Athletic Meet

TUTUN SOM, by scoring 15 points, bagged the individual championship in the two-day 21st All India Ordnance and Ordnance Equipment Factories Athletic Meet at the O.E.F. Stadium.

Sanjay Singh of Ordnance Factory, Kanpur, won the gold in the shot-put (Decathlon). Tutun Som was the fastest runner in the 100mt run whereas in the triple jump, the gold went to Virendra Yadav and in the 800 mt run, Tutun Som stole the show by making other runners lick the dust. Debashish Bhattacharya turned the tables in his favour in a 200 mt run.

As many as 34 teams participated in the tournament and R.F. Ishapore (Calcutta) won the team championship by registering 61 points to 27 points of F.G. Factory of Kanpur. East Zone were declared the Zonal champion as it mustered 91 points and North Zone with 49 points had to be content with the runners-up title.

Ashok Singh Cricket

THE attractive batting of Arvind Sikri (69) and the balanced bowling of Pankaj Agarwal enabled the Meerut Colts to win the First Ashok Singh State cricket tournament. They defeated U.P. Handlooms by 98 runs in the final.

The tournament was inaugurated by Mr Pankaj Singh, son of former Prime Minister Shri Chandra Shekhar. The 'man of the series' reward of Rs.1,100 went to Yogendra Tewari. The winners received Rs.11,000 where the runner-up received Rs. 5,001.

Kailash Agarwal

WAYANAD

State Junior Hockey

ERNAKULAM won the 21st State Junior Hockey

VENU GOVING KUMAR



The Ernakulam hockey team were the winners of the Junior State Hockey tournament

championship conducted by the Wayanad District Hockey Association. In the finals, they defeated last year's runners-up Palakkad through a penalty stroke (1-0) and regained the trophy after a gap of three years at the RomanCatholic High School, Chundel.

Both teams failed to rise to the occasion by wasting too many good moves but wingers Shaji, Satheesh P. David and centre half Judy George were unsuccessful in utilising them. On the Palakkad side their top scorer Hakim, Mujib Rehman and Mukundan were off colour.

Luck came for the Ernakulam side in the 69th minute in the form of a stroke. Palakkad goalkeeper Sajeesh Kumar who brought some brilliant saves was the person behind this. Following a corner from Sunil Immatty, Ernakulam centre half Juby George moved into the 'D' and the onrushing Palakkad goalkeeper hooked Juby. Juby, who took the stroke neatly sent the ball in.

P. Venu Govinda Kumar

JAMADOBA

Inter Bank Cricket

(Eastern region)

THE lush green Digwadih Stadium was the scene of the second eastern region Inter-Bank Cricket Tournament as a galaxy of first class and international cricketers descended upon the coal-mining township of Jamadoba, 20 kms from Dhanbad in Bihar.

The tournament was conducted by Bank's Sports Board (Eastern Region) under the auspices of the Indian Banks association, in collaboration with Dhanbad Cricket Association.

The show was a grand success with no less than 10 banks participating. True to potential and prediction, United Bank Of India generated all its drilling power as it once again underlined its unmistakable superiority by retaining the title for the second time in succession. With easy victories over Canara Bank and Union Bank, UBI were firm favourites in the final against old adversaries, UCO Bank, who had taken the measure of Allahabad Bank and Punjab National Bank.

As expected UBI did not disappoint in the final, although a few hiccups in the later stage of the match kept the victory margin to 4 wickets. In the final, Bengal discard Ajay Varma played a strokeful innings of 56 and received adequate support from skipper Gautam Som (32) and Utpal Chatterjee (35). Test star, Arun Lal had the mortification to see Barun Burman cling on to a well-judged catch at square leg off a top-edged pull against left-arm orthodox spinner Sanjay Sinha, whose accuracy (3 for 25 off 8 overs) was certainly the performance of the match.

Sinha also had the wickets of Aveek Mitra and Ajay Varma and put some tremor in the UBI camp. For UCO Bank, Ashok Chaudhuri was the highest scorer with 50 in a total of 181 runs off 40 overs. Chaudhuri also scored the only century of the tournament against Allahabad Bank. Bengal's left arm spinner Utpal Chatterjee bowled steadily and received his share of success (3 for 37).

Unfortunately for the second year in succession, State Bank Of India, a very strong combination

boasting a host of Bengal cricketers, failed to take part in the championshi p which was competed for by the following banks: Canara Bank, Allahabad Bank, Bank Of Baroda, Bank Of India, Punjab National Bank, Union Bank, Standard Chartered Bank, United Bank, Indian Bank and UCO Bank

Raju Mukherji

Gautam Som, the captain of UBI, receiving the winner's trophy from Mrs. Y.P. Dhawan

NANDAN CHATTERJEE



CALCUTTA

Double Wicket Cricket

CRICKET is an upredictable game and the double-wicket version of it is more so. This was proved at the 4th M.N. Dastur Double-Wicket meet at the Kalighat ground. The defending champions UBI were knocked out in the first round, fancied pairs failed to come good and it was ultimately the veteran pair of Pradip Pandey and Madan Ghosh of State Bank which crossed swords with the most unlikely of finalists—the duo of Debang Gandhi and Diptesh Pakrashi of M. N. Dastur 'B' team.

Eleven companies which entered the tournament had in their ranks almost all the Bengal Ranji Trophy players organised by the Office Sports Federation.

In the five overs-a-side final, it was all too easy for the Dastur 'B' team. Gandhi played the stellar role hitting 72 runs, but his score was curtailed by eight runs (for two dismissals) for an aggregate of 64. Pakrashi made seven and with an extra run in the kitty. The M.N. Dastur 'B' team set Pandey and Ghosh to get 73 for a win. They managed an aggregate of only 26 runs after Pandey got out twice after hitting 38 runs.

DHANBAD

Inter-School Cricket

INDIAN SCHOOL OF LEARNING has an enviable record in the Inter-School Cricket Tournament organised by the Dhanbad Cricket Association. Since the inception of the tournament 12 years ago, in 1978, Indian School Of Learning seems to have taken a monopoly lease on the title, winning the trophy no less than 7 times.

Justifiably proud of the achievement, the school's coach 'Manna' Rahman wants to give full credit to the boys and to the school principal, J.K. Sinha. Very modestly, he said that he merely assists the enthusiastic young boys to give of their best.

R.M.

CAB Junior Cricket

CITY ATHLETIC CLUB won the junior CAB Knockout Cricket Championship at the Eden Gardens. The win, however, does not promote them to the senior division as only the league champions (Burnpur Sporting) move into the premier league.

In a low-scoring match City AC defeated Vijay Sports by four wickets. Despite playing on a batting track, Vijay Sports could only muster 174 in 42.3 overs. Sajjad Hassan was the most successful City AC bowler grabbing four wickets for 24 runs. K. Vijay Kumar was the top scorer for the losers with 41 runs.

City AC were in no hurry to get to their target and used up the same number of overs as their opponents to win the match. Their win centred around Sandip Chatterjee's 53 and Partha Das' 47.

Public Sector Football

A LISTLESS final between Food Corporation of India (FCI) and Bharat Petroleum, Bombay, brought down the curtains on the 13th All-India Public Sector Football championship held in the city recently. The tournament, which brought together some of the well-known footballers in the country (the public sector companies mostly employs them), was virtually labelled as a mini nationals of sorts, but the quality of football dished out was not very impressive.

The all-important goal in an insipid final at the East Bengal ground came from Kuljit Singh of FCI with just seconds remaining for the breather. It was Debasish Sarkar who set up the goal of a counter-attack. Sarkar covered a lot of ground on the right flank and sent in a measured cross across the Bharat Petroleum goalmouth. Bikash Panji swooped down upon the ball, but missed it.

However, Kuljit kept his cool, chested the cross and placed the ball past a hapless goalkeeper.

The match took a nasty turn in the 15th minute when FCI's Pem Dorji was hacked down by Jensen of the Bombay side. Jensen was sent off by the referee, and it was a battle for survival for the visitors.

FCI's inability to punch holes in a make-shift Bharat Petroleum defence stopped them from gaining an early lead and it was the Bombay team which had the first clear look at the FCI goal. Pradip Raha put Nadeem Khan through with a neat pass, but the latter made a hash of it from close. This was a couple of minutes away from the half-time and FCI got the lead soon after.

It was the experience of Amit Bhadra in the Bharat Petroleum back four which prevented FCI from swelling their tally. Bhadra's brilliant covering and perfect tackling saved his side from further disgrace. The Bombay team showed good enterprise in the second half, but the equaliser eluded them.

The finalists apart, the teams which made the last four stage of the championship were Coal India Limited (CIL) and the Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC). Both went down by identical solitary goal margins in the semi-finals.

Soumitra Bose

SUBHOJIT PAL



The FCI team were the winners of the All-India Public Sector football tournament

Merchants' Cup Bridge

THERE surely is no dearth of bridge enthusiasts in the mercantile houses of Calcutta. Surprising then, that the game of bridge took a long time to come into the Merchants' Cup circuit, much after games like golf, tennis and badminton did, and also that the participation, when it eventually did, leaves a lot to be desired. Last year the low participation could be passed off as being reasonable considering that it was the inaugural year and organised at short notice. However, even though both husband and wife can play for either's firm or company, the number of pairs showed little increase this year. With only 44 pairs from 25 companies and firms taking part, sponsors Dunlop fielding the largest contingent of 11 pairs, one is left wondering as to the reason behind this apparent lack of competitive spirit among Calcutta's bridge-playing upper crust of

SANTANU GHOSE



The winners of the Merchants' Cup Bridge: Brohmojyoti Mukherjee and Goutam Ghosh of IOL



society

The 88 players who competed, and this included 14 ladies, played an elimination round on two days to qualify for the top 24 pairs to the final. In the first of these eliminations, Smt Manju Awasthy and Anil Sondhi of Bush Tea topped the field while on the second, Dr. and Smt. Dalmia of Calcutta Medical Research Institute took the honours.

In the 46-board final held at the Saturday Club recently the Dalmia's continued their good work to take a decent lead in the first half. They were followed by Satyanarain and Prakash Kejriwal of Bangabasi Roller Flour Mills, Tamal Bannerjee and B. K. Chokhany of India Jute, A. K. Sinha and T. K. Dasgupta of IBP, Goutam Ghosh and Brohmojyoti Mukherjee of IOL and the defending champs, Probir Roy and K. K. Bhattacharjee of Bengal Chemical, in that order.

In the second half, however, the Dalmia's failed to maintain the pace and slid down to fifth spot The Kejriwal brothers, easily the most experienced duo in the whole field, despite some bad boards, managed to hang on to their first-half rank, as did Bannerjee-Chokhany Last year's winners Roy-Bhattacharjee crept up to fourth place but the best second-half performance came from Ghosh-Mukherjee of Indian Oxygen who leap frogged from fifth to a comfortable first, one and a half board ahead of second.

Despite their second half debacle, Smt Krishna Dalmia had the satisfaction of picking up the prize for the best performance by a lady and the prize for the second-best went to Smt V. Seth who combined with her husband to finish eighth

Santanu Ghose

SUBHOJIT PAL



Journalist Felicitated

Mayor Prasanta Chatterjee giving away a special trophy to honour eminent sports journalist Ajoy Bose, at a felicitation meeting held at the Moulali Yuba Kendra ,Calcutta.

NAGPUR

Revenues Badminton Open

THE three-day O.N.Dixit memorial Central Revenue Open Badminton tournment, organised under the auspices of the National Academy of Direct Taxes provided an excellent opportunity for fans here to witness top class badminton.

Top badminton players of the country particularly national champion George Thomas and Seema Bhandari along with other prominent players participated. Though George Thomas was a hot favourite, he met his waterloo in the men's singles final against Harjeet Singh. Thomas won the first game easily 15-7 but the second game saw a tough battle between the two. Harjeet claimed the second game on extra points 18-17 and the decider proved to be one sided for Harjeet. George Thomas committed a series of errors and his poor judgement cost him dearly.

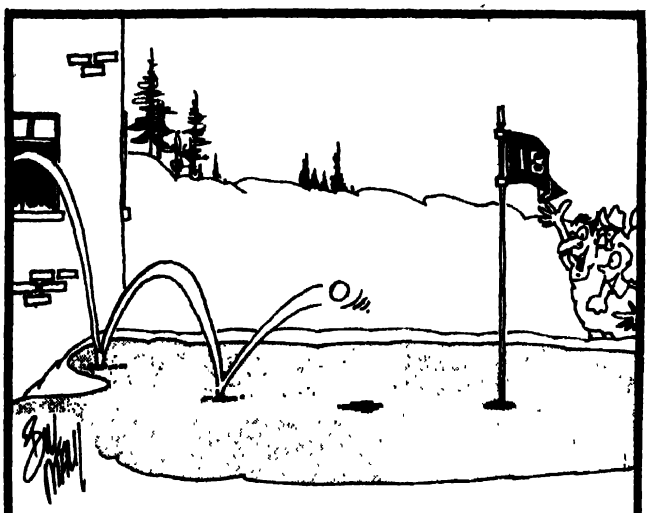
Seema Bhandari of Madhya Pradesh required just twenty minutes to dispose off Anjali Purwar in annexing the women's singles crown. She was,however, unlucky when partnering with Nancy Keith, she lost the women's doubles final to the national runners up pair of Sindhu Gulati and Neeru Nerjwan.

Joseph Rao

SPORTS HALL OF SHAME — BY NASH & ZULLO



WHEN THE FINAL OUT OF THE FINAL GAME AT CONNIE MACK STADIUM WAS MADE IN 1970, THE PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES FANS TURNED THE BALL-PARK INTO A SHAMBLES. SOUVENIR-CRAZED FANS RIPPED APART SEATS, SIGNS, AND PARTS OF THE SCOREBOARD. ABOUT THE ONLY THING THEY DIDN'T STEAL WAS THE KITCHEN SINK— ALTHOUGH ONE FAN DID DISMANTLE A TOILET AND STAGGERED HOME WITH IT!



DURING THE 1974 ENGLISH OPEN AMATEUR, GOLFER NIGEL DENHAM LAUNCHED A SHOT INTO THE BILLIARD ROOM OF THE CLUBHOUSE, WHICH WAS NOT CONSIDERED OUT OF PLAY. THE CRAFTY DENHAM OPENED A WINDOW AND HIT AN AMAZING PITCH SHOT THAT LANDED WITHIN 15 FEET OF THE FLAG. BUT THE OFFICIALS LATER ASSESSED HIM TWO PENALTY STROKES — FOR OPENING THE WINDOW!

MILESTONES



RELEASED: Paul Gascoigne, from hospital after an operation for torn stomach muscles. He will however miss the qualifying match against the Republic of Ireland, for the European Soccer Championships.

ORDERED: By the Supreme Court, the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) to hold its general elections.

SIGNED: A contract by Tony Pickard, Stefan Edberg's coach, to coach the British Davis Cup team, for a period of three years.



EXTENDED: By another year, Australian pace bowler, Dennis Lillee's contract to coach at the MRF Pace Foundation in Madras.

SIGNED: An agreement by Jimmy Connors to coach Austria's top player Thomas Muster for a year.

WON: By Indonesia, both the men's and women's title in the All England Badminton championship. The men's title went to Ardy Wiranta and the women's to Susi Susanti.

SEEKING RETURN: England's Ian Botham, to the England team at the age of 34.

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1 Who dismissed his cousin when New Zealand met Australia at Wellington in 1986?
2 Who was England's wicket-keeper in the Golden Jubilee Test against India at Bombay in 1980?
3 What is 'lightning chess'?
4 What does 'pull' mean in golf?
5 Who was the second Indian to score a century on his Test debut?
6 Which was the first partnership for the tenth wicket in one-day internationals?
7 Who scored Sri Lanka's first century in official Test?

ANSWERS

1 Bruce Reid (victim John Reid).
2 Bob Taylor.
3 A game of chess in which all the moves have to be completed by a player in five minutes.
4 Drive (ball) widely to left (of right-handed player.)
5 D.H. Sodhan (110) v Pakistan in the fifth Test at Calcutta in 1952.
6 106 (Viv Richards and Michael Holding) vs England at Old Traford in 1984.
7 S. Wettimuny (v. Pakistan at Faisalabad in 1982).

CHESS

The sixth and concluding game of the Anand-Dreev match was yet another fascinating French Defence. Dreev came up with an interesting piece sacrifice and had a great deal of compensation.

Anand turned the tables with a counter sacrifice after careless play by the Russian in time pressure. With that the Indian pulled off a hattrick of victories to set up a quarter final match with Anatoly Karpov.

White: Anand Vs Black: Dreev Game 6. Butterfly Candidates, Madras, '91.

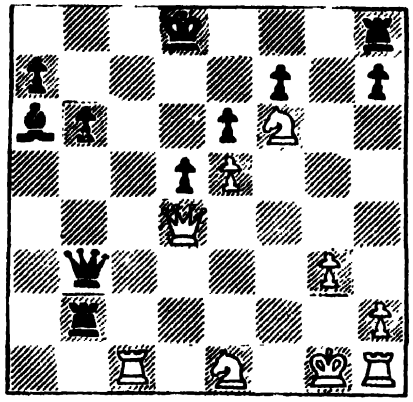
1 e4 e6 2 d4 3 Nc3 Nf6 4 e5 Nfd7 5 f4 c5 6 Nf3 Nc6 7 Be3 Qb6 8 Na4 Qa5 9 c3 cd4 10 b4 Nxb4 11 cb4 Bxb4 12 Bd2 Bxd2 13 Nxd2 g5! This is a new idea. Anand stated that he had seen it mentioned somewhere, but it had never been played at this level.

14 Nb2 gf4 15 Nd3 b6 16 Kf2! Evacuating the king is necessary. **16—Ba6 17 Nf3 Rc8 18 Nxf4 Nc5 19 g3.** Almost forced to clear g2 in case of Ne4. **19—d3! 20 Bxd3!? Nxd3 21 Nxd3 Qa3.** White concedes his bishop in order to eliminate the dangerous d-pawn but now he has severe problems stemming the invasion onto his second rank.

22 Nf4 Qb2 23 Kg1 Rc2 24 Qd4 Qa3 25 Ne1 Rb2 26 Rc1 Qa2 27 Nb5 Qb3? The decisive error. Black had a fine position primarily because the white h-rook has no prospects. Simply 27—bc4 keeps an edge though the position is very confused as both kings are exposed White would have to try for development via Rh2 while black can push his a-pawn etc.

28 Nf6 Kd8 (See Diagram) **29 Nxd5!! ed5 30 30 e6 Ke7** Hoping for 31 Qxh8? Qe3 mate but even 30—Rf8 31 e7 Kxe7 32 Qe5 Kd8 33 Rc3 wins as the threat of 34 Qc7 and 35 Re3 is unstoppable. **31 Rc3! Qb5 32 Rc7 Kxe6 33 Qe3 Kf6 34 Kf5 35 Qxf7 Kg5** and (1—0). Dreev resigned as he realised that 36 Nf3 forces checkmate.

Devangshu Dutta



BRIDGE

In many other games, the superior player always wins. Not so in bridge where in the short run, though not in the long, luck plays a role which, perhaps, adds to the charm of the game, giving the underdog some hope. Today's hand from a recent North American championship semi-final found the superior game going down while the inferior one scored:—

Dealer South — E-W vul

NORTH(dummy)
♠ J
♡ 6
◇ A Q 10 9 2
♣ A J 10 9 6 5

WEST
♠ A K Q 9 8 6
♡ K 9
◇ J 7 4 3
♣ K

EAST
♠ 7 5 2
♡ A 8 7 4 2
◇ 6
♣ 8 7 3 2

SOUTH
♠ 10 4 3
♡ Q J 10 5 3
◇ K 8 5
♣ Q 4

The two Souths, 1979, world champion Mike Passell at one table and Bart Bramley at the other, got to a minor suit game after West opened spades and bid it again at the 3-level and after North had shown a minor two-suiter. However, while Passell played in diamonds, Bramley got to clubs. Which minor-suit game would you prefer to be in? Not much to choose really; if anything, five clubs looks the better spot because it almost never fails when five diamond makes and it goes down a lot less when it fails.

At both tables the defence cashed their major suit winners and punched dummy with a second spade. In five clubs, Bramley played like a normal human being—he crossed over to his only entry, the diamond king and led the club queen. Good, the club finesse worked! He drew trumps and then tried to cash dummy's diamonds...oops! Down one. In five diamonds, Passell, on ruffing the spade, could cash the diamond ace and then cross over to the diamond king in hand, learning the bad news. He had only two trumps left on the table and was in hand for the last time. He could not finesse in both minors, so he took his only chance by leading his last trump to dummy's ten and drew the last trump. By now everybody had run out of trumps and so declarer had to get six tricks in clubs without an entry to finesse. He played the ace and unblocked his queen, mentally chalking up minus 250 for down five. However, his luck was in as the fall of the king gave him his contract.

Santanu Ghose

Railways Strike It Rich

RAILWAYS emerged worthy winners in both the freestyle and Greco Roman categories of the 38th edition of the Lifebuoy National Wrestling Championships held at Varanasi from March 6-9, which attracted huge crowds everyday.

The wrestling arena at the idyllic Diesel Locomotive Works complex in the city of Varanasi which has a traditional following for wrestling provided the right atmosphere as over 400 wrestlers from 25 States and Institutions grappled for selection to the Indian team to participate in the Asian Championships to be held at New Delhi in April.

Bouts were held in ten weight categories in both sections—freestyle and Greco Roman. Most of the prominent wrestlers were there to represent their respective teams but many were conspicuous by their absence as they were reportedly in Punjab to participate in a *Akhara* competition which offered huge prize money. The Wrestling Federation of India ought to take this into account while organising the Nationals.

The *Akhara* style or the traditional Indian style of wrestling still attracts huge crowds in the rural areas and is a big money earner for the wrestlers who are offered just a medal or the incentive that they might represent the country some day. The WFI needs to check the growth of this type of competition and it needs to channelise them into the mainstream. They can make mainstream wrestling equally attractive by offering good incentives to the wrestlers. While over two lakhs were spent by the organisers on the officials of the federation not much was spent on the wrestlers.

Coming back to the main competition there were keenly-contested bouts and the experienced internationals showed their class. Kaka Pawar, who represented India at the Beijing Asian Games, won the final beating R.B. Mauriya of the Services (SSCB) by a knockout in the 52kg

Doordarshan's Usual Callousness

THE big let down of the 38th National Wrestling Championships was the withdrawal at the last minute by Doordarshan to telecast the last day's bouts live. Doordarshan had been approached more than two months back by the organisers—Railway Sports Control Board. "We have been corresponding with Doordarshan since two months and, in fact, they had assured us of live coverage of the bouts on 9 March from 3.45 to 5.00 p.m. We, in fact, had scheduled our finals for the 8th and postponed it to the 9th so as to accommodate Doordarshan", said Amrit Mathur, secretary of the RSCB.

It certainly was quite a surprise specially at the last minute when Doordarshan expressed its inability to telecast live the bouts on 9th March. "The reason given by them was that it was not possible technically to do the telecast", Amrit Mathur said. "Were they sleeping all this while and only got to know about the technicality of the telecast at the last minute," questioned Mathur.

Mr G.S. Mander, president of the Wrestling Federation of India had, in fact, been in touch with Mr Shiv Sharma, Director-General of Doordarshan in Delhi who had assured him that the telecast would be done on the 9th and all necessary arrangements had been made. "The sport suffers a great deal in this regard", felt Mr Mander.



Sponsors expect live coverage. Is Doordarshan listening?

It is time that a national policy be drawn up for sport with regard to Doordarshan and coverage of events by them. "It is not fair to the sponsors who have put in a great deal of money into a sport because they expect live coverage of that event", feels Amrit Mathur. "We seem more of Lendl's and Edberg's on Doordarshan rather than our own sportspersons on TV", said Mathur. It's time that Doordarshan wakes up and takes responsibility for this mess up that they have caused not only to the sport, but to the viewers and the sport at large.



The *Akhara* style of wrestling still attracts huge crowds in the rural areas and is a big money earner for the wrestlers who are offered just a medal or the incentive that they might represent the country some day

PHOTOGRAPHS: SANDEEP MITRA

The 74 kg freestyle bout in progress

division in the Greco Roman style.

M.R. Patil too proved a worthy winner when he easily defeated Satnam Singh of Punjab in the 62kg class in the same style. Other international wrestlers who won their respective categories were Ashok Kumar of Delhi (57 kg in freestyle), Malkiat Singh of Punjab (62 kg in freestyle), Satyawan of Delhi (74 kg in freestyle) and Sumer Singh of RSCB (130 kg in freestyle).

It certainly was a good change to see the wrestlers grapple on the mats and become more speedier with the introduction of the rule which makes it compulsory for them to wear shoes and fight on mats rather than on the traditional loose mud or *Akharas*.

Wrestlers in the top weight catagories, however, were a bit slow as their bulk did not allow them the swift movement as their lighter weight counterparts. The host Railways who had lost the championships last year by 1/2 point and 1 point in the freestyle and Greco Roman styles, respectively, made up this time and won both the divisions with far greater ease than they expected.

We need to strike a good balance in sport with modern progress and tradition and nothing requires that more than wrestling as it is the only sport where India has an individual medal at the Olympics, when K.D. Jadhav got a bronze at the Helsinki Olympic Games in 1952.

A Correspondent
SPORTS MANAGEMENT GROUP



Ram Yadav, winner of the 48 kg freestyle gold, with Om Singh

TENNIS TRIVIA

NUMBER of years that Britain's John Major must draw his prime ministerial salary to match what 19-year-old Pete Sampras was paid ($ 2 million) for 12 sets of tennis when he captured the 1990 Grand Slam Cup: 15.

EXACT same words that both winner Pete Sampras and runner-up Brad Gilbert used when answering the question about what they would do with their enormous prize money ($ 2 million and $ 1 million, respectively) at the Grand Slam Cup: "I (already) have everything that I want."

AMOUNT of money the line judges earned at the $ 6 million Grand Slam Cup in Munich where first-round losers earned $ 100,000: $ 25 a day.

PRINCESS DIANA's two favorite tennis players: Pat Cash and Steffi Graf.

BORIS BECKER'S career against Ivan Lendl in Grand Slam tournaments: 5-0.

NUMBER of times that misbehaving Ilie Nastase was disqualified in tournaments during 1975: 3.

CELEBRITIES who approached Andre Agassi and introduced themselves to him at the Evander Holyfield-Buster Douglas heavyweight title fight: Mel Gibson, Chevy Chase and Arnold Schwarzenegger.

NEW test that the International Tennis Federation will use at the 1991 Federation Cup: A "femininity control test" to determine the sexual status of the players.

WHAT Ivan Lendl would do if he had more time: Get a college degree.

MAXIMUM penalty for the same offense in 1991: $ 250,000.

FAVORITE sport of Roland Garros, the World War I flying hero after whom the French named the site for its celebrated national championship: Rugby.

SPORT that ranked No. 1 in television coverage in France in 1990: Tennis.

MAXIMUM penalty for defaulting on a commitment to play a Grand Slam event or the Grand Slam Cup in 1990: $ 25,000.

WHAT Boris Becker said he would do if he were granted one wish: "I would find a girl that I really love, make ten children right away, and go off with them to a deserted island."

AGE at which world No. 15 Amy Frazier enrolled in and won all the contests in a Michigan public parks tennis class for 6 to 9-year-old children: 2.

THE most memorable moment of 1990 for sensational, 14-year-old pro rookie Jennifer Capriati who zoomed to No. 8 in the world: "When I met Tom Cruise at the U.S. Open."

Compiled by Paul Fein



THE FRANK KEATING COLUMN



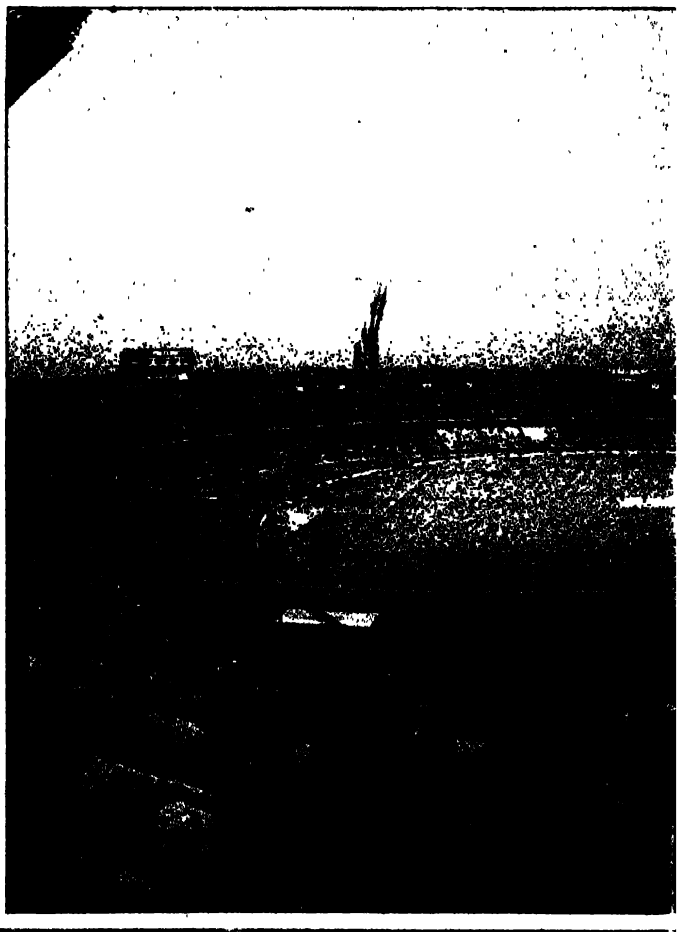
Starting this week, *Sportsworld* will be regularly featuring this exclusive column by celebrated sportswriter FRANK KEATING, known all over the world for his bold, erudite analysis and comments, almost always laced with sparkling humour... Although his articles will often deal with international issues, they may sometimes be British-oriented as the author will be sending his despatches from London

THE subtle leaflet campaign—or—rather, the inane bombardment of junk mail woffle—has begun to submerge any mediaman's desk. As we knew it would. London vs. Manchester—the clash of the cities. The clang of two cultures. Hype old times are here again.

I refer, of course—as if you hadn't guessed—to the rival bids by the two English cities to stage the Olympic Games in the year 2000. The British Olympic Association will decide in less than three weeks which of the two worthy bunches of burghers has been chosen to fly the British flag for a further extended campaign of over two years before the final decision is made by the International Olympic Committee.

Did I say 'extended'? I meant expensive. Or, on third thoughts, *exorbitant*.

How the respective ratepayers put up with these daft delusions of grandeur by a handful of self-appointed entrepreneurs is totally beyond me. Even more



ANKHIL BHATTACHARYA

A Tale O

so, when they saw, earlier this month, the shell-shocked Sheffield Committee, lumbered with a lifetime's debt already, responsible for this summer's world Student Games, crawling cap in hand to the Government and shamefacedly asking for a chip-in for their empty kitty.

I visited Sheffield recently and, to be sure, the facilities, new bright halls and stadia that have sprung up under the moors and along the previous bedraggled industrial wasteland along the Rotherham Road are spick and span and will serve the youth of the old city for generations to come. But what a cost.

But the modest little student Games are nothing on the Olympics. Here you are talking billions. And then some more.

The Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi: a possible Olympic host?

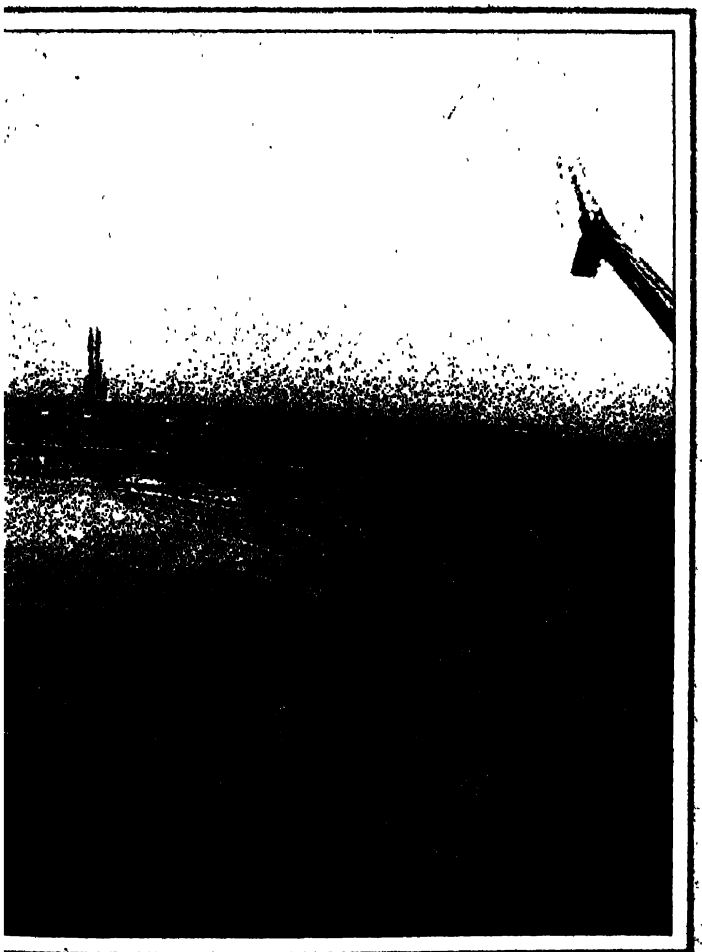
Indeed, millions just for the chance of being humiliated by the 85-member strong autocracy that makes up the IOC. Remember, in 1985, how Birmingham spent £2.3m just to set up its campaign to get the Games of 1992. All that lovely ratepayers' lolly just to end up sheepishly with eight votes out of 85 and fifth out of the six competing cities.

The same position an undaunted Manchester ended in last year—after a campaign that cost £2.5m, though at least Manchester totalled 11 votes out of the 85.



TOMMY HINDLEY

Seb Coe: championing the British cause

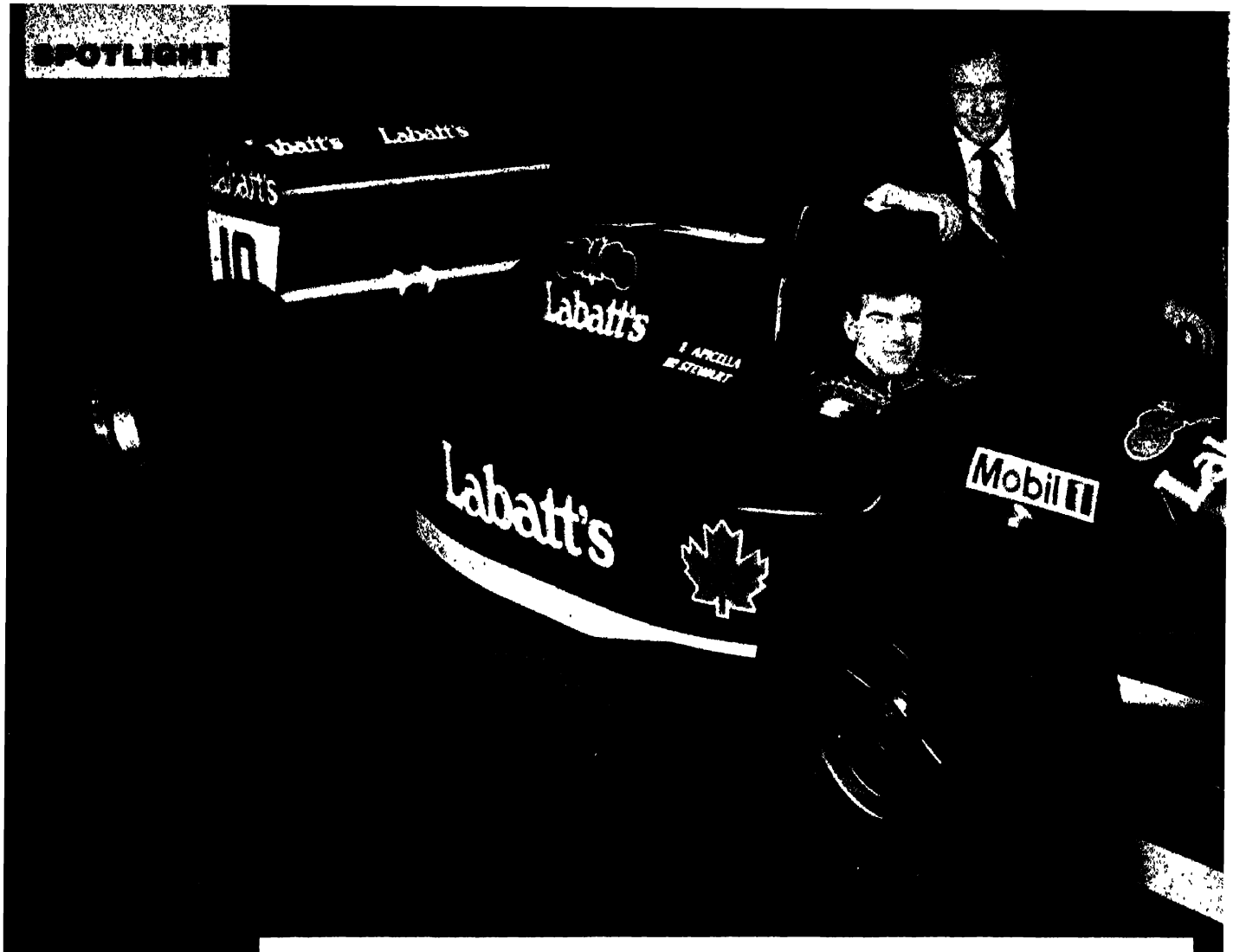


I refer to the rival bids by the two English cities to stage the Olympic Games in the year 2000...No, the BOC should allow neither bid to go forward...They should begin to lead a worldwide movement to give the Games back to the world and lobby for them to be held in, say, Cairo, Nairobi or Delhi. What a worthwhile mission that would be...

Two Cities

And yet Manchester again—and now London's lot led by Sebastian Coe (I thought that he, for one, was meant to be garnering diminishing votes far less exorbitantly down around Truro & Camborne)—rain on us reams of rich boasts about how the Olympics will do us good. Tell it to a poor, miserably treated commuter on London's infamous Northern Line? Or a Manchester household who've just had their Poll tax quadrupled?

No, the BOC should allow neither bid to go forward. And not totally to relieve a British bid of another humiliation—but for us begin to lead a worldwide movement to give the Games back to the world and lobby for them to be held in say, Cairo, Nairobi, or Delhi. What a worthwhile mission that would be. ●

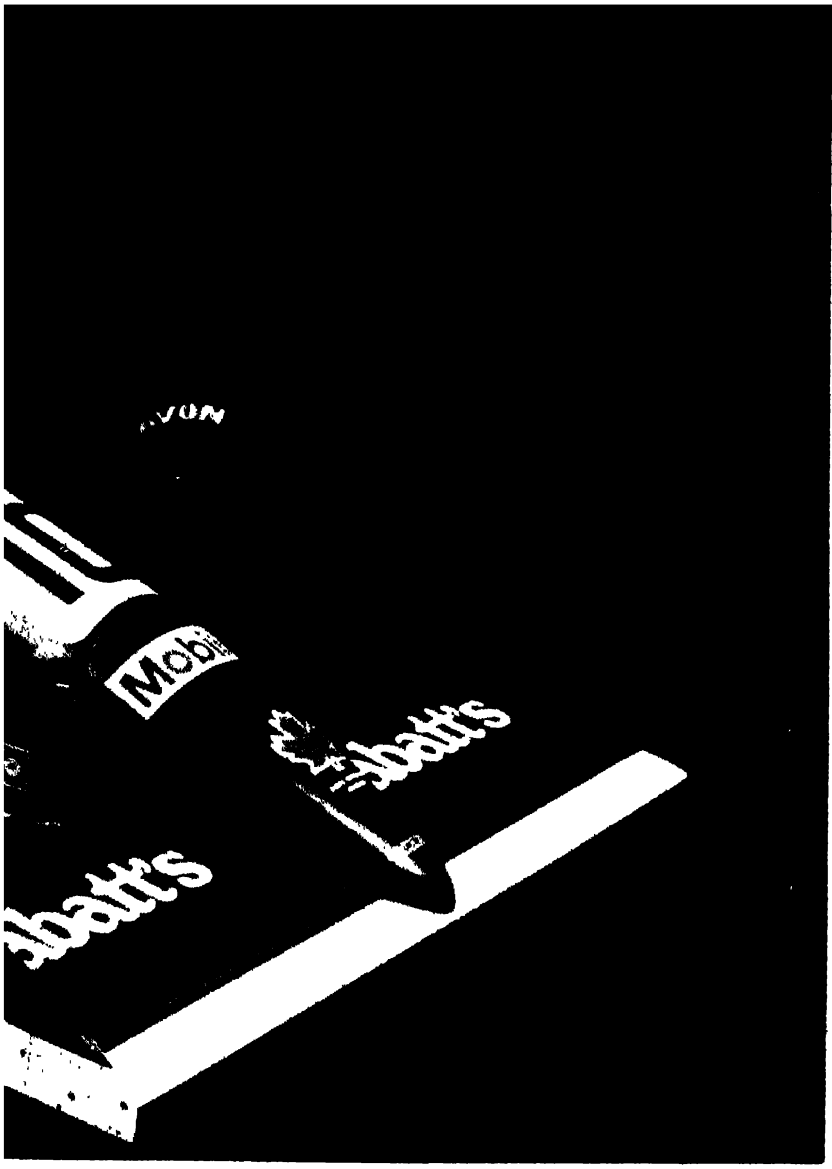


LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON

The perils of the racing track are no stranger to Paul Stewart. You see, he's the son of former Formula One world champion Jackie Stewart

AT a time when most kids were worried about breaking toys, racing brat Paul Stewart was learning about danger and sudden death. Not that this has stopped him putting himself in peril on the track just like his ex-world champion father Jackie did before him. And in spite of his parents worrying about every lap he drives, Paul has graduated to his first Formula 3000 season, competing in the European Championships.

Paul, a handsome 25-year-old, taller and broader than Jackie, told me: "I was only four years old when Jochen Rindt was killed. But I could tell you exactly



Three-time world champion Jackie with the son who also cannot escape the racing passion

As he declared in his soft Scottish brogue: "Racing is a passion. You've got to live and breathe motor-racing. And then you go home and think about it some more. Neither my father nor my mother Helen are keen on me racing. I know they worry. I think about this sometimes, but I don't allow myself to dwell on it. Traditionally, racing drivers are selfish people. You have to be, so much commitment and dedication is demanded of you if you are going to succeed."

If willpower makes winners, bachelor

Although Jackie was not keen to see his son on the circuit, he cannot stop him



where I was and what the day was like when I found out. Jochen lived nearby and I wondered why I hadn't seen him for a while. I asked my parents where he was. They looked at each other and, in that moment, I knew something was strange. Then they told me Jochen had gone to heaven. I wasn't shocked, I just felt very sad that I wouldn't see him any more."

Sitting in the elegant office at the headquarters of his own racing outfit; Paul went on: "Another time, I was on the school bus with Swedish racing driver Jo Bonnier's sons Kim and Jonas. He had just been killed, and they said to me, 'Your father will be next.' My father was taken aback when I went home and asked him if he was going to die next."

So Paul knew just what price he could be paying for following in his father's tyre-tracks. But the racing spirit was in his bloodstream, and couldn't be denied.

"I was only four years old when Jochen Rindt was killed...I asked my parents where he was...they told me Jochen had gone to heaven. I wasn't shocked"... Paul Stewart

Paul could be the next Jackie Stewart. He showed his mettle by gaining a degree in political science at prestigious Duke University in North Carolina, despite suffering from the reading and writing disorder dyslexia. He has even skiied competitively, winning several skateboarding championships before he was 15.

Paul also has two other talents that help to make a champion. A cool head and a philosophical approach to the dangers of the racing game. "Motor racing will always be dangerous because of the speed. But when you overtake someone, it doesn't necessarily mean you are exposing yourself to death," he said, adding "You don't think in those terms. Accidents are part of racing. That is how a driver learns. It's all part of the job."

Father Jackie, aged 52, tried subtly to part Paul from the steering wheel by helping him to set up his firm, Paul



Racing is all consuming and after two years in the business full time, Paul says he has no time for a girlfriend

Stewart Racing, at Milton Keynes. Part of his job is to be a businessman, getting sponsors to put racing teams on the track.

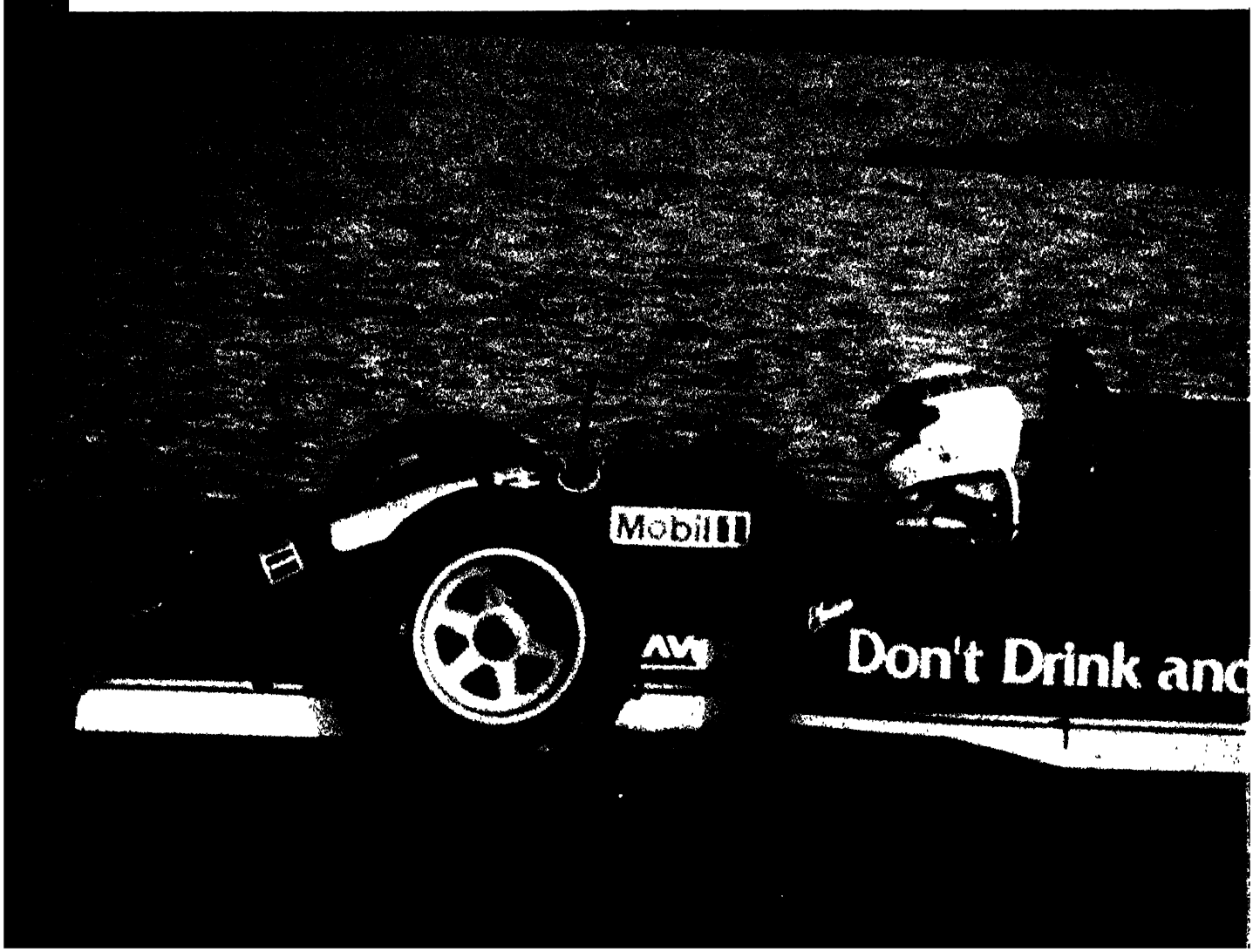
But Paul, who is close to his parents and 23-year-old brother Mark, soon saw through the well-meant subterfuge. He said: "One of the reasons my father helped and encouraged me to set all this up, is that he wants me to stop driving. He thinks that, this way I'll have something to move over to. We work very closely together. But, for me, the racing comes first."

"I am constantly trying to take a back seat in the business to concentrate on my driving. I've been racing since 1987. My first full season was 1989. It has been very exciting. The thrills I've had from motor-racing have been fantastic," he went on.

But Stewart is fiercely independent in his racing career, refusing to bask in the reflected glory of a father who was three times world champion. As he explained: "I went to a racing school at Brand's Hatch during a university vacation. I felt it was my last chance to do the thing I really wanted to. I even used an assumed name because I didn't want people saying, 'We've got Jackie Stewart's son here' and comparing me to him."

"My name was Robin Condon. I got some abuse about that, as you can imagine. It sounded like condom. Every time the name was put out over the loudspeaker, people chuckled. And I'd have to say—'That's me'," he added, laughing before continuing: "I could have made a better choice of name. But the school went really well. Unsolicited, they wrote me a letter saying they

This season, for the first time, Paul tackles the Formula 3000 circuit and has high hopes for the European Championships



thought I showed potential and should pursue a career in racing. It was quite something to receive."

And it is only recently that Paul discovered his father began his career using a pseudonym as well. "My father's brother Jimmy, who is eight years older than him, started racing. He was quite successful, but gave it up after an accident," he explained, going on "When my father wanted to take up racing as well, my grandmother put her foot down. She said, that, so long as she was living in the house, there weren't going to be two racing drivers. Either herself, or one of the boys would have to leave. My father was pretty sure his mother wasn't going to leave and that his older brother wasn't going to stop racing. So it would have been him who was out. He found the solution by carrying on racing under the name A.N. Other. And he kept it secret from his mother."

Today Paul, who "hasn't time for a girl-friend", is proud to race as Paul Stewart—while trying not to let his famous father's reputation put pressure on him. As he said: "Obviously, father's name has helped. But now I want to make my own name. Proving that you can be a front-runner is what counts."

"I will be more nervous watching Paul than when I raced myself. That is a parental feeling I don't expect to go away...I love my son"...Jackie Stewart

And although Paul is now resigned to being Stewart Mark II he is determined to show that he is indeed different. Sometimes he does this in a subtle way. For example, both Paul and Jackie, who retired in 1973, have a taste for tartan. Jackie drove with a band of red Royal Stuart round his crash helmet. But Paul sports green Hunting Stuart.

As he told me: "This year I'm in the European Championships. It's my first season in Formula 3000, so I'll be up against drivers who have been round the track three, may be four times. I expect to do two years in Formula 3000. In 1993, I would hope to be in a Formula One Team. In that event, Paul Stewart Racing will carry on without me competing with them."

Meanwhile, Jackie and his 50-year-old wife Helen will sit helplessly, watching their son take his life in his hands. Following the family trade. Jackie said: "If you truly love any member of your family, you don't want your son to be doing something as dangerous as driving racing cars. I will be more nervous watching Paul than when I raced myself. That is a parental feeling I don't expect to go away. I wish it would, but it won't because I care. I love my son. It is very difficult for his mother. She watched me race and now she has to sit at home while her son races."

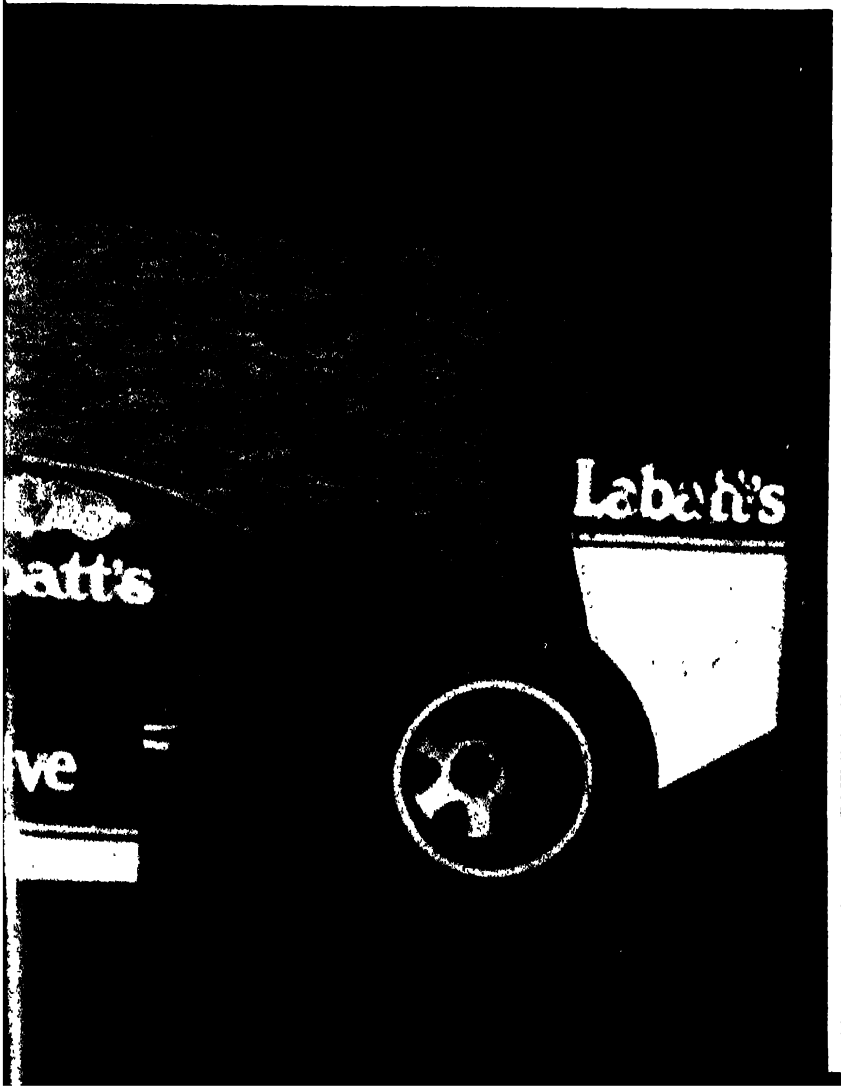
But Paul has every intention of surviving the dangers of the track just like his father did—for 11 thrill packed years. And he is keeping himself on a knife-edge of fitness. He neither drinks nor smokes. And he knows how essential it is to be able to relax away from the sport. One of the ways being strumming his guitar every day.

Leaning back in his chair, Paul said thoughtfully: "In all the hustle and bustle of life, people forget how to simply enjoy themselves—to just go for a walk in a wood and to appreciate what is all around them. I try to find time for that, too. It is all part of being fit, healthy and ready to go. When I get in that car I have to be able to give it 100 per cent, so that I can drive to win."

When he said that, Paul sounded just like his father. A born winner.

Bridget Bouch

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHS: ASIA FEATURES



SU MORE SCANDAL

Free-style Wrestling

THE staid sport of sumo wrestling was recently rocked by a scandal. And the subject was once again sex. The one who was involved was none other than the great champion, Kotonishiki, who is now receiving headlines like 'The Incurable Moron' in newspapers across Japan.

The scandal was like this: Kotonishiki abandoned his pregnant wife, whom he had married recently, for a 19-year-old student whom he had promised to marry. This sort of thing might be commonplace all over the world but in sumo wrestling they are supposed to embody national virtues. Some observers put all this down to the decline of the age of the *geisha*, who were the companions of sumo wrestlers in previous bygone eras. As an insider moaned: 'Things like this happen because the *geisha* houses have dropped dramatically. The boys have nowhere to play any more and resort to tangling with ordinary innocent girls.'

So sumo wrestlers, get your act together, if you still want to retain cult status in Japan.

PRIVATE EYE



WE LOOK WHERE WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO!

IN THE CROWD

Out of touch

CHRIS EVERT was teamed up with pro golfer Payne Stewart in a recent pro-celebrity tennis exhibition tie in Orlanda, Florida And during the match, an obviously rusty Chris double faulted twice in a row. An alarmed Stewart turned to her and said, 'Chris, you've been away from the game too long?'

But Evert got even in the next game. When Stewart missed a shot and displayed a bit of his temper, Chris looked him squarely in the eye and asked, 'Payne, are you the John McEnroe of golf?'

Chris Evert with Payne Stewart during a pro-celebrity tournament



Talk of the Town: From left: Andy Mills, Judy Nelson, Donald Trump, Linda Evans, Chris Evert and Martina



Talking about Chris Evert, what is Martina Navratilova doing these days? Well, for starters, she's been having a grand party for 400 of her dearest and nearest friends at the Plaza Hotel to celebrate the successful debut of MN clothing. And of course, the names of the people who dropped in were like a Who's Who of celebrities. Andy Mill, Judy Nelson and why even Donald Trump himself. Picture shows him with (from left), Andy Mill, Judy Nelson, Linda Evans, Chris Evert and Martina. Then Donald Trump strode out of the door and barely within moments, in strode ex-wife Ivana. She shook hands with everyone, had her picture taken, chatted with Martina and Judy and headed for the door. Ah, to be part of the 'in' crowd.

CRUYFF'S BREATHER

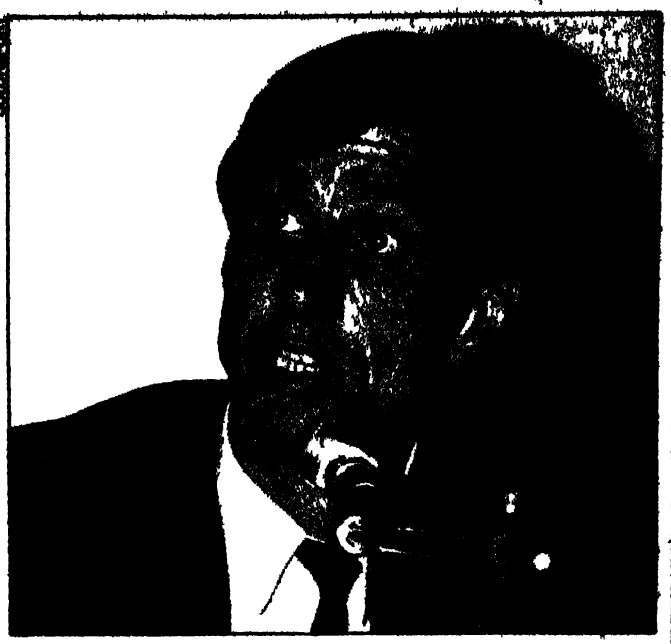
Up In Smoke

JOHAN CRUYFF, the Dutch football coach of FC Barcelona, amazed the world because at 48, he had to have heart surgery done. The operation was successful and Cruyff is now raring to go. 'I will return to normal activity within two weeks' he proclaimed, 'and within two months, I'll be able to return to sports.'

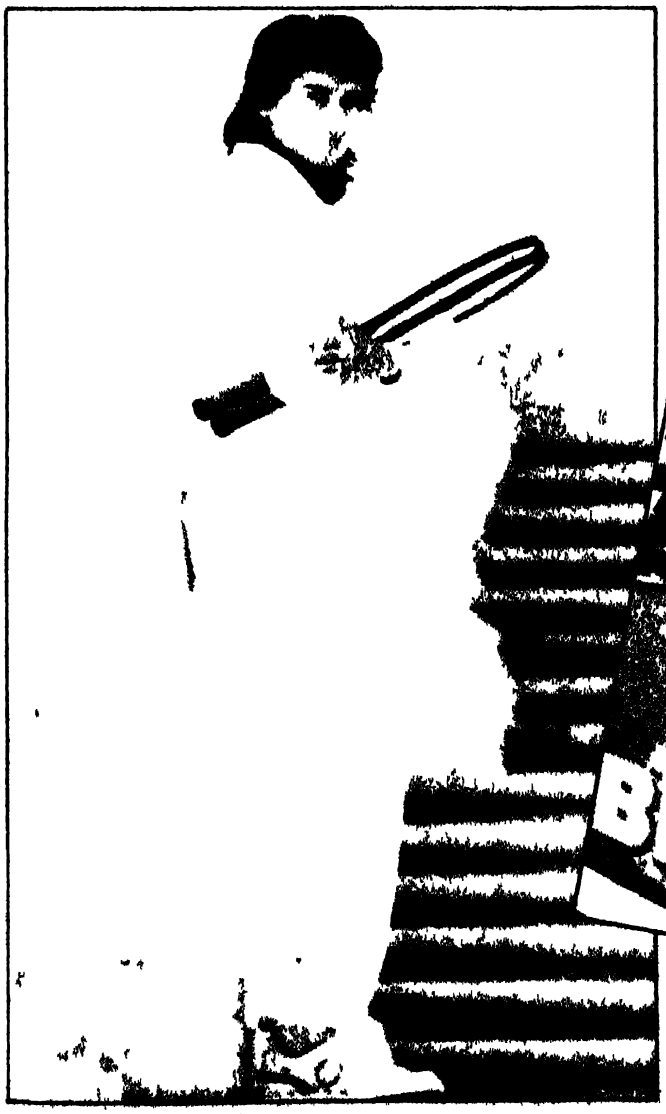
The cause of Cruyff's problems: a high cigarette smoking habit. He had been smoking two packets a day for over 30 years.

But chastened Cruyff said, 'I have smoken my last cigarette. I hope this will change my life.'

We don't know about that but your lungs, Mr Cruyff, will welcome the breather.



Johan Cruyff: recovering from heart surgery



SWEET SMELL OF SUCCESS

Sabatini's perfume is a hit



The perfume ad Sabatini: Sensuality and mystery

'Tennis is my game. This perfume is my love'

THIS is what Gabriela Sabatini says at the bottom of the sexy poster advertising her perfume line called...y-ou guessed it, Gabriela Sabatini The posters, like the one in the photo-graph, can be seen all across the Continent, and the word is that sales are booming across Europe

Since its introduction in the States early this year, the 'Sabatini' line—which includes perfume, shower gel, deodorant and body lotion—is also raking in the bucks

Explains Bruce Desonne, the vice president of Colonia Inc., 'We are trying to depict the sensuality and mystery that is Gabriela. She really does transcend tennis. And we're not really going after the sports market specifically.'

For die-hard Indian tennis fans, the perfume costs 15.50. (Sorry, but that is in dollars, not rupees).

freewheeling

IT was in September 1987 when he drove a friend and I down to his house in Delhi's upmarket Surder Nagar that I realised that Kapil Dev had 'made it big' in more senses than one. The amazing thing was how he had always underplayed it. With SMG one always knew that one was speaking to the potential crore*pati*. But KD never let you on; he spoke in a *desi* accent, he joked like one of the boys, he backslapped you like even strangers do after you get married, and he was...er well, like the good old 'bhaiyya' next door. But 'bhaiyya' a mercedes *wallah*? I had never thought of that.

Which is where the beauty lies in his case. He is so uncomplicated and so innocuous that I suspect that one day God simply took a crust of Haryanvi earth, breathed life into it and said: "*Jaa puttar, tussi Kapil Dev. Desh ke liye new ball pheko.*"

The stories are many about him but largely uncirculated.

This guy is so remarkably concerned about whether players are getting paid well or not, that he would make a decent no-party Labour Minister. On one occasion he was so touched by a young cricketer's desperate need for a house that he agreed to finance the purchase, "Dey dena waapas paisey jab tumhaarey paas aa jaaye," he added.

The net effect is one of considerable respect from amongst his colleagues. Vengsarkar lambasted almost his entire side with mutiny after the West Indies tour 1989. He singled any two cricketers out for special mention-KD was one of them. This surprised the average Indian bought up in the belief that former captains are perfect saboteurs. Vengsarkar put his seal on KD's loyalty certificate; "Each time I needed a breakthrough I could rely on KD to come on and bowl his heart out for the country."

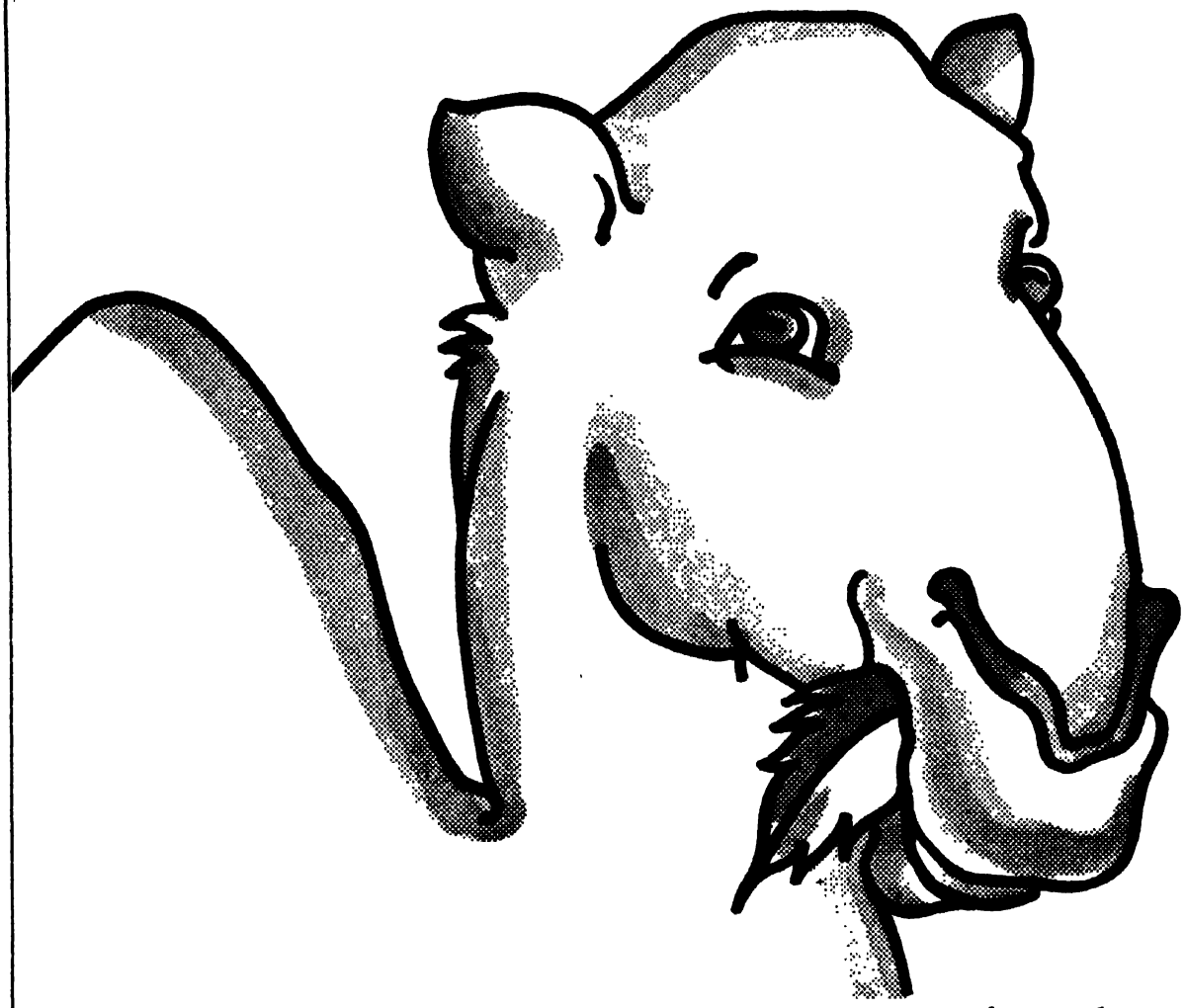
If captains find him dependable, enthusiasts find him unsually friendly. A young admirer in Calcutta sent him a massive bouquet in Calcutta early this year—and got a phone call a few hours later with a heavy voice at the other end saying; "I am Kapil Dev." The young lady fainted (almost).

Most cricketers one has seen cultivate a deliberate 'bhaav' most of them are nice simple folk, but are simply unable to put the other guy at ease. KD is refreshingly different. We had gone for dinner to Calcutta's Chinatown the day he picked up a hat-trick in the Asia Cup final this January. What the hell, this man should have been celebrating with the select 6-star crowd in Calcutta, clinking glasses of champagne surrounded by a bevy of beauties wanting to know how has such a slim wait, but there he was: splitting a plate of rice noodles and Manchurian chicken with a once-upon-a-time cricket writer for company. How dull. He laughed it off: ""Yaar, yahaa aur mazaa aaya. Aaraam se baith ke do-chaar baat kar sake. And yes, the *khana* was superb. Romi would love it."

Amazing cricketer yes, this KD of ours. But an even better human being.

Mudar Patherya

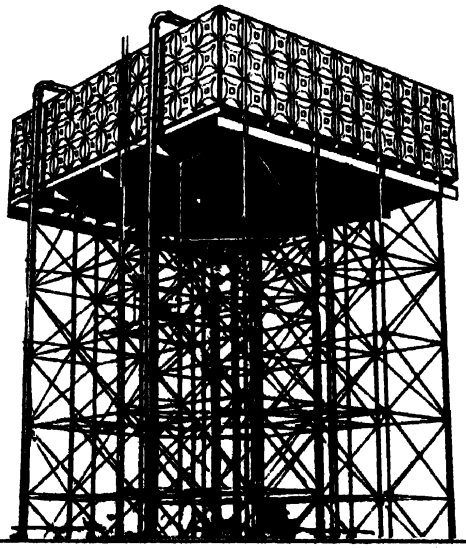




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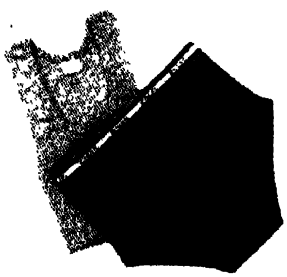
A list of fascinating sporting predictions

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Anke Huber: The new Steffi Graf of German tennis. Watch out girls!

FUT

TENNIS 1991

The magazine *TENNIS WORLD* made the following predictions for this year

German teenager Anke Huber will make a quiet assault on the world's Top Ten.

Jimmy Connors will come back from wrist surgery, play a series of exhibitions, take a break to commentate for NBC at Wimbledon, and join Team Tennis by mid-July

Expect to see Ivan Lendl back in the main draw at the French Open. He'll then go on to win his much-coveted first Wimbledon singles title.

Don't be surprised if heavy-hitting, hard-working Jim Courier uses his big forehand to topspin his way to the French Open final, beating last year's finalist, Andre Agassi, along

URE SHOCK!

Fascinating sporting predictions that may come true

the way. But don't expect Courier to be as polite as Michael Chang about it. He'll hoot and holler all the way to victory.

Will Stefan Edberg and Ivan Lendl become the hot new doubles team on the ATP Tour? Is a Grand Slam title in the offing for this Dynamic Duo?

Look for Stefan Edberg to pull a "Swede" and fall out of the Top Ten. He'll admit as countrymen Bjorn Borg and Mats Wilander did before him that reaching No. 1 wasn't all it was made up to be.

Look for Pam Shriver to enroll in college, with an eye toward a career in politics.

A prominent 'love doubles' team will finally call it quits after what seems like an eternity together.

Andre Agassi and Monica Seles will go into business together, opening a chain of hair salons called Snip 'n Duck.

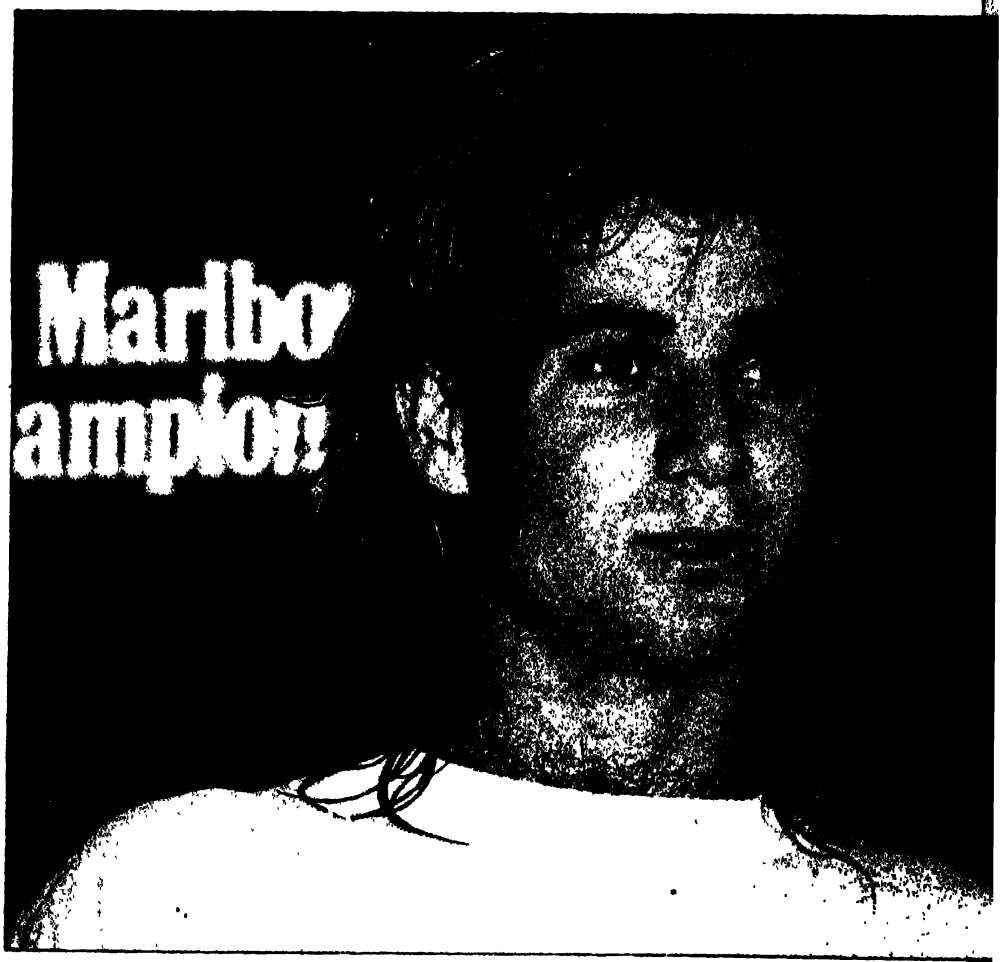
Ivan Lendl, upon announcing that he and wife Samantha are expecting their second child, will admit that he likes breeding children almost as much as he likes breeding dogs, "Kids are not as obedient," Lendl will admit, "but their tricks are funnier."

Andre Agassi will play Wimbledon finally and show up wearing white Span-dex under his shorts, which the All England Club will promptly ban. Agassi management firm, IMG-which owns the marketing rights to Wimbledon-will then come to the rescue. Agassi won't last into the second week of the tournament, but the British fans will love him.

Look for a top tenner on the women's tour and a top 50 player on the men's tour to fall in love.

Look for Martina Navratilova to win a tenth Wimbledon singles crown and retire, once and for all. She will not, however, climb into the stands to hug the members of her oftmaligned but much-appreciated "coterie."

Already angry about its second-class citizenship in the ITF, the WTA (led by president Chris Evert)





Will Stefan Edberg take his long time girlfriend Annette Olsen to the altar, or will she go for another Swede?

will demand-and get-its own version of the men's $8 million Grand Slam Cup.

Stefan Edberg will finally take longtime girlfriend Annette Olsen to the alter. Or will Olsen, who previously courted Mats Wilander, throw a net over yet another Swede?

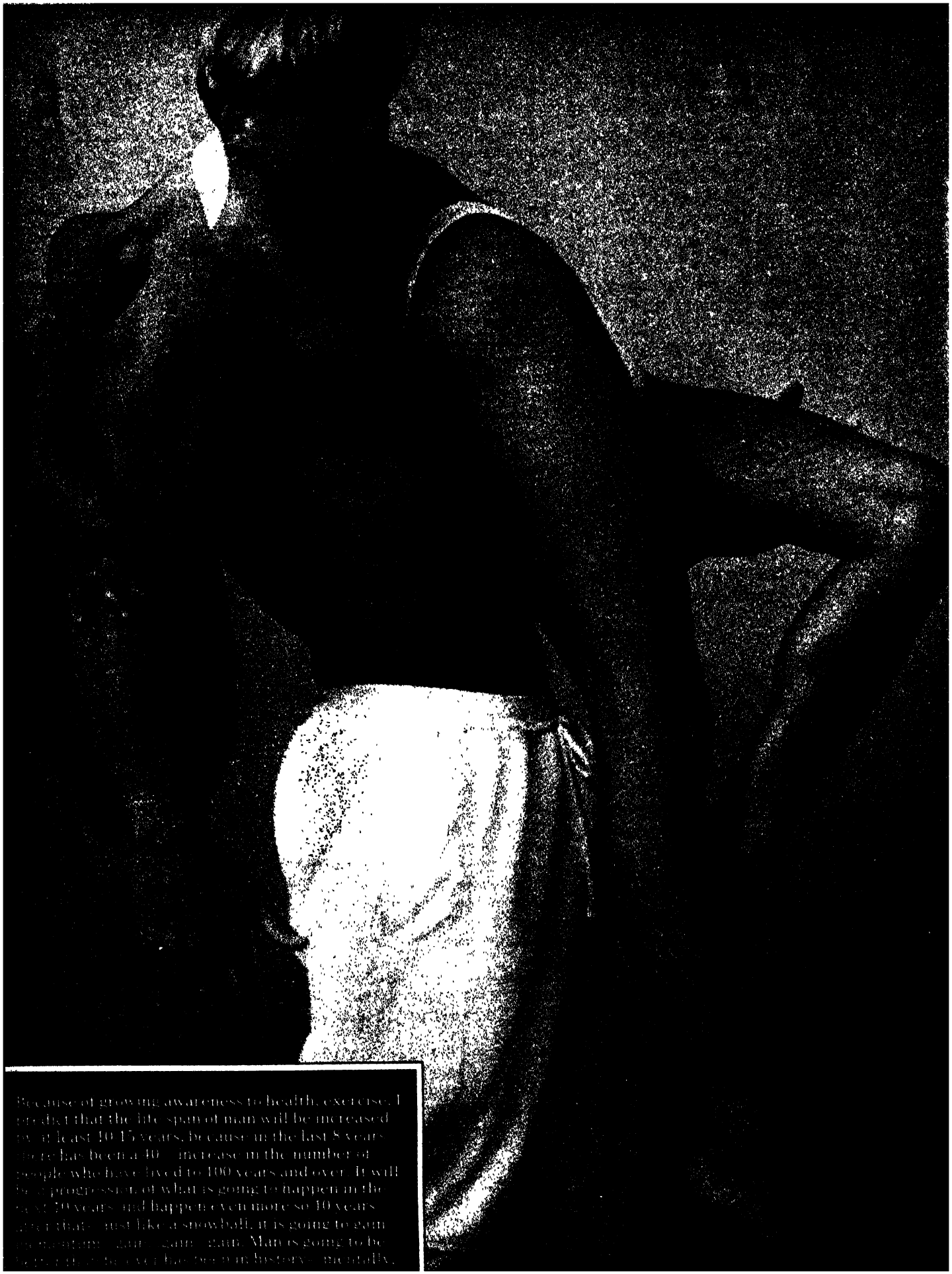
Carling Bassett-Seguso and husband Robert are awaiting the arrival of son Holden's younger brother or sister. Will they name the child Break Serve so that they can introduce the children as Holden Break Serve?

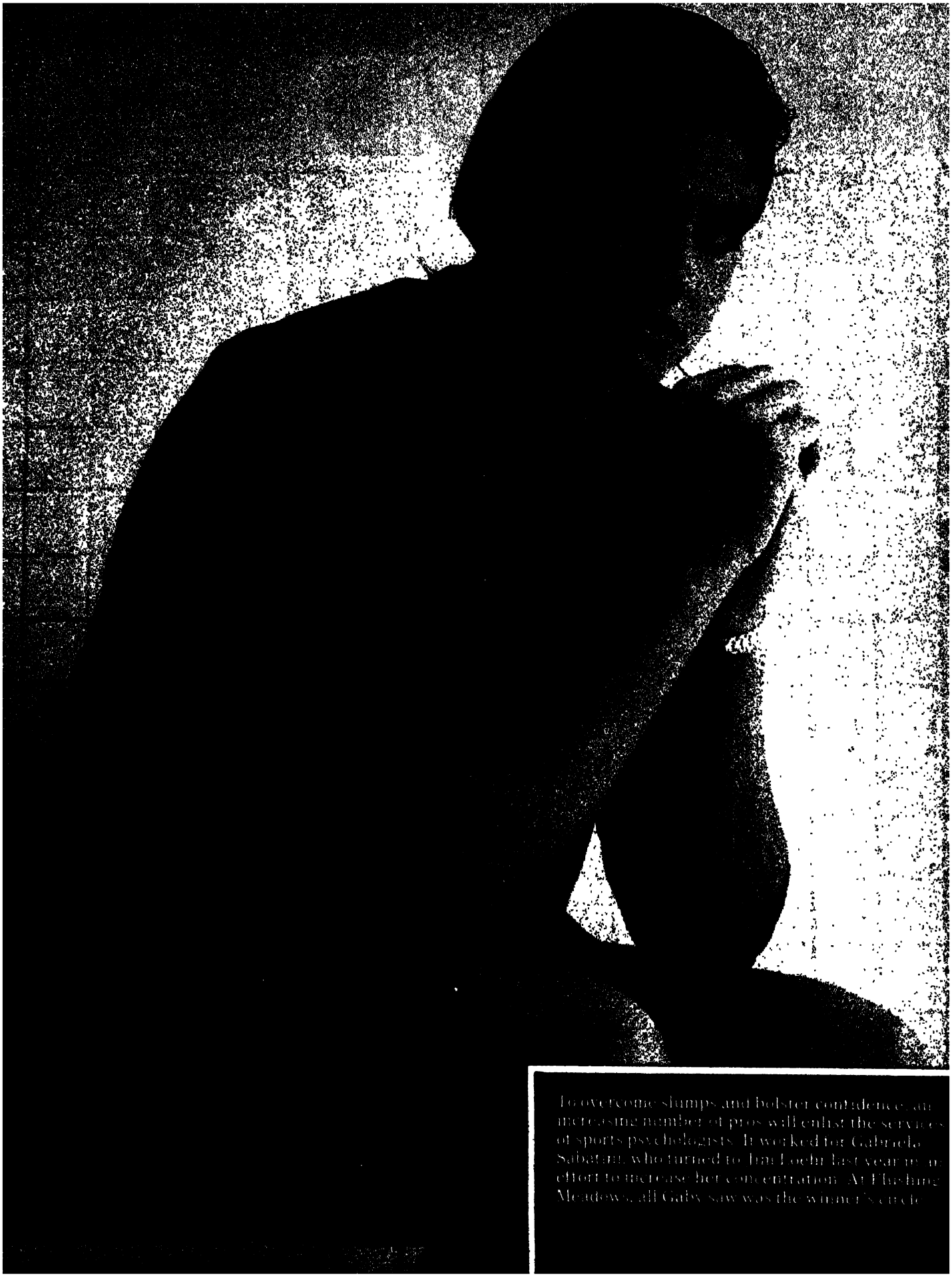
Steffi Graf will fall in love with a well-known rock musician, who will take father Peter's place in the friend's box at Wimbledon.

Boris Becker is mad as hell and he's not going to take it anymore. The German is talking strike at the U.S. Open in September if the USTA doesn't rethink its policy of playing the finals one day after the semis instead of allowing for a day's rest, as the other Grand Slams do. The Super Saturday lineup is mandated by CBS, which refused to renew its TV contract unless it could control the scheduling of the event. "I am against this television dictatoriship in tennis," says Becker, who is urging all of this year's semifinalists to refuse to play if things don't change.



Becker frustrated with life and angry with tour organisers


Because of growing awareness to health, exercise, I
predict that the life span of man will be increased
by at least 10-15 years, because in the last 8 years
there has been a 40% increase in the number of
people who have lived to 100 years and over. It will
be progressive of what is going to happen in the
next 20 years and happen even more so 10 years
after that—just like a snowball, it is going to gain
momentum and gain again. Man is going to be



To overcome slumps and bolster confidence, an increasing number of pros will enlist the services of sports psychologists. It worked for Gabriela Sabatani, who turned to Ivan Lendl last year in an effort to increase her concentration. At Flushing Meadows, all Gaby saw was the winner's circle

EXERCISE

Predictor JACK LALANNE is America's best-known exercise teacher. Through his numerous books, television shows, and health spas, he has spread his message of proper diet and regular exercise. Using such phrases as "ten seconds on the lips and a lifetime on the hips," Mr. Lalanne estimates that he has helped take a ton of fat off American women every day for the past 25 years.

1993-2030

It has been sadly observed that some athletes suffer from hidden problems. And so a superjogger falls dead of a heart attack at age 44. A combination of psychotherapy (which will de-intensify deadly, hidden weaknesses) and exercise will—this is my prediction—progressively prevent such personal disasters, and we may expect to see psychiatrists jogging with a number of patients, watching and questioning, not on the couch, but on the run.

There are just some things we can't get rid of. Overuse syndrome is one of them. The culprits are more aggessive play, harder surfaces and, particularly for the pros, too many tournaments. A body, no matter how fine-tuned, can only take so much. But trainers are predicting that this syndrome will level off and then decline.

Reebok's new slogan is "It's Time to Play". Apparently so. After years of hearing and reading about the virtues of sustained, strenuous exercise, we're now being told that the equivalent of a few brisk walks per week is enough to increase our odds of living longer and healthier. People are gardening, hiking and dancing for exercise. Also look out for step training: it's like low-impact aerobics except that participants trudge on and off small plastic platforms, often holding light weights. Stepping puts very little strain on the knees, ankles and feet while working the thighs and buttocks.



American football will lose popularity but some of it s better aspects—like the cheer leaders—will be adopted by football and even cricket

Goran Ivanisevic will tank one too many matches and be suspended by the ATP Tour. Or else he'll be defaulted from a tournament for aggravated behaviour.

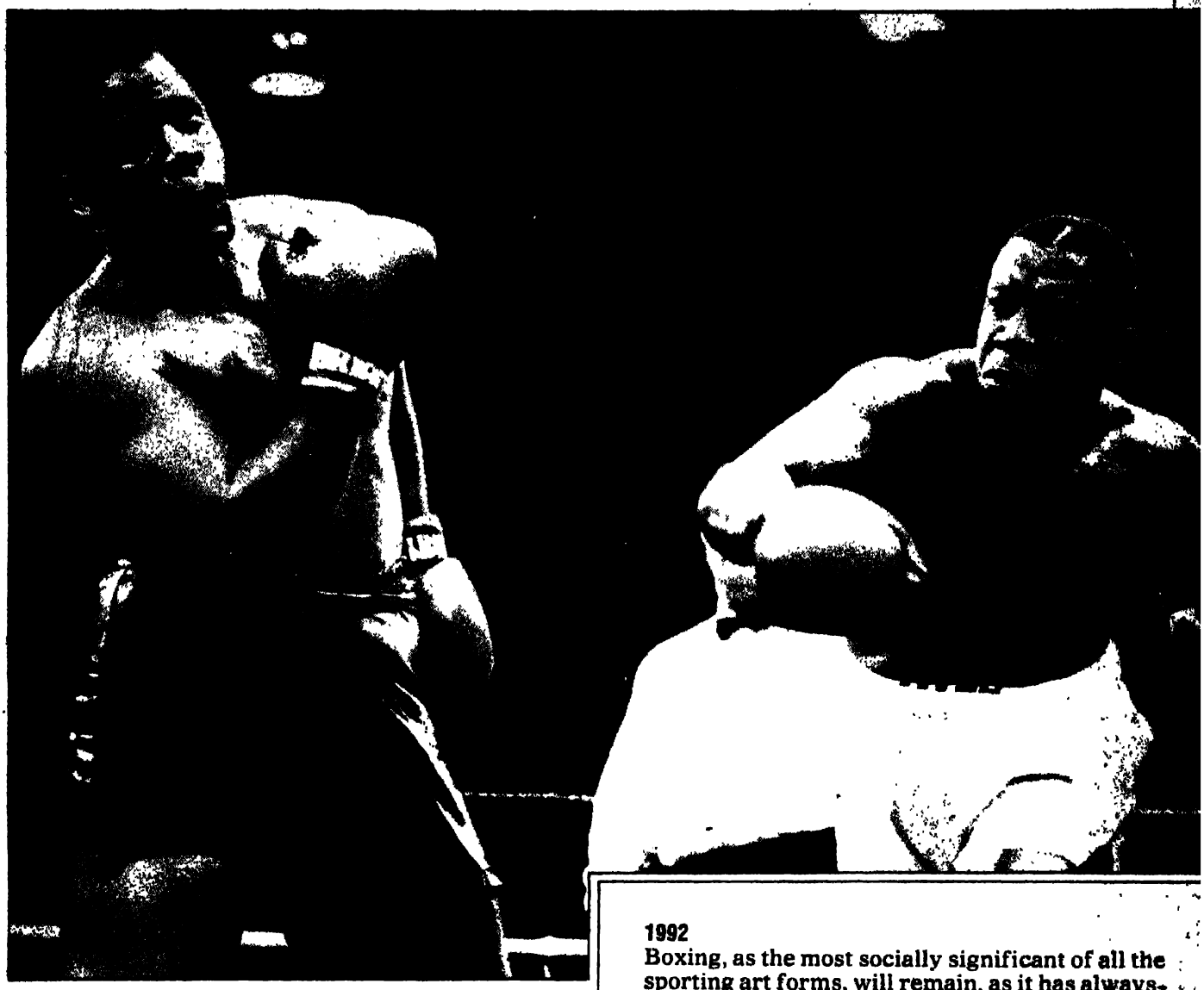
John McEnroe, whose comeback attempts have been just shy of expectation, may decide to retire sometime after the U.S. Open. McEnroe will then be hearalded as a tennis genius, one who revolutionized the sport. No one will bury McEnroe; they will only praise him.

Steffi Graf, whose game and emotional resolve were taxed by reports that her father had an affair with a nude model, will put the incident behind her and regain the dominance she displayed in 1988.

Don't be too surprised if Jana Novotna and Helena Sukova, the world's top-ranked doubles team, split up and Novotna starts playing with Hana Mandlikova. After all, Mandlikova is Novotna's coach these days.

Miraculously, Monica Seles' on-court moaning will cease.

Arantxa Sanchez Vicario will float aimlessly through much of the year but come up with a big win when it matters most.



1992
Boxing, as the most socially significant of all the sporting art forms, will remain, as it has always been, a refuge for the underprivileged. With the decline of prejudice and the advancement of social legislation in America, however, most world—class boxers, and thus the champions, will emerge from the less economically secure and less socially oriented nations.

AT RANDOM

Predictor W.C HEINZ was a general reporter, war correspondent, and sports writer for the *New York Sun*. He is a five—time winner of the E.P. Dutton Award for the best magazine sports article of the year. He is also the author of five books, three involving sports: *THE PROFESSIONAL*, considered by many to be the finest novel about boxing ever written; and *Once They Heard the Cheers*, a reminiscent revisit with sports heroes of the years 1945—1965.

As Homo sapiens continues to grow in height, and basketball scores mount commensurably, the basket will be raised from 10 ft. to 10 ft. 6 in. Games will still be won in the last two seconds, but with such comparatively modest scores as 98—97.

With the decline of American football, its progenitor, English rugby, involving as it does running with the ball, passing, kicking, and tackling with less expense to budgets and bodies, will take new root in the US.

By 1993
The mass media will be the primary conduit of sports entertainment. There will be television schedules presenting nothing but sports events, sports personalities, sports news, sports training techniques, sports equipment, sports medicine-the total sports television network.



By 1993
SOCCER will lose some of the popularity it has enjoyed in recent years, but another sport, the age-old English sport of cricket, will become popular all over the world. The game will be speeded up for American purposes, but it will retain some of the leisurely, homespun character that has been identified with it in England British Commonwealth countries down through the centuries.

CRICKET TO TAKE OVER FROM SOCCER!

Predictor *MARTIN ABRAMSON* is a former sports and feature writer for the *New York Herald Tribune*. He has also done numerous articles on sports and other subjects for *Playboy*, *Reader's Digest*, *Cosmopolitan*, and *Esquire*. Mr Abramson is the author of seven books.

A MAJOR international cricket match will be held in Yankee Stadium in the fall of 1993. It will be so successful that the first professional cricket league will be formed in the US.

BOXING will enjoy a comeback, with more white fighters competing because of the large sums offered and because a national depression will make it hard for many young people to find decent jobs.

WOMEN'S basketball will continue to gain in popularity, but it will not match the appeal of the male game. For the first time, a woman player will be allowed to compete for an entire season on a male basketball team.

THE record for the mile run will go down to 3 min. and 32 sec. And for the first time a woman runner will break 4 min. in running the mile.

1993-2030
As electronic video games featuring sports become ever more sophisticated and advanced, professional leagues will be formed. Their members will play games at home, competing with others who also play in their homes, via electronic and cable connections. Since games of this type do not require physical skill, but rather mental agility and dexterity, there will arise a new breed of sports performers who will not have to



PATRICK EAGAR

be physically strong or require constant training

Robots will become so advanced in their physical characteristics and their ability to perform as "hessians" that American football teams will be made up of these robots. These will be directed from the bench by the coach.

The mile will be run in 3 min. flat by a male and a female mark of 3 min. 40 sec. will be set.

Tennis tournaments will be won by 13-and 14-year-olds defeating competitors twice their age .

The record price for a yearling racehorse in the U.S. will be 4.5 million.

DIET AND REFORM

Predictor Jim FIXX is the award-winning author of the bestselling *Complete Book of Running,* which has sold over 1,000,000 copies in hardcover and has been translated into 12 languages. A former magazine editor, Mr Fixx has served as senior editor of Life, and editor in chief of McCall's. His other books include *Games for the Superintelligent, Solve It!* and *Jim Fixx's Second Book of Running.*

1997
One third of American workers will bicycle, run, or roller-skate to and from work. Major American companies will install showers and locker rooms and give time off for exercise.

2000
Exercise will routinely be used to treat drug and alcohol addiction and many psychological problems, including depression and phobias.

2005
A woman will run a marathon in 2:17

2010
Cigarette smoking will be uncommon. Consumption of marijuana and alcohol will be down sharply, but use of other psychogenic chemicals, including artificial endorphins for mood enhancement, will have increased.

2030
Jim Fixx, age 98, will compete in his 58th Boston Marathon.

Equipment

RESIST AIR MUSCLE TONER: *Picture a tennis racket with no throat, a thin, dacron skin instead of strings, and a 35-by-25 inch super-super-oversize hitting area and you've grasped the concept of this unique wrist, arm and shoulder firm-up device. Just make sure there are no loose papers or hairpieces around!*

DOUBLE-LAYER SOCKS: Yeah, we know —what could be exciting about socks. Try this: This may be the most effective way yet to prevent athlete's foot and blisters. A company will manufacture socks that will wisk away moisture from the foot, while the two layer concept reduces friction.

MIZUNO's 1991 TENNIS LINE: Better known for its baseball gear, Mizuno's tennis rackets, shoes, clothing, strings and accessories will be the hit of the year. And having Ivan Lendl as corporate spokesperson won't hurt sales either.

HEAD GRAPHITE FUSION: Borrowing technology from tennis rackets and skis, Head will come up with a truly innovative tennis shoe. The graphite system will provides five times the support of steel, and the Traction Wedge enhances stability without restricting movement.

Even the presence of stars like Richards, Greenidge and Marshall isn't enough to keep the West Indian cricket board's balance sheet in the black



Terry Alderman and Bruce Reid struggle for form in the Caribbean while the West Indian cricket board's balance sheet moves into the red

WHEN THE GO GETS TOUGH

HERE is a question with a bleak answer: are we never going to have a five-Test series in the West Indies again? According to Steve Camacho, former Test cricketer and presently the executive secretary of the West Indies cricket board, that is more than just a distinct possibility. The West Indies board expects its balance sheet to show more red than black after the current tour by Australia, and warns that future Caribbean tours will be much shorter affairs.

This comes as something of a shock to the cricketing world, especially when one considers two inescapable facts: firstly, that the prospect of a West Indies—Australia contest is a promoters' dream come true, especially as both teams are currently fighting for the world's top ranking; and secondly, the fact that the present series brought the West Indies board a much-needed funds boost of at least $ 320,000 from television rights.

"I think what we basically have to talk about is that we are no longer a five-match country," said Camacho in Kingston in the first week of March. "Regrettably, it's becoming an inescapable financial fact." Pressing home the point, he claimed that future tours could possibly be restricted to three Tests and five one-day internationals in order to minimise losses.

"Most of our expenses are in hard currency," said Camacho, "so we are really taking a battering. In Jamaica our dollar used to be very strong. Now it's eight dollars to one US dollar. It's really frightening."

It was not the only frightening aspect of the current tour, though. Till the first weekend of March, there had been a steady flow of cricketers to hospitals, with a total of 17 surgical stitches needed on both sides of the dressing rooms. Strangely, though, it was the home team that came under heavy fire from the touring bowlers. The opening day of the first Test in Kingston saw the West Indies frontline batsmen come under fire against pace bowling, the same weapon that has proved their main asset against international batsmen over the past two decades. And on the subject of fast bowling: For Terry Alderman, hero of two Ashes campaigns in England, life is considerably more complicated on West Indian soil than anywhere else in the cricketing world. Alderman is part of the Australian touring team, yet has hardly made an impression in the Caribbean.

He has three ambitions to fulfil before he hangs up his bowling boots. Alderman wants to play a major role in the 1992 World Cup, for, amazing though it might seem, he has never played a World Cup match for his country. Secondly, he wants to play a Test against India, another feat he has never achieved in a distinguished career. And thirdly, he wants to cover himself with glory on West Indies soil.

Less than two years ago, Alderman was the toast of the Ashes series, spearheading the 1989 Ashes victory against the out-gunned Englishmen, who had more captains in that series than England has had monarchs in the entire 20th century. No man in the history of this game had ever taken 40 wickets twice (yes, twice) in an Ashes series before Alderman re-wrote the history books.

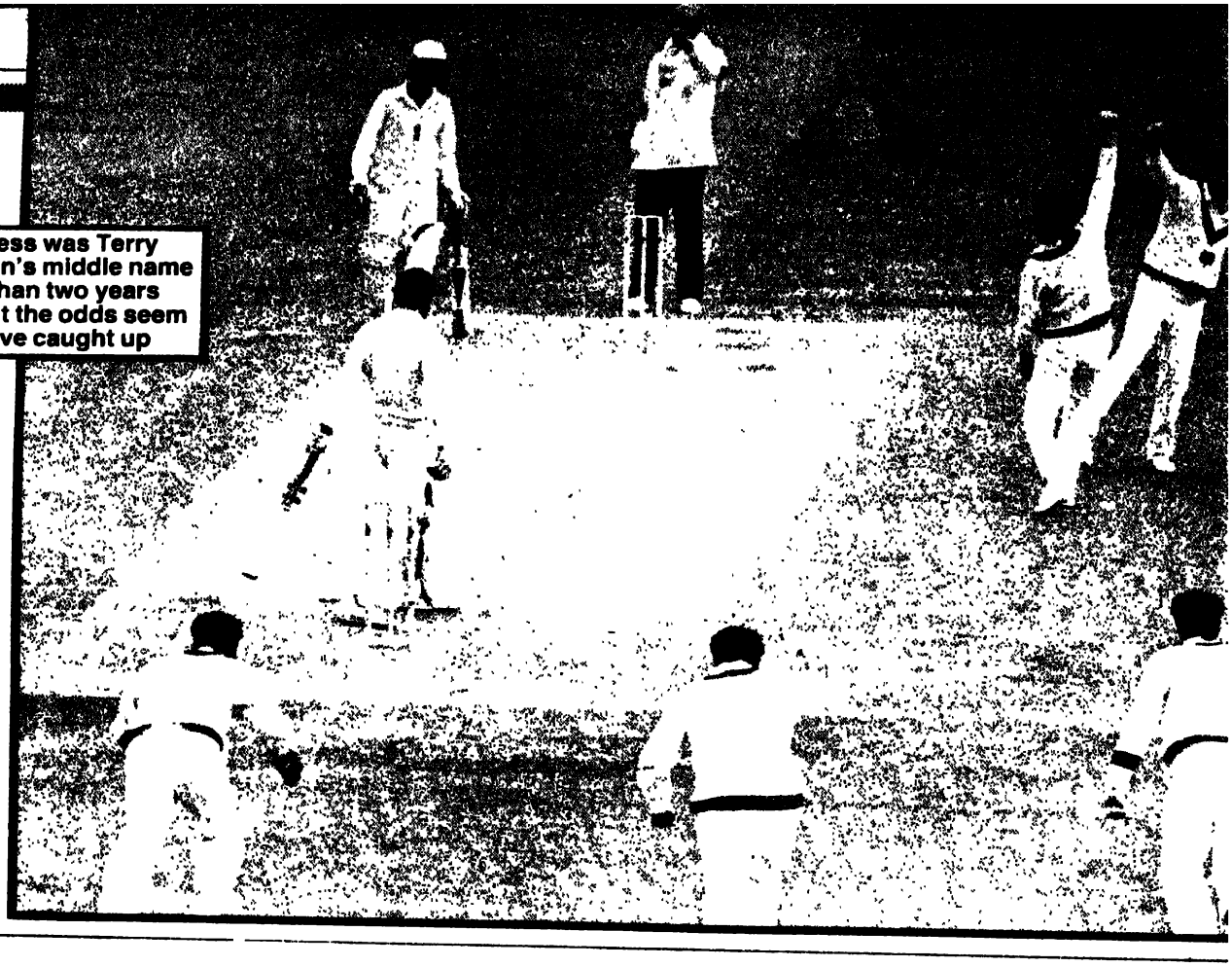
The Alderman legend has its genesis in Ashes contests, where the West Australian swing bowler has been a consistently illustrious performer, yet he has never made his mark on the Caribbean islands. Thus, the man whose swing bowling played the major role in the 1989 Ashes victory, is reduced to a virtual net bowler on the current tour, a bowler whose only hope of breaking through to the Test side is if the other strike bowlers suffer an injury.

Now 34, Alderman toured the West Indies in 1984 but was dropped for the last two Tests of that five-match Test series. Alderman was not injured, he was dropped simply because of lack of form. He had taken only four wickets at the average of 92 runs apiece.

This man could probably walk unrecognised through the main street of Barbados. The challenge for Alderman on West Indies pitches is greater than anywhere else in the world, because the pitch surfaces just do not suit his style of bowling. To add to his problems on this tour, he was laid low by a stomach virus which affected both his tour preparation as well as his short-term prospects.

As well, with the other Australian fast bowlers playing to the sort of level that only Australian fans could have dreamed of, Alderman's chances receded even further. The virus was the last straw. "I lost a stone in weight in a week," he said. "I wasn't prepared for major cricket and the other blokes were doing well, so suddenly I was out of contention for the one-dayers as well as the opening Test.

"And it doesn't get any easier. I am now ready to fire when I get the opportunity



Success was Terry Alderman's middle name less than two years ago...but the odds seem to have caught up

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PATRICK EAGAR

but on this sort of tour the only opportunity is a rare one. Unless you do really well enough in the warmup games to force your way into the Test team, the tour will have gone before you even get started.

"It is especially disappointing because I wanted to prove I could do well here after the 1984 tour. The whole thing is most frustrating. It is difficult watching the boys and thinking how much you would like to be out there, although watching them doing so well is also a tonic."

Yet, at the time of writing, Alderman's grand total for the West Indies tour was no more than 17 overs, bowled in the first tour game. And unless someone suddenly loses form, drastically or one of the fast men is injured. Alderman will return home without having added to that tally.

Life has also been hard for lanky leftarm fast bowler Bruce Reid. Since he made a comeback from what looked like being, a career-threatening back injury, he took 13 wickets in the Melbourne Test against England, before suffering, with a strained back once more in the West Indies.

Reid's back injury kept him out of cricket for 18 months, yet after he had made his comeback in December 1990 against the touring Englishmen, he was soon to suffer once more. An ankle injury ruled him out of the second innings against England in the Adelaide Test. He was ruled out of the Perth Test by a virus, and then painful spasms in his back ruled him out of early games in the West Indies, after the beanpole fast bowler had spent several hours on the flights to the West Indies. Not yet 28, Reid is now the number four bowler in the squad, behind Craig McDermott, Merv Hughes and Mike Whitney.

Those doubters in the Australian cricketing fraternity who wondered at the inclusion of Whitney in the first place must be glad that the presence of another left-armer will pose a suitable threat to the West Indian batsmen, even if Reid does not play another Test on this tour. Why take two left-arm bowlers, carped the critics. In retrospect, it's just as well the selectors picked Whitney to back up his fellow southpaw, Reid.

David McMahon, Melbourne

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PROFILE

THE MESSIAH?

Graeme Hick's much awaited debut for England may just be what the doctor ordered for English cricket's battered morale...

When Graham Gooch's XI were nearly obliterated Down Under by Allan Border's XI, it was the nadir for English cricket. Never in the recent history of the game, was an English team subject to such humiliation on foreign soil. The experts and the custodians of the game, suddenly sat up straight and realised that if England was to figure again in cricket's supremacy, some new blood would have to be infused. Some new batsmen, who could once again bestow England with a pride that now belongs to the folklore of the game.

One name that immediately comes to mind, when one thinks of batting talent, is the prodigious Zimbabwean-born, Graeme Hick. A batsman who, with his mesmeric style of batting, has impressed the selectors enough to give him a chance this English summer, against the touring Caribbeans.

1988 was the year when Hick announced his presence to the world. That was the year when he demonstrated that many faceted game of his by scoring a magnificent 405 against Somerest. A score that still stands as the highest individual tally in first class cricket this century, in England. That day Archie McLaren's record of 424, barely escaped obliteration.

That was also the year when Hick, with a knock of 172, orchestrated the West Indies pace battery, changing their tune and rhythm on many an occasion. The same knock taking him past the epochal 1,000 runs in first class cricket. A rather taken aback, Viv Richards admitted that he had not witnessed many innings of such calibre.

Well, it surely does not need 172 odd runs to make out that Hick is good batting material. The ease with which he swings the bat, the elegance with which he comes behind, the ball, and the finesse with which he executes his shot, leaves little to be spoken about. His willow says it all.

For a man who has achieved so much at a tender age, for a man who is referred to as the batting prodigy of the decade (Tendulkar may disagree), Hick comes across as a modest and very down to earth person. "I really do not know how good I am as a batsman. Nor do I think my technique is always perfect. I just go to the wicket when my turn comes and try to play as naturally as I can. As far as records and achievements are concerned, well, I do not even bother about them," says Hick. He surely does not have to bother much, the records just go down like nine pins.

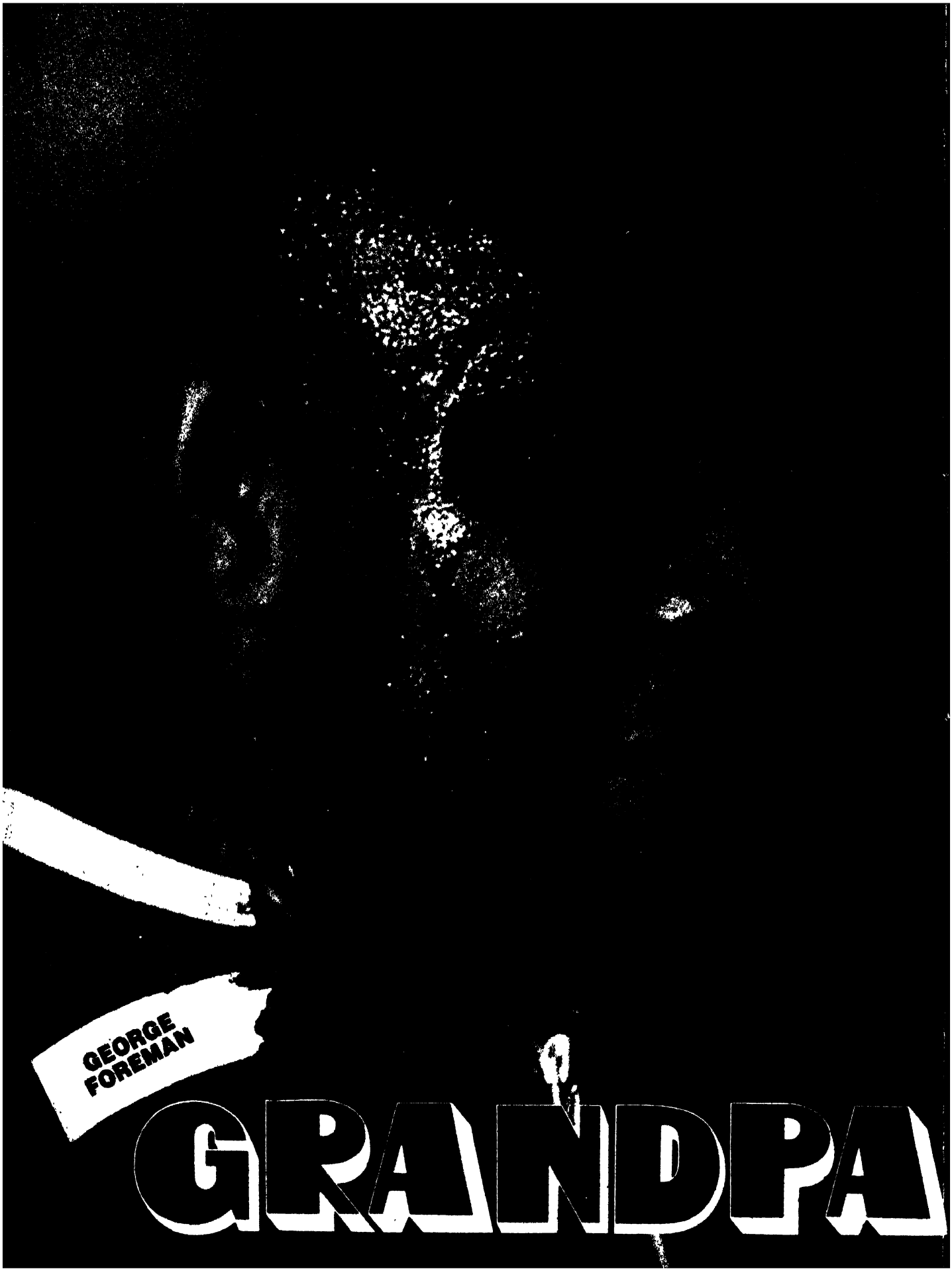
The years of waiting in the shadows, waiting for recognition, waiting to don English colours, seems to be over at last. It's time for Hick to emerge out of darkness and prove to the world that he can do the things expected of him.

Come summer and Hick will be on the bandwagon, trying to revive the sagging morale of English cricket, knowing fully well what he is getting into. The pressure to impress, the pressure for tall scores will be always there. Hick admits, "I'll just try to stick it out and see what happens. It will be like starting all over again for me. Everything I've done before will mean nothing."

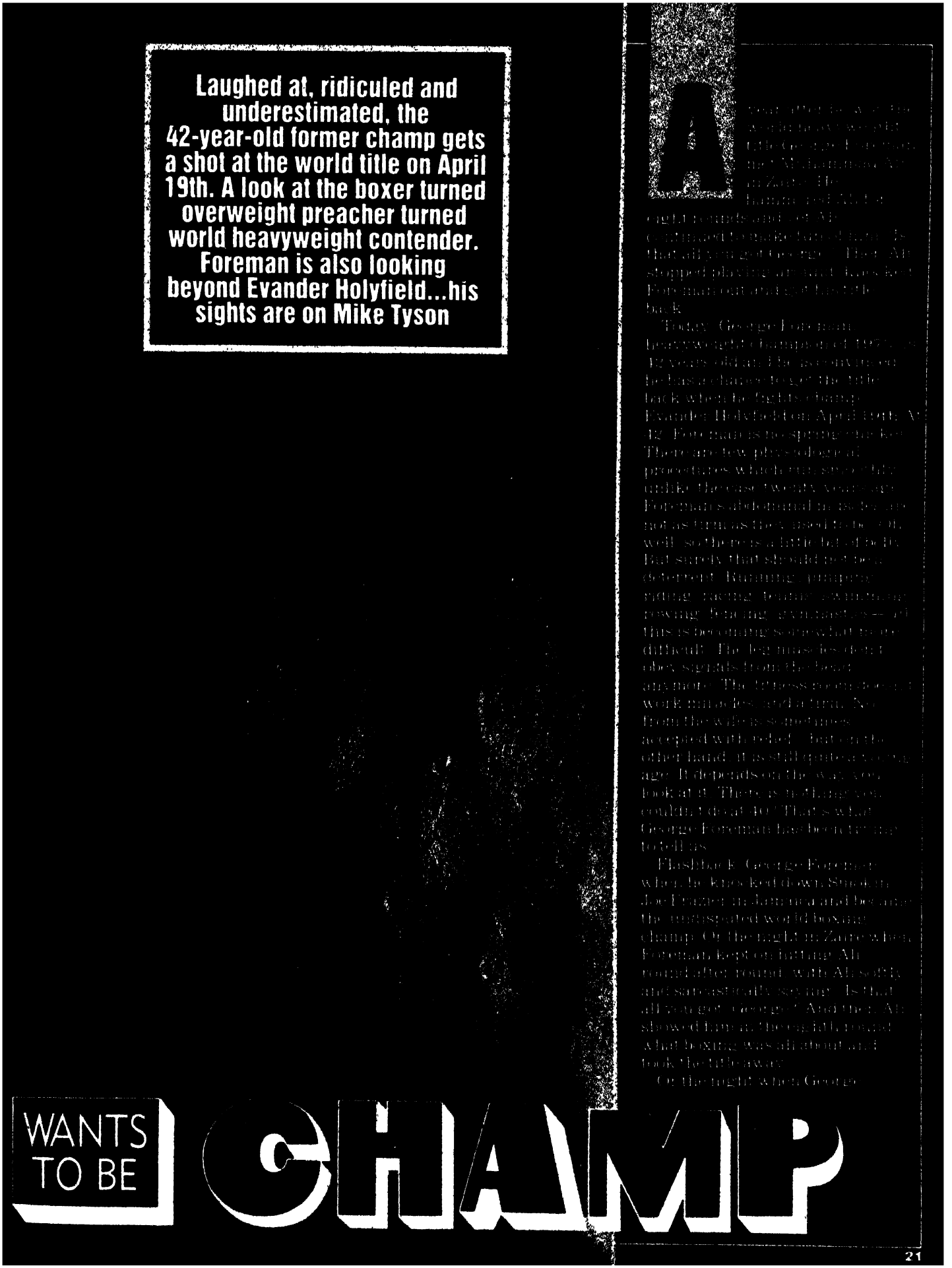
So over to Graeme Hick, and the English summer.

Haresh Pandya


PATRICK FAGAN


GEORGE FOREMAN
GRANDPA

Laughed at, ridiculed and underestimated, the 42-year-old former champ gets a shot at the world title on April 19th. A look at the boxer turned overweight preacher turned world heavyweight contender. Foreman is also looking beyond Evander Holyfield...his sights are on Mike Tyson



WANTS TO BE CHAMP



Boxing with a kid in front of the American flag



American delicacies in Houston than the Reverend George Foreman and when he had put away everything there was to put away, there was still a little place left for a bit here and there before he rolled into his Cadillac and drove home to family and Bible. Finally, he ended up weighing a remarkable 175kgs and was the roundest preacher ever. George Foreman served his congregation for nine years. It is not quite clear whether he was given new directions from above, but suddenly he looked at the American boxing scene and saw that it was not good, not good at all. And then he rode God's opposition.

Seriously, fatty decided to make a comeback. In the Texan heat, he managed to lose more pounds than what some normal people weigh. He raced uphill and downhill-backwards and forward. He went to the gym and hit a leather bag. And finally he did some skipping.

Then he sparred round after round and proved that although he had forgotten a lot, he did not forget everything he knew about this noble art of self-defence. And he did the ultimate self-sacrifice: he ignored Big Macs and fries except for breakfast and began to eat the minimum: 12 eggs, only. Big George was a mature 38 when he interpreted God's word anew and went back to his old routine. Of course, he was laughed at—38! Ha, 'Is the man potty? Did George want to become champ of the grandfather's league? Popularise boxing with seniors? Boxing as therapy?

But Foreman thought differently. He wanted something entirely different. 'I want Tyson' the Reverend George Foreman said quite seriously even though the entire world laughed and then he calmly started on his second career. But he was given opponents who though they did not enter the ring with respiratory aids, they knew very little about boxing.

It was sufficient that his opponents grimaced before fights, and could hear the referee 'counting' within minutes of the bout starting. And when he had knocked them out, he shouted, 'I want Tyson. Everyone could see that it was a farce but they laughed less about the old man.



Foreman (left) on his comeback trial knocks out Gerry Cooney in one of his early fights

Now Big George is 42. He has had 23 victories, no defeats, and has already earned about a million dollars on his comeback trail but he hasn't beaten a single man who was somehow halfway up in the ranks.

He still looks like a sumo-wrestler. He does move like a 40—year—old in the ring and he wins through blows that even a half-blind man could avoid but meanwhile, back in the US, they all talk about the inevitable fight between George Foreman and Iron Mike Tyson. And the way Tyson beat Ruddock, the savagery is back again in his arsenal. Unless Iron Mike agrees to fight the first five rounds handcuffed, there might be a massacre.

But nevertheless, there is something fascinating about the fight between the Reverend George Foreman and Tyson, young enough to be his son. Why not label it the war of the generations? Dad against the baddest kid? Perhaps he might do a bit of reading from the Bible

Gladiator Rematch

NEVER in the recent history of boxing has one come across a more imposing personality than that of Mike Tyson.

But then he changed. Tyson the champion became Tyson the arrogant. And Tyson the arrogant became Tyson the vanquished

When a man called Buster Douglas hurtled him down from the pinnacle of glory, the invincibility had at last been eroded. The world in general and Tyson in particular realised that even he could be defeated. From the height of glory Tyson was relegated to the ranks of an ordinary fighter. The previous wins no longer counted, and he realised that if he was ever to command the same respect that he did once, then he would have to fight his way back to the top. And so it was with a vengeance that Tyson started training for his fight with Donovan 'Razor' Ruddock.

This vengeance, this anger that was gnawing at his insides drove him to torture his body during practice sessions. And he spared no words, when it came to his intentions. "I want to kill him. That's what I want to do, kill him. Absolutely. There is no point in elaborating. What I said is what I meant. That is what I want to do," he said a few days before his fight.

The ignominy of the defeat must have reminded Tyson of his murkier past. A past, when he was a no one. He suddenly became cynical of the other boxers, "I represent a whole different class. Other boxers are Hollywood guys. They won't help anybody. They don't hear peoples' cries. I represent the oppressed, white or black." Elaborating further he revealed hitherto unknown facets about himself,"I do things, like spending time with the handicapped. I wipe their mouths, there's the feeling of involvement and I enjoy it." A far cry from the 'I give a damn' image that he had cultivated over the years. But then in a characteristic Tyson drawl he continues, "But I'm no angel. If you rip into me, I'll rip into you. That is what makes Mike Tyson. That's the fire in me."

And it was this fire in him that kept prodding him on, kept goading at him, reminding him that he was no longer the king. He also realised that his fight was not generating the mass interest that it used to evoke in the not too distant past. His was just another fight, people were saving up their dollars to watch the 'happening', the fight between Holyfield and Foreman. The Tyson fight was just another event.

But even before the fighters entered the ring, the fight had already began, outside. Ruddock's group were not too pleased with having Richard Steele supervise the fight. The reason advanced: "He (Steele) is too close to Don King. It is no secret. The problem we have with Steele is that he may stop the fight too soon. We want him to give us the benefit of the doubt," said Murad Muhammed, Ruddock's promotor. This immediately whipped up a controversy and prompted the Chairman of the Nevada Commission to retaliate, "Richard is a god - fearing man. If he is the No. 1 referee in the world it's because of the

The slinging match is on. Tyson vs Ruddock at a Press conference.



AP/PTI

Nevada Commission and not Don King. The bottom line is that he's not controlled by Don King." Surprisingly the Tyson camp said nothing about the issue

On March 18 D-day it was a lean mean Tyson in the ring again. The forgotton Tyson. The Tyson of yesteryears. From the word go, he had Ruddock in all sorts of trouble. In the second round itself a left hook from Tyson saw Ruddock on the floor, though he was immediately back on his feet. In the very next round another left hook from Tyson saw Ruddock on the canvas till the count of seven

It was finally in the seventh round that it happened 2 minutes and 22 seconds into the round, another left from Tyson saw Ruddock falling onto the ropes, though he never hit the canvas. Referee Steele immediately stopped the fight Ruddock looked amazed that the fight had been stopped Though he had taken a battering from Tyson it looked as though he could still go on Then it was a free-for-all between the cornermen of both the groups and the green jacketed security men that lasted for some minutes

Even Tyson, richer by $20 million after the fight, did not seem too satisfied with the outcome The usual Tyson ending, never left anything to be answered "I would have loved to have hurt him and then finished him. I'm not happy. I can do better. I could have jabbed better. Let's fight again. I fear no man", he said immediately after the fight. To which Ruddock reacted, "I liked Tyson before and I like him better now. We are both gladiators "

Even before the dust had settled down, negotiations were on for a rematch, and the date has been fixed for June 28. Two months might erode some of Tyson's aggressiveness and confidence, and Ruddock could well inculcate some new techniques in this period. And time will sure stand still, when the 'gladiators' enter the ring again.

K.O. Jacob

before dealing out the boxing gloves?

Big George remains serious and determined; He behaves as if the fight against Tyson was logical. He talks about how he belongs to those who want to become world champs. He shows off. He says, 'I'll hit him in the first round'. He talks with the same expression on his face as if delivering one of his sermons in the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ. 'I won't knock him out then, as the people pay too much to see the fight.' Come on George, go easy on the hyperbole!

Big George tortures his 40 years. For what? Is it for good food? Women? A Cadillac? Bundles of notes?

I had all that before' he says, Yes indeed....five wives, eight sons-among them three of them are called George Jr George III, and George IV as if the Foremans lived in Buckingham Palace.

'No' he says, 'I did it for the children.'

The word 'children' always sounds good. And he does not mean his own but all black kids in Houston 'who should have the chance once the way I had, said the fighting Foreman.

The reason: North Houston's "George Foreman Youth and Community Centre". Not quite as grand as it sounds but it does have a boxing ring and training equipment and plays substitute parent to 400 children every afternoon, some of whom cannot afford the 10 dollars yearly fee. But never mind: Big George welcomed all and taught them to plant the fist on brother's nose whilst dying. And when he has beaten Mike Tyson and gets real big money for it, he will build a real centre for the kids with the Rev. George Foreman as President.

This takes care of the sentimental aspects of the upcoming fight with Mike Tyson. And the theme of the fight: Big Daddy with the large heart for small kids against the soulless thrasher who wastes his money on cars that he bangs against trees.

Meanwhile, George Foreman is preparing carefully for his bout



AP/PTI

Mike Tyson with Don King (behind)

against Evander Holyfield. He has hired Archie Moore as his coach. Archie Moore—remember him? Archie used to box in the stone age. Today he is a lovable old man, about 75, but actually no one knows how old he is, not even himself. But Archie knows something that George would like to know: Archie was world champ in the heavyweight division when he was 48. Can you believe that?

But Archie Moore is optimistic and gives this piece of ancient wisdom to beat Tyson: 'Just see to it that the youngster has to take three steps whilst you take only one.'

Tyson, you coward, line up!

30+ And

IT is generally agreed that football has never been so fast, yet look at the success this season of the over-30s.

How could 34-year-olds such as Bryan Robson of Manchester United and Gordon Strachan of Leeds United have reasonably been expected to do as much as they have for their clubs—and even for their countries?

Or is any midfield player doing better than Bernd Schuster, who seems to have had, at 31, a new lease of life with Atletico Madrid?

With this in mind, how right Kenny Dalglish seems to have been to have paid suddenly and unexpectedly £650,000 for the 31-year-old Scottish attacker, David Speedie.



youngster with West Bromwich Albion, a recurring dislocation of the shoulder which ruined his 1986 Mexican World Cup, hernia operations and Achilles tendon trouble (which caused him to leave the 1990 World Cup) last year.

Yet, Robson keeps bouncing back to such an extent that Graham Taylor, the new England manager, gave him a run against the Cameroons because he felt he had to make up his mind whether Robson would figure in his plans.

It would be idle to pretend that Robson, at 34 and after all those appalling misfortunes, can be still the same explosive player as he was in earlier years.

Yet to his great credit he still does his best to pop up

For without him, the team embraced a grimly defensive policy, and did not have a single shot to trouble David Seaman, in the England goal.

Strachan, the red-headed Scot, deep outside-right or central mid-fielder, who made his name long ago with Aberdeen, has especially astonished me.

Strachan has enormous self-discipline, trains very hard, watches his diet—in other words, looks after himself.

Bryan Robson, for years his team-mate in midfield at Old Trafford, has perhaps a more exuberant lifestyle Moreover, his whole career has been cursed with a seemingly endless succession of injuries.

He suffered two broken legs as a



COLORSPORT

Bryan Robson: bouncing back into the reckoning



COLORSPORT

Gordon Strachan: astonishing

extraordinary. There have been temptations over the years to see him as one of the great lost talents of football.

Cruelly injured playing for Barcelona at Bilbao by the notorious Basque defender Goiochea, Schuster skimped on his rehabilitation exercises, was out for over a year, argued with Barcelona in court, and found a billet at Real Madrid before being discarded by them last summer.

That might have seemed the end of the road to the blond, well-built midfielder, such an exciting force in the West German team which won the European Championship in Italy in 1980.

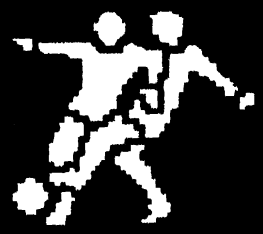
But those of us who thought he had slowed down and was something of a midfield luxury were given the lie when Atletico signed him.

Football has certainly grown faster and faster Yet, 40 years ago you could hear the complaint that it was too fast for its own good.

Devastating

By BRIAN GLANVILLE

It would be idle to pretend that Robson, at 34, can be still the same explosive player as he was earlier. Yet, to his great credit, he still does his best to pop up in the penalty area and strike dangerously for goal



unexpectedly in the penalty area and strike dangerously for goal.

Roger Milla may, ill advisedly and disappointingly, have refused to play for Cameroon against England at Wembley.

But last year in the World Cup, at the age of 38, he was possibly the most effective striker in a goal-stricken tournament, scoring the kind of goals which a man 20 years younger would have been proud to get, the reward for power, pace and quickness of reaction, mentally and physically.

You might even say that in some perverse way, Milla's absence from the Wembley match increased his reputation, showed as clearly as could be his massive importance to a Cameroon side which was the grand surprise of the World Cup.

Schuster's form is also

And hear the assertion of veteran players such as Pat Beasley of Fulham, once an England winger, that it was actually easier than ever to play if you just used your head.

You have only to look at clips from games of the 1950s to know that soccer today is immeasurably quicker than it was, yet still the veterans survive And not only because they can use their heads; they seem to be able to use their legs as well.

Roger Milla's legs are something of a physiological marvel, the muscular has fascinated even famous athletics coaches. But if Milla may be the exception that proves the rule, what of Strachan, Schuster, Robson?

Life now seems to begin for soccer's thirtysomethings. ●

SPORTING TRIVIA

GOD TO SERVE

WE'VE heard of sport being modified to suit the changing times, but religion being accommodative enough to suit sporting whims and fancies? Now, that's something new. Well, Minnesota, USA, recently came across an example when some ads appeared in the local newspapers there. The visual - a putting green and a caption below that read - 'Is this where you spend your Sunday mornings'?

Brainchild of Rev George Martin, an Episcopalian minister, the advertisement sure made the golfing enthusiasts a bit guilty. And for those who wished to be redeemed, he offered a special 5pm 'golfers special service'.

The idea sure is catching on in Minnesota and the numbers for the 'services' are swelling as every week goes by.

UP IN SMOKE

IMAGINE the US of America without baseball. Or better still, imagine baseball without tobacco. The question that comes up is what does baseball have to **do** *with tobacco? Baseball and chewing tobacco have gone hand in hand ever since the inception of the game. Slugs of tobacco and packets of snuff were always made available for players in club houses, alongwith fruit and chewing gum. But recently this American custom has been receiving flak.*

Commissioner of the game, Fay Vincent, ordered the ban of smokeless tobacco in four lesser leagues with a view of a much wider ban in future. The rule applies to the players, coaches, umpires and managers.

Done with an intention to reduce mouth cancer and other gum diseases, the decision however, has not been received too well. Said Eddie Watt, coach of the Bradenton team. 'I am not sure baseball has the right to dictate a person's habits'.

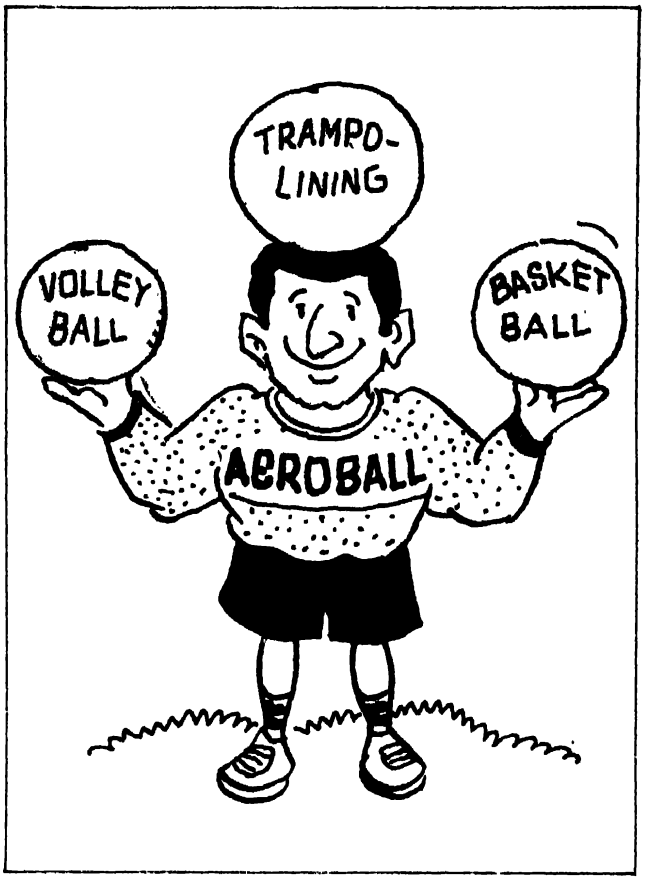
Some persons sure cannot take good advice.





AND NOW AEROBALL

FOR those of you who freak out on



volleyball or basketball, and don't have the time to frequent a court, here's a contraption designed by an English firm Playsport. Invented in the United States of America, and now currently being introduced in England, this contraption looks like a tent with baskets to put the ball in.

The netting is fireproof, and the whole enclosure 5m high and 4m in diameter, is supported on aluminium poles and as the makers claim, combines the best of volleyball, basketball and trampolining.

The bad news for those of you who are interested in the product, is that it is now being sold only by mail order, and the name of the game before we finish off—Aeroball.

A FURLONG RACE

IN times of global recession, making money is certainly not the easiest of jobs. But a certain punter, who goes by the name of Noel Furlong, amassed enough wealth in a couple of days to settle a $900,000 debt with British Customs and Excise, and further paid off a $900,000 bail forfeit. The jackpot he hit -a horse called Destriero.

At the Cheltenham races, bookies were accepting bets as high as $36,000 on the above mentioned horse. The horse, not surprisingly, was owned by one Elizabeth Furlong, and the owners raked in a cool $5.5 million after the races.

To Mr Furlong (or Big Noel as he is known in the circuit), gambling was a vice that he developed quite early in his life. Starting off in Belfast's dark betting houses, he moved on to the greyhound tracks and finally graduated to the racing track. Then, to avoid the IT authorities, he set up a carpet import business and before long the balance sheets of the firm showed huge profits. In 1985 he was finally grabbed by the IT authorities and charged with a $2.8 million tax fraud.

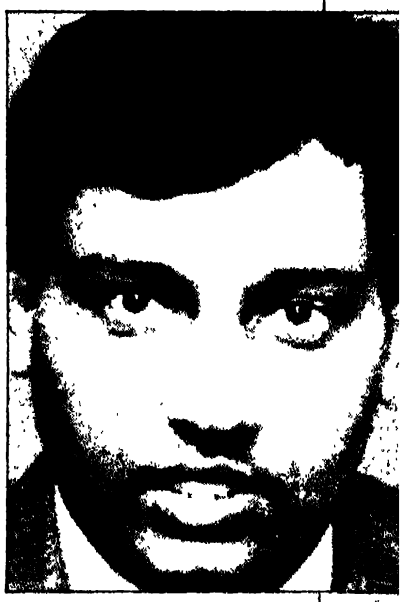
Surprise of surprises, within a few days he jumped bail and set a British-record of failing to turn up in court to answer 15 charges of evading tax on cheap imports.

Maybe this has something to do with the fact that he was the poker champion of Ireland at one time! From poker to horse racing, our Mr. Furlong has sure traversed long.

MONEY ON THE TABLE

A FAMOUS name figured as one of the recipients of the Maharastra Gaurav Purashkar award and the name whipped up a controversy of sorts. The name - that of one of the scions of the Bajaj empire -Niraj Bajaj, Executive director of Mukand Steel (the country's largest producer of specialised steel), he did not receive the award for his business acumen though. The award was conferred on him in recognition of his contribution to the game of table tennis in the State.

The story is that he, top table tennis player in the country from 1970-77 during which he was the singles champion for 4 years and the captain of the Indian team from 1975-'77, has not lifted a table tennis racquet for the past decade. But he has always been a close follower of the game. And he realised that Indian sports could not do well in the international arena due to the paucity of funds. And as a benevolent gesture on his part he has started a trust with the Rs 1 lakh he has received from the award.



His aim 'to provide for needy sportsmen and women young and old-- starting with table tennis players.'

With a few more magnanimous magnates like him in the country, Indian sport is sure bound to look up.

SPORTING CALENDAR FOR APRIL '91

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
	1 Australia vs Windies Under 23 XI (St. Vincents); Bihar State tennis championship (Patna), Bordoloi football trophy (Guwahati); Beighton Cup hockey (Calcutta); National A Chess tournament (Pondicherry)	**2** Australia vs Windies Under 23 XI (St Vincent); Bihar State tennis championship (Patna), Final of Beighton Cup hockey tournament (Calcutta); Bordoloi trophy (Guwahati); National A Chess tournament (Pondicherry)	**3**: Bordoloi trophy (Guwahati); Bihar State tennis championship (Patna); National A Chess (Pondicherry)
7 West Indies vs Australia 3rd Test (Trinidad), Bihar State tennis finals (Patna); Bordoloi trophy (Guwahati), National A Chess (Pondicherry); Indian Open tennis (Bombay).	**8**. Japan Open tennis (Tokyo); Bordoloi trophy (Guwahati); 1st Standard Chartered Indian Open tennis championships for men and women (Bombay); National A Chess (Pondicherry)	**9**: West Indies vs Australia 3rd Test (Trinidad); Japan Open tennis (Tokyo); Bordoloi trophy (Guwahati), Indian Open tennis (Bombay); National A Chess (Pondicherry)	**10**: West Indies vs Australia 3rd Test (Trinidad); Japan Open tennis (Tokyo); Bordoloi trophy (Guwahati); Indian Open tennis (Bombay); Final round of National A Chess tournament (Pondicherry)
14. Australia vs West Indies Board XI (Barbados); Japan Open tennis Finals (Tokyo), US Masters Golf (Augusta), FA Cup semi finals, Arsenal vs Tottenham Hotspur (Wembley), and Nottingham Forest vs West Ham United (Villa Park); Commenwealth table tennis championships (Nairobi); Paris marathon.	**15** Australia vs West Indies Board XI (Barbados), Commonwealth T T (Nairobi), Boston marathon (Boston); Finals of Bordoloi trophy (Guwahati)	**16**: 10th Commonwealth T T (Nairobi); Australia vs Board President's XI (Barbados); Pondicherry State tennis championships	**17**: 10th Commonwealth T T (Nairobi), Pondicherry tennis, Asian Club volleyball championships (Hiroshima); 7th Asian Freestyle Wrestling championships (Delhi)
21: Finals of Asian club Volleyball (Hiroshima); Finals of 10th Commonwealth T T (Nairobi); London marathon for men and women; Heritage Classic golf (Hilton Head); Sait Nagjee football (Calicut); Final of Bandodkar football tournament (Goa); West Indies vs Australia 4th Test (Barbados) 1st Federation Cup Hockey (Lucknow)	**22**: Sait Nagjee football (Calicut), Monte Carlo Open tennis championships (Monte Carlo); Western Indian tennis championships (Bombay). 1st Federation Cup Hockey (Lucknow)	**23**. Sait Nagjee football (Calicut); Monte Carlo tennis (Monte Carlo); Western Indian tennis (Bombay); West Indies vs Australia 4th Test (Barbados); 46th Sr National Cycling (Bombay). 1st Federation Cup Hockey (Lucknow)	**24** Sait Nagjee football (Calicut); Monte Carlo tennis (Monte Carlo); West Indies vs Australia 4th Test (Barbados) Western India tennis (Bombay); 46th Sr. Natl. Cycling (Bombay). 1st Federation Cup Hockey (Lucknow).
28. 41st World T T (Chiba, Japan), Madrid Open Golf (Madrid), Greater Greensboro Open Golf (Greensboro), 46th Sr. Natl. Cycling (Bombay), Sait Nagjee Football (Calicut), Monte Carlo Open Tennis Finals (Monte Carlo), Sub-Junior Hockey Nationals (Chandigarh), West Indies Vs Australia 5th Test (St. John's, Antigua).	**29**: 41st World T.T. (Chiba, Japan), Munich Open Tennis (Munich), Sait Nagjee Football (Calicut), Sub-Junior Hockey Natls. (Chandigarh), West Indies Vs Australia, 5th Test (St. John's, Antigua).	**30**: 41st. T.T. (Chiba, Japan), Munich Open Tennis (Munich), Sait Nagjee Football (Calicut), Sub-Junior Hockey Natls. (Chandigarh).	

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
4 European weightlifting championships for men and women (Portugal), Bordoloi Trophy (Guwahati); Bihar State tennis (Patna), National A Chess (Pondicherry).	**5** West Indies vs Australia 3rd Test (Trinidad); European weightlifting championships (Portugal); Bihar State tennis (Patna); Bordoloi trophy (Guwahati); National A Chess (Pondicherry), Indian Open tennis (Bombay).	**6** West Indies vs Australia 3rd Test (Trinidad); European Weightlifting (Portugal); Bihar State tennis (Patna); Bordoloi trophy (Guwahati); World Cup Rowing (San Diego); National A Chess (Pondicherry); Indian Open tennis (Bombay)
11 Japan Open tennis (Tokyo), Bordoloi trophy (Guwahati), US Masters Golf (Augusta); Indian Open tennis (Bombay)	**12** Japan Open tennis (Tokyo), Bordoloi trophy (Guwahati), US Masters Golf (Augusta); Indian Open tennis (Bombay)	**13** Australia vs West Indies Board XI (Barbados); Japan Open tennis, US Masters Golf (Augusta), Finals of Indian Open tennis (Bombay)
18 10th Commonwealth T T (Nairobi); Pondicherry tennis, MCI Heritage Classic Golf (Hilton Head Island); Asian club volleyball (Hiroshima); 7th Asian freestyle Wrestling (Delhi).	**19** 10th Commonwealth T.T (Nairobi); Asian Club volleyball (Hiroshima); Pondicherry tennis; Heritage Classic golf (Hilton Head); Finals of 7th Asian freestyle Wrestling (Delhi); Sait Nagjee Football tournament (Calicut), West Indies vs Australia 4th Test (Bridgetown, Barbados)	**20** 10th Commonwealth T.T (Nairobi), Asian club volleyball (Hiroshima); Pondicherry tennis, Heritage Classic golf (Hilton Head); Sait Nagjee Football (Calicut), West Indies vs Australia 4th Test (Barbados) 1st Federation Cup Hockey at Lucknow.
25 South American Club Cup volleyball for men (Sao Paulo), Madrid Open Golf (Madrid), Greater Greensboro Open Golf (Greensboro), 41st World Table Tennis Championships (Chiba, Japan), 46th Sr. Natl. Cycling Chps. (Bombay), Sait Nagjee Football (Calicut), 1st Federation Cup hockey (Lucknow), Monte Carlo Open Tennis (Monte Carlo).	**26** South American Club Cup volleyball (Sao Paulo), Madrid Open Golf (Madrid), Greater Greensboro Open Golf (Greensboro), 41st world T.T. (Chiba, Japan), 46th Sr. Natl. Cycling (Bombay), Sait Nagjee Football (Calicut), 1st Federation Cup Hockey (Lucknow), Monte Carlo Open Tennis (Monte Carlo).	**27** Final of 1st Federation Cup Hockey (Lucknow), South American Club Cup Volleyball (Sao Paulo), Madrid Open Golf (Madrid), Greater Greensboro Open Golf (Greensboro), 41st World T.T. (Chiba, Japan), 46th Sr. Natl. Cycling (Bombay), Sait Nagjee Football (Calicut), Monte Carlo Open Tennis (Monte Carlo), Sub-Junior Hockey Nationals (Chandigarh), West Indies Vs Australia, 5th Test (St. John's Antigua).

OTHER EVENTS:

European Champions Cup semis, Spartak Moscow Vs Marseilles (France) and Bayern Munich Vs Red Star (Belgrade). European Cup Winners Cup semis, Legia Warsaw vs Manchester United and Barcelona vs Juventus. UEFA Cup semis, Roma Vs Brondby (Denmark), Sporting Lisbon Vs Inter Milan. All 1st leg matches on April 10 and 2nd leg matches on April 24. Rumbelows Cup Final At Wembley on April 21. Men's Federation Cup Basketball, Thrissoor, March 31 to April 6. 3rd All India Bhairab Chandra Mohanty Memorial Gold Cup Hockey Tournament, Cuttack, April 1—12. ITF World Veterans Tennis Championships, Perth, April 17—24. Bandodkar Football Tournament, Goa, April 6—21.

RADIO:

Running commentary in Hindi and English of 1st Federation Cup (Hockey) Final on April 27. Reports on Asian Freestyle Wrestling, April 17—19.

TELEVISION:

Live telecast of Asian Freestyle Wrestling, April 17—19, Final of Indian Open Tennis at Bombay, on April 14 and final of 1st Federation Cup Hockey on April 27.

COMPILED BY NOVY KAPADIA

NATIONAL GYMNASTICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

BALANCING

Just like any other low priority sport in India, gymnastics too is given the step-motherly treatment



RAJESH KUMAR

Champion Shipra Jana doing the horse vault

ALL over the world, gymnastics is considered the mother of all sport, but in India it usually receives step-motherly treatment. This was amply evident in the recent 33rd National Gymnastics championships at Delhi's Indira Gandhi Stadium. There was no television coverage, no razzmatazz. SAI bigwigs, sporting bureaucrats and politicians perenially at the helm of power in national sports associations were conspicuously missing at the Gymnastics Nationals. An apt indication of the warped priorities of our sporting officials.

The leading gymnasts of India lamented the lack of support, follow-up and facilities for this vital sport. Former all-round men's champion Ratan Debnath of the Railways rightly said, "Motivation is a problem, as besides the Nationals intensive competitions are few and we get no international exposure." Sadly, in many States, even the required apparatus is missing.

The plight of vivacious 19-year-old Krupali Patel, sums up the dilemma of Indian gymnasts. All round women's champion for two successive years, Krupali rationalised her predicament. "Two years ago, I won all five individual gold medals. Last year I won two gold medals and in this Nationals just one gold medal in the floor exercises. I did better earlier, as at my alma mater the Motilal Nehru School of Sports, Rai, practice facilities were excellent. After finishing school, I returned to Bhavnagar in Gujarat and joined the NC women's college Sadly, my hometown does not have a gymnasium or bars or proper equipment. I practise on makeshift equipment outdoors and so am unable to maintain my standard."

Krupali Patel, who enjoys listening to Western hard rock music and reading the novels of Thomas Hardy and D.H. Lawrence, started at the right age, three-years-old. She spent five years at Rai and developed rapidly under the watchful tutelage of coach Sarbir Singh. An ardent admirer of Nadia Comaneci, Yelena Shushunova and Olga Korbut, Krupali has the ambition to become international class. However, lack of facilities is frustrating her talent. A case of the loneliness of the talented gymnast. Hers is not an isolated case but the norm. Many gymnasts had similar complaints.

ON A BEAM

Onkar Singh, the organising secretary said, "we have to organise the nationals with the government allowance of Rs 75,000, because sponsorship is missing. We would like the SAI to adopt gymnastics like archery, as it would unearth talent. Still I feel, there is an improvement of standards with a greater depth in men's gymnastics." A revealing analysis

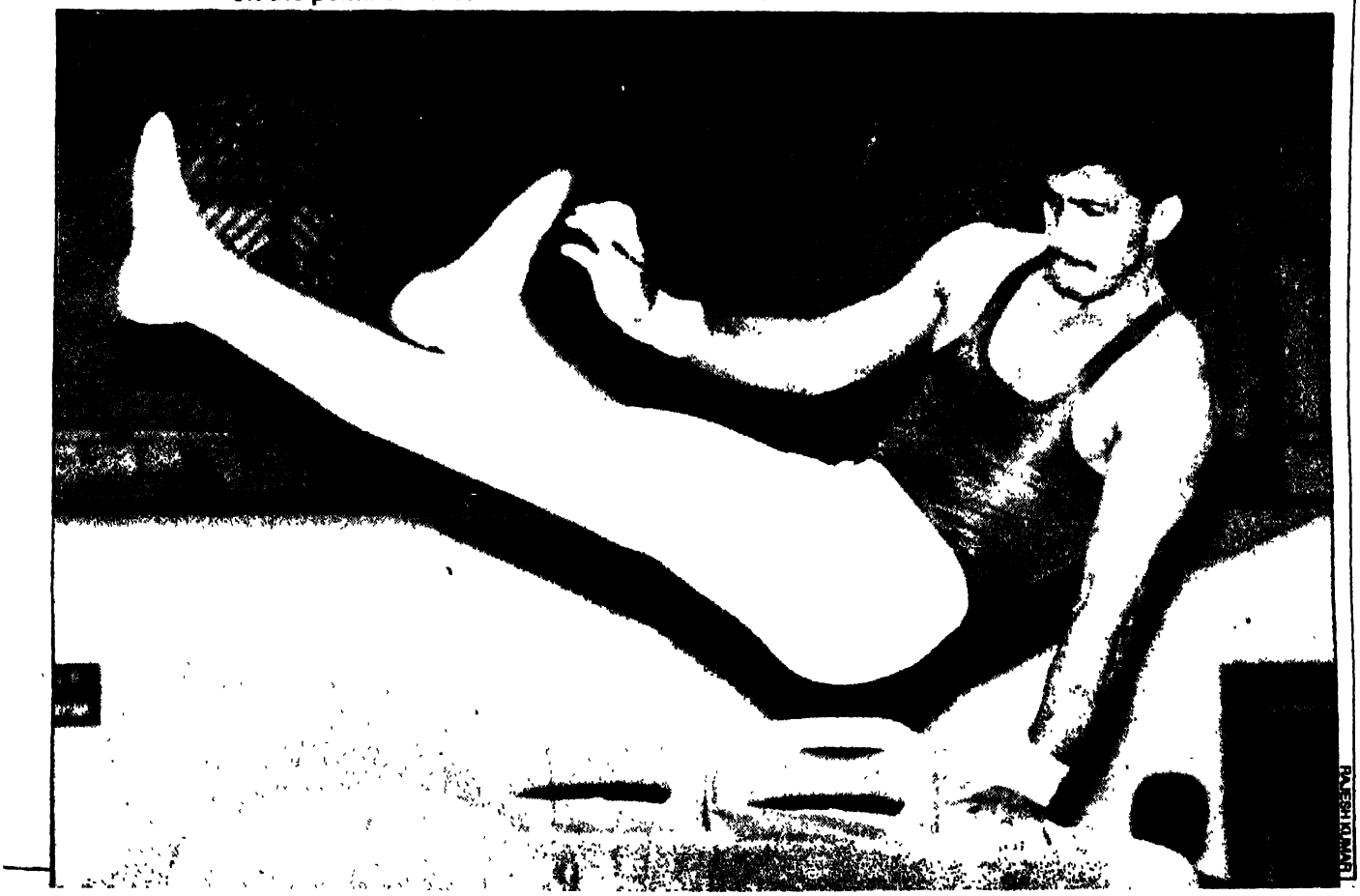
For instance, in the six apparatus titles, only Vikas Sabherwal (Punjab) on the pommel horse and parallel bars and Ratan Debnath on the horizontal bars retained their titles A. Dutta of Services won his first national title on the vaulting horse. Rajesh Kumar the newly crowned all round champion also won the Roman Rings and Debangshu Das (who was awarded an Indian record of 9 90 points in the team championships on the vaulting horse) annexed the Floor exercises Other promising male gymnasts are Chandigarh's Manipuri student Inaobi Singh, Kerala's K. Ashoken and Jay Kumar and the Punjab duo of Lakhbir Singh and Lakhabinder Sfingh.

In contrast, in the four apparatus titles for women, only one new champion emerged. 23-year-old Anju Devi, a deaf gymnast from Ambala won the beam for the first time. Krupali, Shipra and Anju (in vaulting) retained their titles.

However the most talented gymnast to emerge is the 20-year-old new all round men's champion, Rajesh Kumar He comes from a family of gymnasts and by sheer diligence has become a national champion Till last year he had not won any title even in junior gymnastics. "Hard work and excellent guidance by coaches N Shashi and Nirbei Singh has made me a champion " Hopefully Rajesh who has the talent and physique to go far is not frustrated by lack of exposure. Rajesh started gymnastics due to family influence, as did Krupali and Shipra. Anju watched others practise and as a diversion from her ailment took to gymnastics. Most gymnasts take to the sport in India either accidentally or due to family influence, not exactly the right way to approach the mother of all sports This vital sport needs better marketing and promotion, like so many others in our country

Novy Kapadia, Delhi

Men's champion Rajesh Kumar of Chandigarh on the pommel horse





A Day In The Life Of Shipra Jana

IN the pitch-black of cold winter mornings or hot summer days, a dedicated gymnast starts her daily routine at village Contai, in the hinterland of Midnapur district in West Bengal. The epitome of dedication, Shipra Jana, India's newly-crowned all-round gymnastic champion wakes up at 4 am. Her routine, since she started gymnastics at her local Palestra Club is awesome. Shy and modest she refused to divulge details. Coach Ranjit Das Chowdhury narrated her usual daily routine.

He said, "She wakes up at 4 am and studies for an hour on her own. From 5 am to 6 am she goes for private tuition,as she is keen to improve her academic standards. After two hours of studies, she comes to my club (Palestra) which she joined in 1979. She practises there till it was time for college or earlier for school. In the evenings, she returns to the club gym, for further workouts. Shipra would go back home only at 8 pm and have dinner, study a little and then sleep by 9.30 pm. She is the most dedicated sportsperson I have ever seen. Her mental strength and powers of concentration seem God-gifted. She was determined to be the national champion and even many setbacks did not deter her."

Shipra learnt her gymnastics on bamboo bars and a Railway line sleeper as a beam

Shipra comes from a large family: eight brothers and sisters and her father is a Class IV employee in the Railways. Her personal coach Das Chowdhury rates her younger sister Rinku Jana as a promising gymnast. In 1988, Railway Sports inspector, Tarun Goswami spotted her potential and recruited her in South Eastern Railway. She is currently posted at Kharagpur as a Class III employee.

Her gymnastics career is quite mind-boggling. An uncle brought her to Tapan's (known as Bacchu, gym Initially, Tapan Das Chowdhury felt hesitant in coaching her as he thought she was too stiff However, Shipra worked strenuously and diligently for two months and Tapan realised she had potential.

Coach Tapan Das Chowdhury's role is laudable. A Physical Education teacher at the Southside High School, Kharagpur, Tapan has dedicated his life to providing sports facilities for local children. His makeshift gym at the Palestra Club has facilities for 50 children. Initially all the equipment was purchased from his salary. Shipra learnt her gymnastics on bamboo bars and a Railway line sleeper as a beam. After years of dedication, the coach was finally rewarded. In December 1990, after many written requests to local authorities he finally got a grant from the governor of West Bengal. He has used the money to purchase new equipment.

Shipra avidly admires the Soviet gymnast Yelena Shushunova. She watches her perform on video casettes. She is also friendly and admires her greatest Indian rival, the vivacious Gujarati girl, Krupali Patel. Just as Mohammed Ali took to boxing in childhood as his cycle was stolen. Shipra's motivation was nearly similar.

When she was young, people chided her that she was too dark to be a successful gymnast. Even gymnastics officials had said that she would not receive marks from judges due to her dark complexion. Stung by such remarks, Shipra strove to prove the doubting Jonahs wrong and she achieved this on March 23, when she became the all-round women's gymnastic queen of India. From sleepy village Contai to Delhi, it was a long march for Shipra.

Novy Kapadia

READER'S QUIZ

QUESTION

1. Which company manufactured the sliding roof for the ultra modern tennis complex in Flinders Park, in Australia?
2. Who was the only footballer in the world who has never been warned by a referee?
3. With what game would you associate the Henry Delaney trophy?
4. Who is the only Indian cricketer to have played the Sheffield Shield?
5. What was Gussy Moran's introduction to Wimbledon?
6. Where would you find the cricket ground, Ellis Park Oval?
7. Name the grandfather of the Chappell brothers: Greg, Ian and Trevor.
8. Besides Carl Lewis, who is the only athlete to retain his/her 100m sprint title in the Olympics.
9. Who are the official sponsors of the French Open championships?
10. Who is the only woman to win the All England Lawn Tennis title and the All England badminton title?
11. In the 1912 Olympics at Stockholm, he finished fifth in the pentathlon. But years later he made waves in a different arena to become a very renowned personality. Who is he?
12. Which famous athlete starred in the movie 'It Happened In Athens'?
13. Which cricketer was the idol of the legend, Sir Donald Bradman?
14. Which cricketer was the last one to make a four hundred in first class matches?
15. Who was the first professional tennis player?

RATING TEST

Above 14: Wish you were part of our quiz team
Between 11 and 14: You're not too bad
Below 11: Sportsworld reading recommended

All answers sent in by the contributor

ANSWERS

1. Steel Authority of India Limited
2. Sir Stanley Matthews
3. Soccer. Awarded to the winners of the European Nations Championships
4. Rusi Surti
5. Lace panties
6. Johannesburg
7. Victor Richardson
8. Wyomia Tius
9. Banque Nationale de Paris (BNP)
10. Kitty Godfrey
11. General George Patton
12. Bob Matthias
13. Stan McCabe
14. Graeme Hick
15. Suzanne Lenglen

THIS QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY:
SURESH SUBRAMANIAM
'KARTHIK' BHARATHIAR THIRD STREET
SOMASUNDARAM COLONY
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TAMIL NADU 625 016

THAT DREADED BLOATING!

HEY, this cannot be happening, you tell yourself in exasperation. You've been in the gym for over an hour, you've been sweating it out and you come out dying of thirst. You put in two glasses of water and the stomach that you eventually managed to flatten out, is bloated all over again. Looks bad? Sure. Worse, it feels awful.

Actually this is one of the most distressing and despairing positions that bodybuilders and fitness enthusiasts find themselves in. Or, you've just had a tiny meal, and you put on two extra pounds around the waist! Surely a man is entitled to a decent meal once in a while you may say. Certainly.

A distended or bloated stomach may be the result of a variety of reasons. Usually it has little to do with the volume of one's food intake, and sometimes surprisingly has nothing to do with one's diet. This week we are focussing on some of the reasons behind that dreaded bloating.

One of the most common (and temporary) cause is swallowing air. Now are you a member of the club that believes, that chewing gum is the 'in' thing? That it gives you a 'I care a damn' image? If you are, then you are in for bad news. Chewing gum makes you swallow air. Gulping down water or soda after a hard workout also leaves a bit of air in the tummy. Even eating when you are tired and spaced out, can make you swallow air.

Now a burp or two usually gets rid of the air and you feel much better and lighter. But then sometimes when too much of air is swallowed, the stomach pushes the air into the intestines, leaving you with a puffy and distended stomach. High fiber carbohydrates like cabbage, cereals and popcorn, make the stomach puff up more. Food with less fiber does not play truant with the stomach as much. Worse still if you have high fiber foods, too quickly and then wash it down with a carbonated drink, then you are in for trouble. The tummy puffs up immediately.



How does this happen you may ask? Well, all carbonated drinks have a certain amount of carbon dioxide in it. Now when the drink warms up inside the body, the carbon dioxide is released making you feel puffed up in the tummy. Bad news is that beer also has more or less the same effect. Now don't get the feeling that an occasional soft drink or a beer is disasterous for your stomach. Just remember, don't gulp it down in one draught. Take your time, let some of the fizz escape and then you are safe.

A discussion about the gastro-gases will not be complete unless we talk about beans. Beans—that economical, protein rich food, that has of late entered our diet in a big way. Beans—the musical fruit, the more you eat the more you toot. But surprisingly you can avoid the gas in the beans: all you've got to do is to see that the beans are fully cooked. If you are prone to stomach disorders after



having beans, then here's a way to help you out. Change the water halfway through the cooking, and start again with fresh water. Beans cooked this way gives out very little gas.

Other more serious causes of bloating are a nervous stomach or an irritable colon. When a person eats on a nervous stomach, the intestines contract and release too quickly. In this process too much air is generated and this causes the stomach to swell up.

Now the first step in preventing a bloated stomach is to isolate the foods that don't agree with your insides. Once you have done this, watch the combinations and quantity of every meal, and eat those irritable foods sparingly. Better still is a change in the diet, but then it may mean doing without a few of your favourite things at meal times.

But just a word of caution. If you have had recent stomachaches even after changes in diet, or have found out that your 'indigestion' just does not go away then it's time to head for the doc's chamber. ●

THE HEALTH COLUMN

FITNESS

Question Time

WOW! We didn't know this column was read so avidly. The frequency with which letters of enquiry pour in is quite overwhelming. Of course, we asked for them. Matter of fact, we're quite happy to get them. But it does mean that we'll have to take a two-week break from the normal mould to answer all your queries.

The first letter we're dealing with is from Mangesh Pohekar of Pondicherry. A 16-year-old student, he's quite upset about his height. Or rather, the lack of it. Mangesh says he's tried 'hanging (from a bar, we hope) and skipping', but hasn't grown any taller.

We don't know how long you've been reading this column, Mangesh, but we've been telling our readers time and time again that there isn't any surefire method of getting taller. If there was, the world would be full of six-footers, right? So don't get too upset about how tall you are, cos it's probably a matter of your genetics.

Having said that, let us now look at the brighter side of things. You're just 16, so that means you've still got a few growing years left. So if you can maintain an active lifestyle--without putting too much of compression pressure on the spine—you're bound to gain a few inches. Stretch the spine for all you're worth. Hang from a bar, touch your toes; swim or play some sport where you're reaching out above your head. And try to make sure you get enough calcium in your diet. After that, it's all left to your genetics.

Here's another letter from someone with the same problem. Utpal Jyoti Barman of Assam feels he's too short for his age. In fact, he's reasonably downcast about being shorter than his younger brother! Well, Utpal, you're just 14, and there's plenty of time for your body to attain its full height. What you could do, however, is try out some of the stuff we've recommended for Mangesh. As for your hangup about your brother, relax, he's probably just grown a little earlier in life, that's all. Chances are, you'll catch up with him soon. Who knows, maybe even overtake him!

Now to answer some further queries from Hormazd T. Bavaadam. An avid bodybuilding enthusiast, he wants to know if he should supplement his Bullworker and light dumbbell training in the morning with a visit to the gym in the evening.

Nothing wrong with that, Hormazd. Just make sure you aren't overdoing it though. And that's something only you'll be able to judge. If you're still full of beans by the time the gym beckons, go for it. But if you're literally dragging yourself to the gym, maybe it's not such a good idea.

See, it's like this: you can work out just once a day and still sport a tightly muscled body. On the other hand, you can hit the gym twice a day and still be flabby. It all depends on the intensity with which you work out each time.

As for the query about laying off the workouts in the summer or the monsoon, your body's bound to suffer from such a long break. All the muscular gain that you've made over one season can be lost if you laze off in the next. Of course, there's nothing you can do if you've fallen ill and hence cannot exercise. But the net result is going to be the same: loss of muscular bulk and a possible increase of fatty tissue due to the inactivity.

Hope that does the trick for you, Hormazd. Have fun working those muscles..and don't let the seasons dictate your exercise schedule.

Muscular bulk can disappear if you lay off for a full season



Here's a letter from Coochbehar, and it's from Saptarshi Paul. An 18-year-old fitness enthusiast, he's worried about his legs. Says he's put together quite an impressive upper body through this column (gosh, thanks Saptarshi), but now wants some exercises that'll let him step outside his house in shorts.

Okay, if that's what you want, that's what you're gonna get. Since the legs can be divided into two basic parts—thighs and calves—here are two of the most basic musclebuilders for those regions. Squats: dynamite when done correctly. Not only will the thighs get stronger, they'll also start bulking up. And Calf Raises: about the best there is for that bodypart.

If you've already tried them out and aren't satisfied with the results, then you've been cheating yourself. There isn't one bodybuilder alive who hasn't used these exercises to bulk up his legs. Of course they do other high-tech stuff too. But that's just to add the finishing touches. The essential size and strength come from squats and calf raises.



The Squat....great for the thighs





The Calf Raise....turns calves into cows!

That should do the trick for our next letter-writer—Mithun Ray—too. A 25-year-old athlete and soccer player from Agartala, he's also worried about his legs not being strong enough to support him through his sporting ventures. Well, Mithun, hope the two exercises detailed above do the trick for you too.

As for your intentions about putting on some weight and growing taller, you'll have to just stick to an active and healthy lifestyle. And, of course, stay in touch with us at the fitness column. That way, you're bound to come across something that'll help you out.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

SPECIAL FEATURE

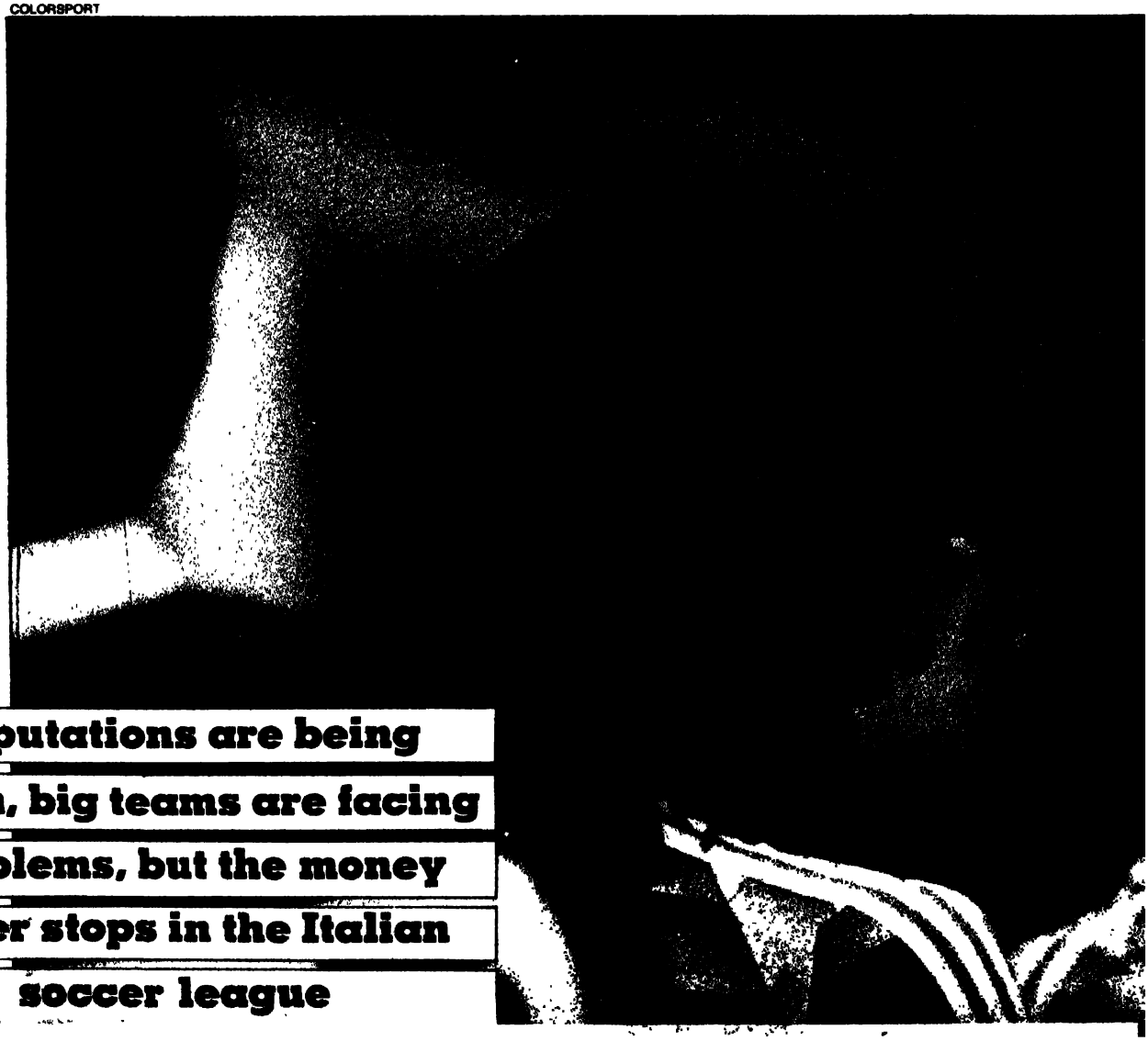
Italian $OCCE



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Soccer and policemen go hand in hand in Italy

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Reputations are being broken, big teams are facing problems, but the money never stops in the Italian soccer league

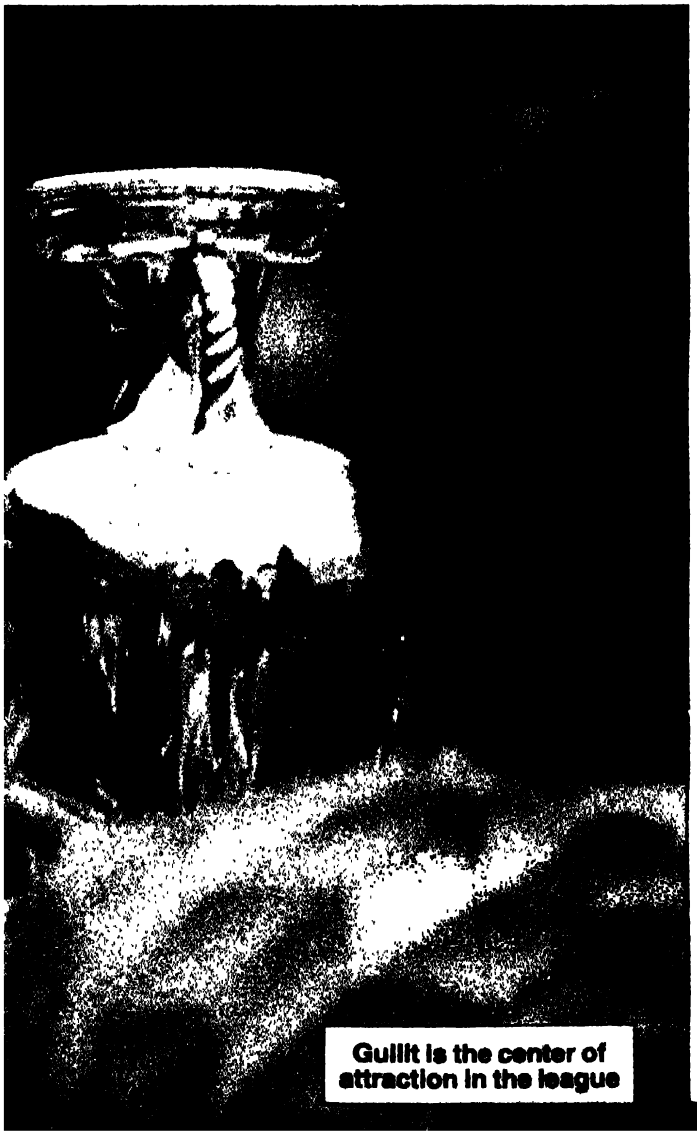


FOR a country which boasts of soccer as its second religion, this must be Italy's most evocative temple as the current season has proved. Megabucks, high powered deals, drugs, sex and violence all merge into a potpourri of soccer success. And if one goes by Italian standards, the script of modern soccer in that country makes Harold Robbin's novels sound like holy books.

The key word here is money. The prestige of Italy's first division soccer league and the billions of lire paid by its clubs, have attracted numerous foreign stars to the biggest and the grandest domestic soccer show. The very reason, why every minute of the league is a 'magical moment.' The wads of money are as thick as the famed Italian pasta as the season nears its climax. Agents are jetting from one soccer capital to another. And by the time the first of the semi finals takes place in May almost $20 million would have been spent as advances to soccer stars.

Already the rumours are rife that many of the current masters will be moving onto greener pastures. And leading the pack are Ruud Gullit and Diego Maradona, closely followed by Marco Van Basten. Lothar Matthaeus and Frank Rijkaard. It requires no expert to guess that it will leave European Cup Champions A.C. Milan in doldrums. Many Italian newspapers believe that this was coming anyway because A.C. Milan had banked too heavily on the Dutch trio.

Milan has been facing numerous problems and with the challenges increasing they seem to be faltering as seen by their performance in the first leg quarter finals of the European Cup. French super champions Olympique Marseilles fired the first salvo when they held Milan to a 1-1 draw at home in Milanello. Others are following suit. A C. Milan has lost to archrivals Sampdoria and face two tough matches against Italian league leaders Inter Milan and Juventus who are placed fourth on the table now. And losing these two matches will take away whatever little chance the Milanese have of going for the Italian league championship. Even Gullit admits that and says, "It is difficult to stay at the top. In the second season it's difficult even to win because everybody wants to beat you."



Gullit is the center of attraction in the league

The whole crisis precipitated when Milan drew with lowly F.C. Brugge of Belgium 0-0. This match in the Champions Cup started off a tailspin which saw them struggle against teams they would have swatted aside last year. Right from the very top, the club is facing problems Many feel that Gullit may be dropped in favour of Karl Heinz Riedle of Germany who currently plays for Lazio. Even Gullit knows that his time is running out. Says he: "When my contract with Milan ends, I'll have to consider if I can still handle this level of the game."

"When my contract with Milan ends, I'll have to consider if I can still handle this level of game"
—Ruud Gullit

The crisis has been further aggravated by the absence of Van Basten and Franco Baresi, two men who formed the core of Milan's attacking manoeuvres along with Gullit. Van Basten, last





season's Footballer of the Year has been threatening to quit the club if he is not reinstated as the first choice forward. The rumours that he will go to Barcelona next season at a reported cost of $ 10 million, have added to the suspense. And in this gloomy scenario, the sense of despondency is magnified many times over when one takes into consideration the impending

Van Basten may go to Barcelona for $10 million. Lazio has offered $13 million for Paul Gascoigne. Maradona has received a $25 million offer also from Barcelona. Gary Lineker may join A.C. Milan for $10 million. Napoli are willing to pay $2.5 million for Roberto Donadoni. And Roberto Mancini is being quoted at $20 million by Juventus' chairman Agnelli

retirement of the third Dutch ace, Frank Rijkaard. With twenty four matches in the league over, A.C. Milan lie at third spot in the table, a depressing free fall from their champion status.

The decline in the fortunes of A.C. Milan has made many fans switch loyalties to the other Milanese club, Internazionale Milan. They are in such terrific form, that soccer experts have been



ACTION PLUS

Vialli (left & far left) is in racing form, while Lazio have offered $25 million for Gascoigne (below left) and A.C. Milan $10 million for Lineker (below)



left amazed. Out of the 24 fixtures, they have lost only three, leading the table with a whooping 25 points. Add to this the 44 goals the team has scored, making them almost unbeatable. And this, despite the fact, that Inter have played their last two games without the services of two German wunder kids—Jurgen Klinsmann who was suspended and Andrea Brehme who was injured. This highlights the kind of depth the club can boast of.

Inter's investment in the Germans has paid even though gossip has it that Lothar Matthaeu may soon be leaving for Spain. Many cite differences with Inter coach Giovanni Trapattoni as a reason for this possible move to Real Madrid. "I cannot imagine leaving Inter," denies Matthaeus and adds "I have developed almost beyond recognition in Italy, something I really like." Lothar and Jurgen, the dynamic Germans have scored 12 goals a piece, an achievement which speaks volumes for their talent even though a recent all-Italian UEFA Cup match between Atlanta and Inter did not produce a goal. Says Trapttoni, "It seems that we will have an interesting final this season. Sampdoria will prove worthy challengers. It will make up to good soccer."

It has been an interesting season as far as the fortunes of Sampdoria go. The last year's Cup Winners Cup champions have regained their winning form and are currently tied with Inter for the top spot. Their only problem is that they haven't scored as many goals as Inter. But then who else has?

The club president Paolo Mantovani is thrilled



Lothar Matthaeus has become the league's dominant player

that his decade-long investment is now paying dividends. He has poured in millions of dollars from his shipping and oil fortune into a team which means so much to him. Mantovani has special faith in Italian players. One of the reasons the team is built around Roberto Mancini and Gianluca Vialli, both in devastating form this season. Vialli has struck nine times, while Mancini has six to his credit. The two, along with defender, Pietro Vierchowod, form the vital spine of their club and the national squad. Having won both their matches against A.C. Milan and having salvaged a draw against Inter, Sampdoria are on a victory march, which even Inter may not be able to stop.

The biggest anti-climax of the season has been the way Juventus have squandered their early season advantage. The Turin club has spent over $50 million, without producing any spectacular results. A line up of six new faces helped Gianni Agnelli's dream team take early advantage when they defeated Inter Milan. Roma, Napoli along with two draws against top ranked Sampdoria and A.C. Milan. But since then their fortunes have fallen back and the club which lies fourth in the table has been severly affected by 'Toto' Schillachi's lack of form.

Schillachi who thrilled viewers around the world with six goals in Italia '90 has scored only four times this season and not once since November. Out of these four, three came as a result of a hat trick he scored against Roma in November last. But Juventus are not losing any sleep over Toto. Former Italian striker Gigi Riva,



"The quality of 'Toto' Schillachi the player is not in question. He's playing very well. He's just not lucky. If he remains cool and calm the goals will come again"
—Gigi Riva, former Italian star

a star of the 1970 World Cup and now an advisor with Juventus adds, "The quality of the player is simply not up for discussion. He's playing very well. He's not just lucky. If he remains cool and calm the goals will come again."

But for Juventus the situation is a bit too precarious. They have lost six of their fixtures. garnering only one point in the last four games. The club has been eliminated from the Italian Cup they won last year, when they lost 2-0 at home to Roma in a recent quarter final. Despite a semi-final berth in the Cup Winners Cup, insiders feel that the worst is yet to come. And many are laying the blame squarely on Gigi Maifredi, the club manager. There are indications that he will be replaced either by Giovanni Trapottoni of Inter Milan or Dino Zoff of Lazio. Roberto Baggio, despite scoring nine times is struggling, and in fact so

Both Schillachi, stretching, and Baggio, ruminating, have not done justice to Juventus' financial faith in them

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Inter Milan is hot and much credit for this goes to Andreas Brehme (above) and Jurgen Klinsmann who battles it out with Maradona (below)

is the rest of the team. One look at Gianni Agnelli's face and the gravity of the situation is evident.

All the excitement the league has generated can be translated into a pile of money as clubs have already earned over $290 million, with the season far from being over. Millions more are coming in as a result of television royalties and the gate receipts are booming. In fact all is going fine except for one major blemish called Maradona. Undoubtedly, the greatest soccer player of the modern era, Maradona hit the slicks when he was indicted for his alleged involvement in a sex-and-drugs ring. The charges which had resulted in some arrests have now been dropped, even though Maradona's name has been smeared. Add to this his stormy relationship with Napoli who lie tenth in the table, it seems Italy is getting too hot for Maradona. In fact in the whole season, he has scored only thrice, which is far below his capabilities. Having lost seven matches and drawn ten, there is no doubt that without Maradona's firepower, Napoli are next to nothing.



COLORSPORT



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But the matches, aside, great moments in soccer will come when the transfer market is officially opened. Money and more money will be spent. Some Italian tabloids have already indentified the winners and the top amongst them is Van Basten who may go to Barcelona for

Drugs, sex, violence, money—the script of modern soccer in Italy makes Harold Robbins' novels sound like holy books

$10 million. Lazio are bidding for Paul Gascoigne and have offered $13 million to cash-deprived Tottenham Hotspurs, while both Bologna and Sampdoria are courting Maradona who has received a $25 million offer from Barcelona as well. Napoli are offering $2.5 million for A.C. Milan's Roberto Donadoni, while Roberto Mancini is being quoted at $20 million by Juventus' chairman Agnelli. Des Walker of England is being wooed by Juventus who are ready to pay $15 million for the black forward. But the scoop is that Gary Lineker may be joining A.C. Milan for $10 million which is cheap going for a player of his calibre.

In a way the season has just started and by the time the transfer market is closed, over $2.5 billion would have changed hands, even though only ten per cent of this would be in 'cash-only' arrangements. With 1992 approaching, the foreign player rules are likely to become redundant and that is when this game of Russian Roulette will become even more bloody.

Edwin Burgess
NEWSMEN FEATURES

Italian clubs dominate European football...eliminate all opposition...make history

THE JUGGERNAUT

ITALIAN clubs made football history in the 1990 European clubs competition. For the first time, the European Champions' Cup, European Cup Winners' Cup and the UEFA Cup were all won by club teams, from the same country—Italy

A.C. Milan won the coveted European Champions' Cup, Sampdoria the Cup Winers' Cup and Juventus the UEFA Cup. Later A C. Milan won the World Club Cup in Tokyo. The domination of the Italian clubs on world football became overwhelming. In an unprecedented feat, they won every major football tournament for clubs in 1990.

The clean sweep by the Italian clubs led to another record in the three major European club competitions of the 1990-91 season.

For the first time, eight teams of one country, Italy, were selected for the three European club tournaments. A.C. Milan and 1990 Italian league champions Napoli participated in the European



Marco Van Basten: crafty



Franco Baresi: the ace for AC Milan

Champions' Cup, Sampdoria and Italian Cup winners Juvetus in the European Cup Winner's Cup and Internazionale Milan (Inter), Bologna, Atalanta, and Roma in the UEFA Cup.

Italian dreams of another clean sweep, however, faded at the quarter final stage this year A.C. Milan were knocked out by Marseilles (France). Earlier, Napoli had lost to Moscow Spartak. So no Italian club can win the *creme de la creme* of European football, the Champion's Cup. It may be stressed that the winner of the Champions' Cup represents Europe in the World Club Cup Championships So there will be no Italian representation there also.

In the Cup Winners'

IN the fiercely competitive Italian league Sampdoria is now reigning supreme. The Genoese side have all along been pursuing their campaign in an aggressive vein, and recently in a 15-minute blitzkrieg, the stormtroopers hit the very top of the league table putting in three quick goals to down a lowly Pisa.

Sampdoria now have 37 points, one more than Interna-

Italian League: An Update

Cup, holders Sampdoria were knocked out by Poland's Legia Warsaw 2-3 in the double-leg quarter final. However, Juventus are the London bookmakers' favourites to win the European Cup Winners' Cup after their emphatic 6-1 triumph over F.C. Liege of Belgium in the quarter finals. However, Barcelona with Bulgarian striker Hristo Stoichkov in sparkling form, could be strong contenders also.

Inter Milan and Roma are firm favourites for the UEFA Cup Bookmakers feel Inter Milan could well achieve a rare double, the Italian league and the UEFA Cup The depth of talent and quality of the Italian league can be gauged from the fact that Bologna, at present 16th out of 18 teams in the Italian 1st division, reached the quarter finals of the UEFA Cup. They narrowly lost to Sporting Lisbon of Portugal



Maradona surrounded by policemen after being questioned in a Naples court about a drug ring he was allegedly involved in

The clean sweep by the Italian clubs led to another record in the 1990-91 season.. For the first time, eight teams of one country, Italy, were selected for the three European club tournaments...

Atalanta, 12th in the Italian league excelled in Europe They reached quarters of the UEFA Cup and lost to fellow Italians Inter Milan. Atalanta have stars like the Argentinian Claudio Caniggia (one of the fastest strikers in the world), the Brazilian Evair and the Swede Glenn Stromberg in their ranks. Critics feel that if Atalanta had not been drawn against Inter, they could have reached the semis. They were favoured to beat the two other teams in the UEFA Cup semis, Sporting Lisbon and Brondby of Denmark, the first Danish club to enter a European club tournament semi finals. No woner Marco Van Basten and Lothar Matthaeus consider the Italian league the best and toughest in the world.

Novy Kapadia

zionale. In the meanwhile, AC Milan faced a little bit of trouble when they went down 1—0 to Atalanta and are now five points adrift of the first division leaders.

In terms of individual performance, Gianluca Vialli, shot up to the top of the scorers' list.

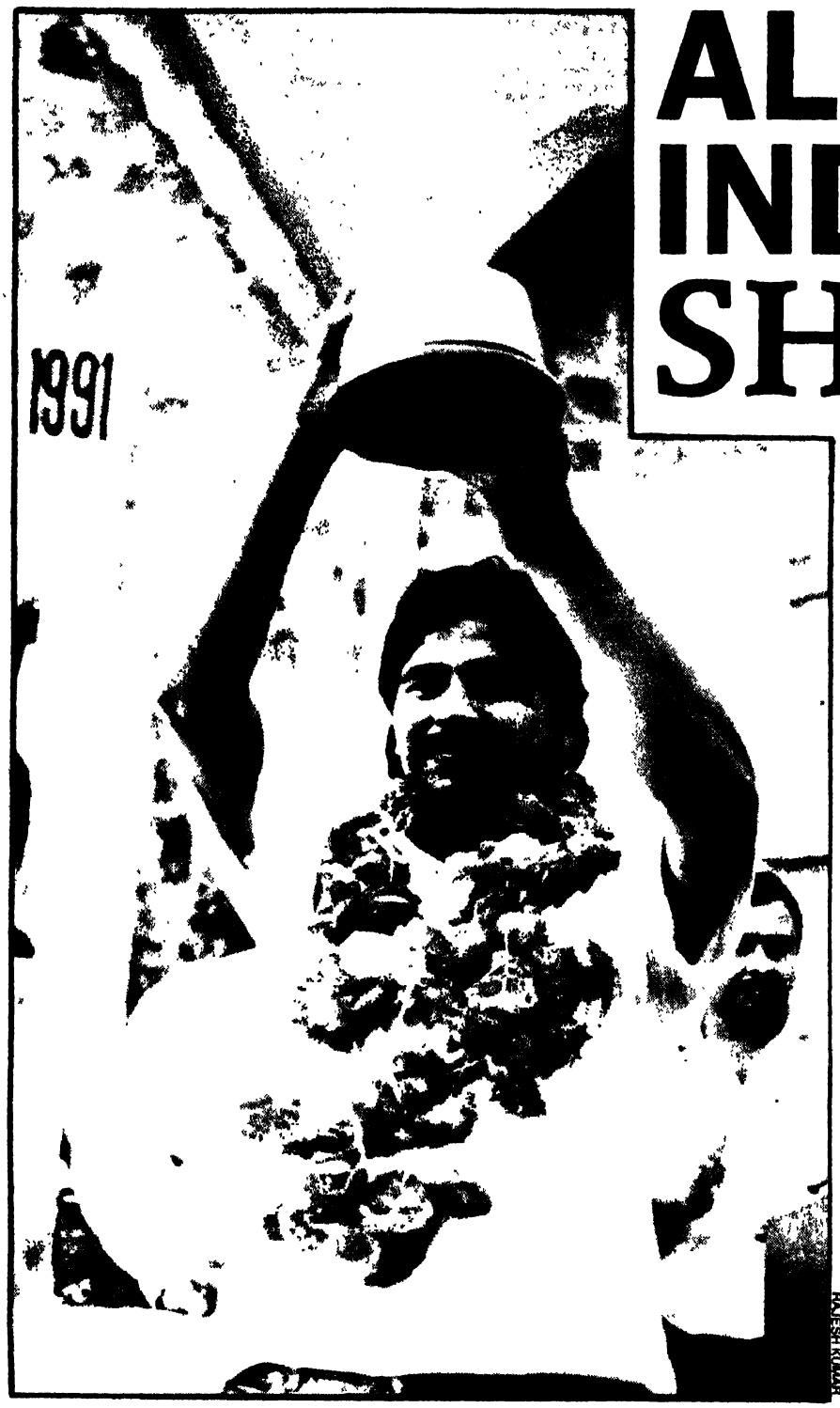
Atalanta's Brazilian striker Evair headed home a cross from Claudio Caniggia of Italia '90 sensation to add to Milan's misery three days before their vital European Cup quarter final second leg at Marseille

On the other hand, Roberto Baggio, Juventus' $13 million star, saved his side with a penalty two minutes into injury time that earned the Turin team a 1—1 draw.

Bologna, one point from the bottom, survived an early Juventus storm in which Giancarlo Marocchi hit the bar and Salvatore Schillaci twice came close to ending a personal goal drought dating back to November. They took a surprise lead on the half hour through German striker Herbert Wass.

Juventus who had gone four matches without scoring, slipped back into fifth place on 29 points, a point behind in—form Genoa, who beat Fiorentina 3-2 at home.

ALI: THE INDIAN SHER



Ali Sher with the trophy

The flamboyant Ali Sher made history at the Delhi Golf Club course by winning the coveted Wills Indian Open Golf Championship. He became the second Indian after the late Billoo Sethi, in the 27-year-old history of the championship to win the Open title. The redoubtable Billoo Sethi had won the second Indian Open in Calcutta in 1965. About two and a half decades ago, the Indian Open lacked glamour as it was not part of the Asian Circuit. However, one record of Billo Sethi may stand forever: he is the only amateur golfer to have won the Indian Open. With increasing professionalism, this is a feat unlikely to be equalled.

Ali Sher, as a ten-year-old delighted the Delhi Golf Club members by mimicking their golf swing and later served here as a caddy. Now he is a legend in the Delhi Golf Club, the first Indian to win the Indian Open since it became a part of the Asian Circuit in 1970. Twentysix-year old Ali Sher pocketed the largest pay cheque of his career, the equivalent of $24,900 (about Rs 5 lakhs). Not bad for an unknown caddy from the narrow and congested streets of Nizamuddin Delhi, who worked at Rs 10 or Rs 20 a round for 28 holes. Ali Sher's performance indicates that golf in India is on the upswing. It may be recalled that last year at Calcutta, venue of the Indian Open, Basad Ali had finished third. This year, he finished a creditable fourth. Yet another Indian pro Santosh Kumar finished 10th, a stroke behind renowned golfers Roberto Velasguez (Columbia) and Gregory Lesher (USA), a first round leader.

Ali Sher praises the Wills Indian Circuit for his triumph. He says, "In India, there are about 45 to 50 pro tournaments annually and if we can get a sponsor we can participate in some foreign tournaments also."

The Indian pro revealed that their average yearly earnings were a little over a lakh of rupees. This did not amount to much, as due to 120 per cent import duty the price of a golf set in India, ranges from Rs 10,000 to Rs 25,000. Even a second-hand set costs Rs 4,500 and a golf ball is worth Rs 20. It is estimated that an Indian golfer spends on an average Rs 100 per day. So costs on the Indian Circuit are considerable. Thus Ali Sher's prize



Basad Ali weathers a bunker. The Calcutta pro finished 4th PANKAJ SHARMA

money inexorbitant by international standards, is a real bonanza for him and a confidence boost to other caddy-turned pros of India.

Through the passing years, prize money in the Indian Open golf has increased. In 1970, it was just US $10,000. Now it is worth US $150,000. However,circuit co-ordinator John Bender warned against complacency. He said, "US $150,000 is the minimum amount required for a circuit tournament. Prize money keeps increasing in golf tournaments, in Kuala Lumpur it is $200,000, in Seoul and Taipei $300,000 and the Epson Singapore Open is worth 400,000. The most lucrative tournament on the Asian Circuit is the last one at the Ibrarki Course in Japan, worth $100,000,000. So the Indian Open must keep pace with the changing times."

Considering the foreign exchange shortage, increase in the amount for the Indian Open is unlikely in the near future. However sponsors ITC and the local organisers breathed a sigh of relief when the money for this year's tournament was sanctioned. Some months ago it had seemed that the Indian leg would not be held, due to shortage of foreign exchange.

Hospitality at the Indian Open has always been splendid. So even though the prize money is less, the top pros keep coming here. This year out of the top 20 players in the Asian Circuit, 12 competed in Delhi. 103 foreign golfers from 23 countries besides India participated in this year's championship, 43 from USA. 18 from Japan, 15 from Australia and 10 from Canada. The star entrants were Rick Gibson, from Canada, winner of this year's Malaysian Open and current Circuit leader, Denis Paulson, winner of the Phillipines Open. Remi Bouchard of Canada, Indian Open winner in 1989, who set a course record of 64 in 1989

All the expected star golfers were eclipsed by Ali Sher's mercurial performance Chinese Wang Ter Chang and Todd Hamilton (USA) impressed and finished a joint second. The best golfers in the world do not participate in the Asian Circuit. American rookie golfers flock to the Asian Circuit to prepare the exacting European and American Circuits. Some future star golfers are thus on view. It may be recalled that Payne Stewart of the USA, who has won the prestigious PGA championship, one of the four legs of golf's grand slam, played in the Asian Circuit. But the 1991 Indian Open will be remembered as Ali Sher's championship

Novy Kapadia, Delhi

Indians Are Performing Well: Ali Sher

Back in the days when Bombay-based Phil Pilling was the only professional golfer who used to play in the Indian circuit, Ali Sher used to travel around with him as a caddy. Picking up the finer aspects of the game from Pilling, Ali developed his own techniques with six to eight hours of practice a day at the Delhi Golf Club. And when he won the Wills Indian Open Golf, he became the first Indian pro to win an international title.

Over the last two years, Ali Sher has won 10 tournaments in India. And in this four-day tournament, he played excellently, handling the pressure coming down towards the last eight holes against all the top foreign participants. But he beat them all. With this victory he should go places_overseas courses being top of the list

Now ranked unofficially amongst the top twenty professionals in Asia, his eyes are fixed on the future Aged 26 years, the shy Ali is yet to bloom. He needs to mature. Following are the excerpts of a conversation with the Indian Open champion:

When did you start playing golf?
Since I was 12 years old. My house is in Nizamuddin which is very near the Delhi Golf Club.

Have you had any formal training from a coach?
No, not exactly. I learnt this game only by seeing other players. And when I used to work with Phil Pilling, he taught me golf. That was the only formal training I had. That too, I feel that every player in golf has his own rhythm which should not be disturbed.

Did you expect to win the prestigious Wills Indian Open Golf?
Well, my expectations were not to win but on the final day I somehow played well...and went on to win it. Moreover, I also feel that the top foreign players' performances in general were below expectations.

Wang Ter-Chang of China, Tod Hamilton and Bill Israelson of the United States played excellent golf but the pressure in the end was too much for the threesome. You know, anything could happen in the game of golf

By this win, you have put the nation on the international golfing map. Does this mean that Indian golf has come of age?

You will have noticed that over the last two or three years, Indian players have been performing well. There is a regular improvement in their game. Players like Rohtas Singh and Basad Ali can play anywhere.

Now that you are in the ranks of top Asian pro golfers, which major tournament would you be playing in?
The golf club is trying to send me for the Dunlop Invitation Golf Tournament in Japan (Apr 25-28) where the prize money is enormous and the best players in the world will be vying for the top stakes. But the problem is of sponsorship and foreign exchange because the tour is very expensive. Right now, negotiations are on with sponsors.

What do you think about the present golf scenario in India?
The players are doing very well, as was evident when three of us finished among the top ten in this tournament. It also means that we can compete at the international level. Our Indian circuit has also improved rapidly. There are 27 tournaments with a total prize money of Rs.30 lakhs (besides the Indian Open which itself contributes a total prize money of Rs.30 lakhs). And it is very encouraging that the top players are making about Rs.1.5 lakhs in the Indian circuit itself.

I think the future of Indian golf is very bright because we have many talented players at present. What we need is international exposure. I myself benefited a lot in the last six months after playing in Singapore and Malaysia. Plus there are lot of promising youngsters who are expected to do very well in the coming years, thanks to generous sponsorship from the commerical houses.

Do you have any plans to train under a foreign coach?
No. You see, this is a game of individual technique-precision and brilliance. So, what I need is only polishing up of my game. To aim high, a golfer has to work real hard.

Harun Riaz, Delhi



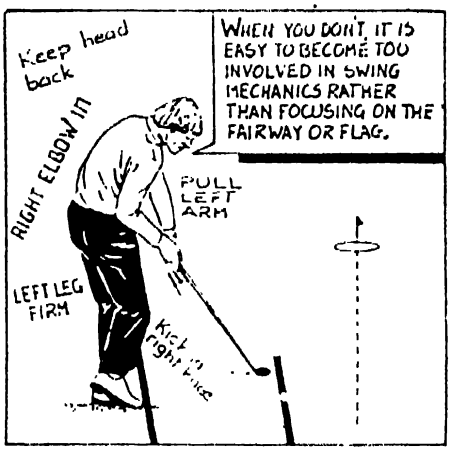


THE FALDO FORMULA

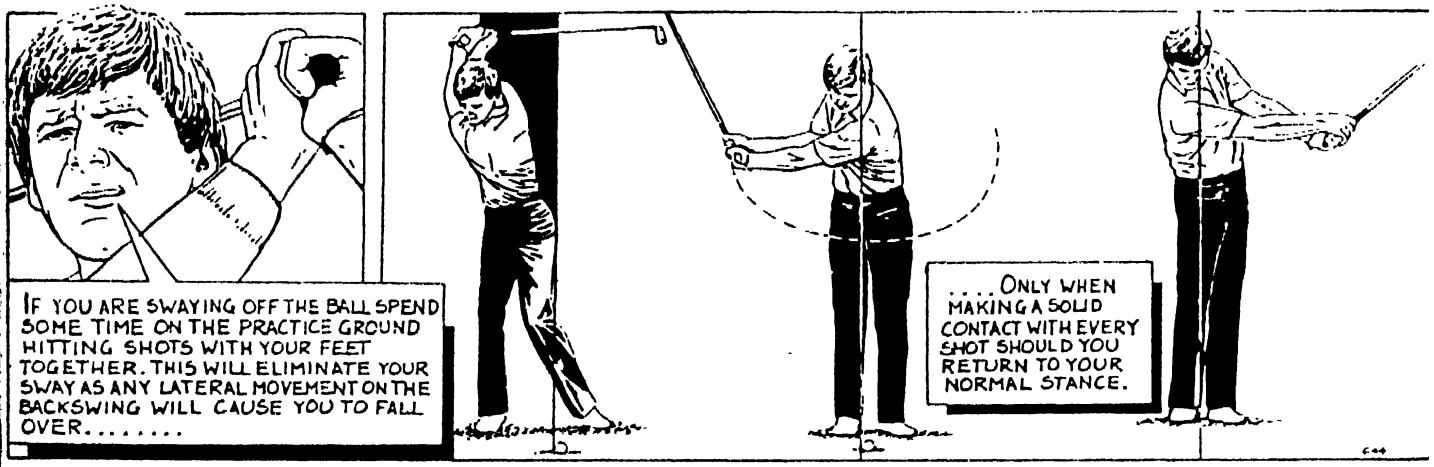
FROM TEE TO GREEN

Be Specific

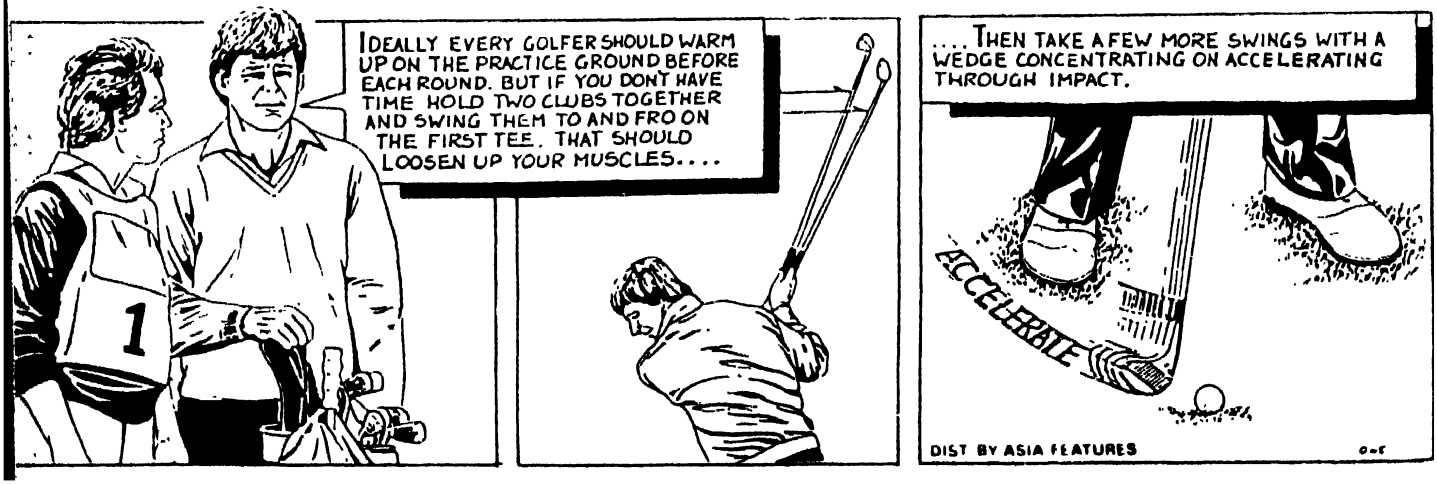




Feet Together



Warm up on the Tee



KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND

TAKING a break from the *kata* we are serialising, here's a report on the All India Instructors' Camp held by the Kyokushinkaikan HQ at Calcutta from 4 to 10 March. In all, 20 participants—from West Bengal, Assam, Bihar, Tripura, UP and Delhi—honed their skills to an even greater level with Hemant Chopra of WB and Hemant Saikia of Assam meriting promotion to black belt level. Debnath from Bihar and Raju Chakraborty of WB gained the upper brown standings. As for the Junior Instructors' Certificate, open for karatekas at brown belt or higher, all the seven who appeared for the test passed.



The participants of the Camp pose for a group photograph







Perfecting advanced techniques was part of the work done at the camp

By Shivaji Ganguly

KYOKUSHINKAIKAN KARATE

PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA

Shivaji Ganguly (standing at right) supervises a class

PRO



Vijay Kumar coming out of the bunker

THE Royal Calcutta Golf Club pros captured the top places in four out of the five major prize money tournaments held at the Bombay Presidency Golf Club course.

Thirtyfive-year-old Basad Ali, one of the senior most golfers on the Indian circuit, bagged the professional honours in all the three major meets, the Steelage Open, the BPGC Open and the Wills Western India Open.

Basad Ali's march at the BPGC was stopped by teenage amateur Amrit Inder Singh. The Chandigarh collegian, son of veteran Simran Singh, won the BPGC Open, but Basad collected the top prize among the pros Amrit Inder, who has a fine reportoire of approach shots, wants to represent India in the Asian Games before turning a pro.

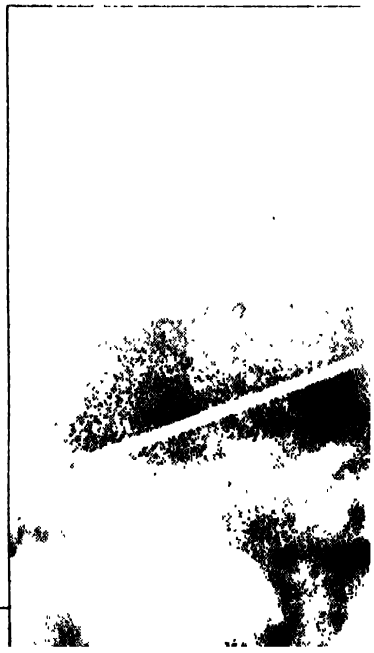
Rohtas Singh of Delhi won the Charminar Challenge at the shorter United Services Club links. Calcutta's Feroze Ali, who along with Rohtas and another Delhi pro Ali Sher, had taken part in the World qualifier in Singapore, won the rich Rs. 1,20,000 Royal Treasure Open, also held at the US Club sea-side course.

Lucknow pro Vijay Kumar, who hit the scene about four years back and Delhi's Ali Sher, a professional for the last five years, were in the reckoning for at least one title each So was veteran Hyder Khan who along with Basad and Ali Sher led the field going into the final round of the Wills Western India Open.

While Ali Sher and Hyder Khan fumbled, Vijay Kumar who hit his second successive sub-par round, came storming into the reckoning. But in the play-off with Basad Ali on the 73rd, a poor drive put paid to his hopes. Basad clinched the championship with an eight-foot birdie putt.

In the Royal Treasure Open, it was Basad Ali's turn to make a fight-back. A scorching round of 67 on the par 70 United Services Club course put him in line for the title. Leader Feroze Ali, who had teed off in the last batch, was having a lean time and had to ensure that he did not drop more than two shots on the last two holes He drove poorly on the 17th, but managed to par, and played a bad tee shot again on the 18th and final hole Holding his nerves he just managed to bogey the hole after landing in the bunker to win the title by one stroke

The Bombay courses are not considered very taxing, both falling short of international specifications. But if you are not hitting straight, you could be in trouble



CALCUTTA!

Rohtas Singh:Charminar Challenge winner



for the fairways are quite narrow. At th U.S. Club links, where the 10th green literally sticks out its tongue at the sea, the wind is also a factor though this season it did not blow very strong. Most of the greens here are also screened by man made impediments like the hut on the 14th. Hard-hitters generally rule the roost here.

Basad Ali's supremacy at the BPGC was, however, due to his near flawless putting "The new putter grip which Pawan Pratap gave me helped,' said Basad.

Rohtas' form, notwithstanding his triumph in the Charminar Challenge at the U.S. Club course, was disappointing. "I am getting on in years," he commented half jokingly and half seriously when asked about his poor form. The senior most and the most respected of the pros is still capable of touching the heights.

Poor Sheikh Patal!. The lanky youngster from Calcutta who had won the title at the U.S. Club in '88, was nowhere in the picture this time. Promising youngsters like him are in dire need of sponsors.

The amateur disappointment was Rajeev Mohta, the national champion. He was disqualified for submitting wrong scores at the BPGC. During play, Mohta while practising a shot, had inadvertently pushed the ball some distance. He compounded the error by playing it from the same spot instead of taking it back to its original location.

Ram Das



Basad Ali: captured four top places

GOA

Arlem Trophy

CHEMPLAST Club of Madras, one of the top club sides in the country having won a number of tournaments over the last two or three years, gave proof of their growing stature when they won the Arlem Trophy cricket tournament in Goa earlier last month. The tournament, contested by the six top teams in the country, was played on a league basis...and Chemplast Club won all their five matches.

Chemplast first got the better of Mahindras (Bombay) by eight wickets. Playing for the Bombay side was Sanjay Manjrekar but the Test, star could only make 20 as Chemplast, after restricting Mahindras to 205, romped home with up and coming opening batsman Mujib Ur Rehman (he scored a century on debut for Tamil Nadu in the Ranji Trophy last season) and former Indian opening bat V.B. Chandrasekhar in particularly punishing mood. While Mujib got 77, 'VB', the skipper of the side, scored 86.

It was another easy victory for Chemplast in their next match against Air India which they won by seven wickets. This time, Mujib Ur Rehman scored a splendid 59 as Chemplast scored 171 for three off just 26.3 overs after restricting Air India to 168 for seven in 45 overs.

Chemplast strengthened their position in the league by defeating the Goa XI next by eight wickets. Goa made 177 for 8 in 45 overs and Chemplast hit off the required runs off only 32.3 overs. Mujib Ur Rehman continued his fine run by scoring 107 with 12 fours and two sixes.

Chemplast made virtually sure of the title when they defeated strong contenders MRF by 39 runs in the next match. This time, former Test off spinner M. Venkatramana (3 for 38), allrounder Shyam Sunder (36 and two for 12) and V.B. Chandrasekhar (48) starred in the victory. Scoring 203 for nine in 45 overs, Chemplast than bowled out MRF who had in their ranks Vivek Razdan and W.V. Raman, for 164.



Chemplast were the winners of the Arlem Trophy

Chemplast duly clinched the title defeating holders Sun Grace XI (Mafatlal) in the last match by five wickets. Sun Grace, with good contributions from I. Khan (93), N. Mongia (56) and Sandip Patil (29), posted a good total of 229 but Chemplast, with state allrounder D. Vasu (56) and young S. Sarath (76 not out) in fine form romped home. Tamil Nadu left arm spinner Sunil Subramaniam also did a good job by capturing four wickets for 50.

Partab Ramchand

AHMEDABAD

Open Tennis

THE underdogs tend to rise and give a shocking surprise or two to the 'top dogs' in the field of sports. The Bombay-based Mehul Jain's performance in the Gujarat Open Tennis championship was a classic example of this. His moment of ecstasy came when he defeated fourth seed Mohesh Koregaonkar 6-2, 2-6, 6-3 in the men's singles final and took home a cheque of Rs. 5000.

It was a long awaited breakthrough for the unseeded Jain, who actually hails from Surat. He ousted four seeded players en route to the title and he should cherish the fond memories of what was a fruitful week at the Tennis Academy, Ahmedabad.

Jain had to produce some vintage tennis to baffle his more experienced and seemingly more versatile rival in a gruelling battle which lasted a shade above two hours. There was very little to separate Jain and Koregaonkar in the first two sets. However, it was in the decider that Jain displayed his prodigious talents and stunned his opponent as well as the spectators. Although Koregaonkar did not play poorly, there was no denying that Jain did have the edge in the crucial last set.

Koregaonkar was given a runner-up purse of Rs. 2500.

Gaurav Natekar and Sachin Kirtane won the men's doubles crown by demolishing Suresh Kumar and R. Kartikeyan 6-4, 6-4.

In the junior boys' singles, Navroj Udwadia routed P. Ramanand 6-1, 6-1 in a completely one-sided encounter and pocketed the title.

Haresh Pandya

BHUBANESHWAR

Gopabandhu Memorial Football

SAI Hostel of Cuttack lifted the third Gopabandhu Memorial All India Football Trophy defeating Mohammedan Sporting (junior) of Calcutta by a brace of goals in a well contested final at Angul, now known as the NALCO City.

After a barren first half, Tanbir Akhtar, adjudged the best player of the tournament, drew first blood when his left footer beat the Sporting custodian hands down. The Calcutta colts, in a desperate bid to find the equaliser, left their deep defence wide open. SAI Hostel took advantage of this situation and made the issue safe through their roving forward Kulamani Sahu, minutes before the final whistle.

Earlier in the double leg semi-finals, SAI Hostel overcame Power Club, Balasore 3-1 while Sporting Junior brushed aside the strong challenge of State Sports Hostel, Cuttack 1-0.

Altogether 12 teams from Orissa, West Bengal and Bihar took part in the tournament organised by Angul Athletic Association. Jharsuguda XI was adjudged the best disciplined team.

Sanatan Pani

The SAI hostel team won the Gopabandhu Memorial football tournament

PATIALA

Sohal Memorial Cricket

TEST cricketer Navjot Sidhu was the main architect of the P.D.C.A. (Patiala District Cricket Association) team's triumph in the Sohal Memorial Cricket tournament played at Patiala.

In the final, P.D.C.A. had an easy 108 run victory over Escorts Club. Batting first, P.D.C.A. amassed 256 runs for the loss of only six wickets in the allotted 40 overs, with opener Sidhu blasting 127 runs, aided by 13 fours and a huge six. He was associated in a fruitful stand of 120 runs for the second wicket with upcoming southpaw Dhruve Pandove (50, with five four and a six). Orthodox left-arm spinner Munish Arora was the pick of the Escorts bowlers and accounted for three wickets at the cost of 35 runs.

Facing the daunting total, Escorts batsmen failed to rise to the occasion and crumbled for a meagre 148 runs. Munish Arora again proved his all-round ability when he chipped in with 27 runs.

Sidhu was adjudged 'the best batsman' of the tournament, while the honour of being 'the best bowler' went to Bhupinder Pintoo. Ranji player Rajdeep Kalsi (Escorts) was declared 'the man of the series'.

Amarjit Singh

SANGRUR

Udham Singh Memorial Hockey

PUNJAB STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD (PSEB), won the all-India Shaheed Udham Singh Memorial Hockey tournament beating Railway Coach Factory (RCF), Kapurthala team by four goals to one in the final played at Sangrur.

The final proved to be a



SANATAN

well-contested match till the breather, as neither team was able to sound the board during the first 35 minutes. But the second half of the match witnessed some lively hockey as both the teams launched attacks and counter attacks. For PSEB Krishan Kumar, Baldev Singh, Ravinder Singh and Bhupinder Singh were the scorers, while Pargat Singh accounted for the lone RCF goal.

Earlier in the semi-finals, both the teams had to overcome stiff challenges, while in the first semi-final, RCF were lucky to scrape through with a solitary goal victory over Ropar Hawks, in the second semi-final, PSEB caused a major upset when it outclassed JCT (Hoshiarpur) by three goals to two.

RANCHI

Open Tennis

G MADHUSUDAN of D.A.V School won the singles title, when he defeated P. D. Singh (Ranchi club) by 6-3, 6-2 in the second Ranchi Open Tennis Association.

The doubles title went to D. Rath and Avdhangulu of MECON. They beat Ajay Chhabra and J. P. Jalan of Ranchi Club in easy sets, 6-3, 6-3. Akash Kapoor was announced the most promising tennis player of Ranchi.

Earlier in the singles semi final, 17-year-old G. Madhusudan beat Vishak Kumar 6-3, 6-0 while in the second semi final P. D. Singh defeated Akash Kapoor by 6-3, 6-7 (2-7), 6-2

Inter-School Cricket

ZILA SCHOOL, Ranchi finished as the best side in the Indira Gandhi Memorial Inter-School Cricket championship held here recently.

Last year's runners-up Zila School beat Government High School, Bariatu by one wicket in the final played at the Rajendra Medical College ground. Mukul Mohri of Zila School played a key role in their win. He took four valuable wickets giving 24 runs only and scored 12 runs (not out).

Batting first, Government High School were all out for 125 runs. Vijay (27), Amit (21) and Tanveer (18) were the only players to reach the double figure. Mukul (4/24) and Kasif (2/12) bowled good spells for Zila School. Rajkamal and Yusuf took one wicket each.

In reply, opening batsmen Raj Kumar and Javed made a good start and scored 51 runs for the first wicket. But, soon Rajkumar (12) and Javed (32) were sent back to the pavilion. Struggling to win the championship for the second time, Zila School lost their nine wickets for 97 runs only. The last wicket partnership of Mukul and Vikas batted with patience and scored an unbeaten 29 runs to achieve the target of 126 runs in 36.3 overs. Amit (3/17), Hira (2/26), Tanveer (1/26) and Pinku (1/13) were successful bowlers for Government High School

Earlier, in the semi-finals, Zila School beat defending champion Central School, Hinoo by 17 runs, while Government High School defeated St. Alosius High School by 81 runs

Anil Kumar Singh



LAL DEEPAK NATH SHARDEO

D. Rath and Avdhangulu receiving the doubles trophy from Ashok Kumar Singh (centre), the Mayor of Ranchi

championship held here recently. Altogether 70 players took part in this championship organised by the Ranchi Lawn Tennis

TRIVANDRUM

State Veterans' Athletics

TRIVANDRUM men and Ernakulam women won the team championship in the tenth State Veterans Championship held at the Chandrasekharan Nair Stadium recently.

In the men's (over 45) section, K.K. Chacko representing Ernakulam claimed three golds: 100 mts- 12.7 sec; 200 mts- 25.8 sec; 400 mts -1:00.4 sec;

A.P. Jacob of Trivandrum won a double with wins in the 400 mts (55 sec) and 800 mts (2:29.80 sec). In the 100 mts sprint (over 70), Neelambharan came first with a time of 15.9 sec.

C. Radha of the State Electricity Board took gold in the women's (over 40) triple jump covering 8.60 mtrs. She also bagged golds in the 200 mts (33.4) and 400 mts (1:17.63) to complete a treble.

Thank Bai, a physical education teacher from Trivandrum, pocketed 4 golds: Shot put—6.60 mts; Javelin Throw—15.00, mtrs: Discuss—15.76: Hammer—10.20 mts: in the over 50 age group.

Sajeev Kumar T.K.

NEW DELHI

University Wrestling

SATYAWATI (Evening), College won the Delhi University Wrestling Championship for the first time, claiming four gold, one silver and two bronze medals.

Holders Motilal was pushed to the second spot while Indira Gandhi Inst. of Physical Education and Sports Sciences got the third spot.

Suresh Kumar Lau

CALCUTTA

Training Facility

A MULTIPURPOSE Indoor Hall measuring 60 m. × 40 m. would be a welcome addition to the many available sports facilities at the Eastern Centre of Sports Authority of India Sports Complex at Salt Lake.

In addition to gymnastics, the hall would also be used for basketball, badminton and table tennis. The aim being to scout and nurture young gymnasts, it is planned to train about 40 talented gymnasts between 3 and 5 p.m for 5 days a week.

Sreerupa Bose

CALCUTTA

Sports Awards



SANTOSH GHOSH

Kapil Dev receiving a special award from Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi at the annual Calcutta Sports Journalists Club awards ceremony



SAJEEV KUMAR T K

Vinitha Mohan: the State women's champion in carrom

TRIVANDRUM

State Carrom

SASIDHARAN of Palghat and Vinitha Mohan of Trivandrum claimed the Men's and Women's title respectively in the Sixth State Carroms Championship.

In the women's final, Vinitha blanked her doubles partner Vijaya Lekshmi 25-3, 25-4 to retain the crown. The teenagers beat Lekshmi and Nalini 25-6 25-4 to win the doubles honours.

Top seeded Jothi Prakash (Palghat) went down to Sasidharan 22-25, 10-25 in the men's final. Sasidharan pairing with Jothi Prakash won the doubles event defeating K.P Basheer-CP Nawshad (Kozhikode) 25-17, 25-6.

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1 With what sport or game is "Cue-bid" associated and what does it mean?
2 What does "reaching" mean in yachting?
3 A goal-bound shot hits the referee, causing the ball to deflect past the goalkeeper and into the net. What will be the correct decision?
4 Where do Nottingham Forest play?
5 What does the sports slang 'Aspirin' mean?
6 Just Fontaine scored four of his record 13 goals (in the 1958 World Cup soccer) in one match. Who were the opponents?

ANSWERS

1 Bridge; Artificial bid to show particular card etc. in bidder's hand.
2 Sailing at right angle to the wind.
3 itl0A goal, because the referee is regarded as part of the field of play
4 City Ground.
5 Fast ball.
6 West Germany.

CHESS

The winner of this game GM Viktor Kupreichik has been variously described as "An artistic Caveman" and "a drunk machine gunner". He is a throwback to the romantic era and despite his obvious gifts his distaste for quiet positions has prevented great practical success. He provides great entertainment however. White: Kupreichik Vs Black: Sunye-Neto Palma, '89.

1 e4 c5 2 Nc3 a6 3 Nf3 b5 4 d4 cd4 5 Nxd4 Bd7 6 Bd3 e6 7 0-0 Qc7. Transposing to an O'Kelly Sicilian. After this game 7-d6 followed by Nf6 has become the norm **8 Qe2 Nc6 9 Nxc6 Qxc6 10 a4 b4 11 Nd5!** The first offer. Quite obvious really but what follows is not.

11—Nf6 12 Bc4 Bd6 13 Rd1 Bc5 14 Bh6! A very powerful move. Now if 14—gh6 then 15 Nxf6 Ke7 16 Rxd7 Kxf6 17 Qf3 forces mate. The real purpose of this move is to force queenside castling.

14—0-0-0 (See Diagram) 15 Bb5!! The third offer. Black must capture or lose a lot of material.

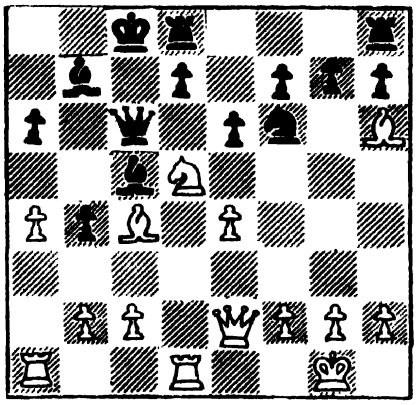
15—ab5 16 ab5 Qd6. Black could give up the queen by 16—Qxd5 17 ed5 gh6 18 Qc4 d6 19 de6 Ne4 20 e7 when white is winning and the excitement is over.

17 Nxf6 Qf8 18 Bxg7 19 Qc4 d6. Amazingly black has nothing better. If 19—— Qf8 then 20 e5 with the threat of Rd6 follows. After that 20—— Kb8 21 Ra7 Rc8 22 Rxb7 forces mate. Also 19—— Qf6 loses to 20 Qxc5 Kb8 21 Ra7/Rc8 22 Qb6 Rc7 23 Rda1 and 24 Ra8.

20 Rxd6! Qg5 21 Nd5! ed5 22 Qxc5 Kb8 23 Rc6! (1-0). After 23—Bxc6 24 Qxc6 forces mate.

An incredible orgy of seven piece sacrifices of the kind seldom seen in this century. Black should be given credit for not forfeiting his queen on the 16th and losing in dry technical fashion.

Devangshu Dutta



BRIDGE

Calcutta's second Dunlop Merchants' Cup championship was held at the Saturday Club during the first half of last month. Goutam Ghosh and Brohmojyoti Mukherjee of Indian Oxygen scored over 60% in the 24-pair final to clinch the title, one and a half boards ahead of second-placed Kejriwal brothers, Satyanarain and Prakash, of Bangabasi Roller Flour Mill. This is a board from the final where most pairs failed to bring home and touch-and-go spade game:—

Dealer South — None vul.

NORTH(dummy)
♠ 10 6 3
♡ J 10 4
◇ K 6 3
♣ Q J 6 3

WEST
♠ Q 7 4
♡ A Q 6 3 2
◇ Q 10 8 7
♣ K

EAST
♠ 9 5
♡ K 9 8 5
◇ 9 2
♣ 10 9 8 7 4

SOUTH
♠ A K J 8 2
♡ 7
◇ A J 5 4
♣ A 5 2

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1 ♠	Pass	1 NT	Pass
2 ◇	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	4 ♠	All Pass

Those who played in a partial were lucky in a way for it is not easy to score ten tricks, especially against silent opposition (note the bidding at one table—the introduction of the club fragment while making a game try to show the heart shortage and North accordingly upgrading his otherwise weak hand). At most tables, West, with a difficult problem on lead, started off with the singleton king. With the threat of a club ruff looming large, the declarers cashed the top trumps enabling West to draw dummy's last trump when he got in, and with the foul diamond position declarer had to lose a spade, a heart and two diamonds, one down.

The winning line, which looks to me the best in theory too, is to delay the drawing of trumps, hoping for the likely position that existed, that West would have to ruff from the 3-card trump holding. So, declarer wins the club lead and immediately plays back a heart to cut the defenders' communications, normal good technique. With a club ruff serving no purpose, East would probably play back a trump which South wins with the ace. Now a club to the queen, West doing his best not to ruff in the air, and a diamond to a hopeful jack, losing to the queen. Declarer ruffs the heart return and now cashes the second top trump, cashes the top diamonds and ruffs the fourth diamond in dummy. All that the defence can score is a trick each in spades, hearts and diamonds.

Santanu Ghose

VOICES

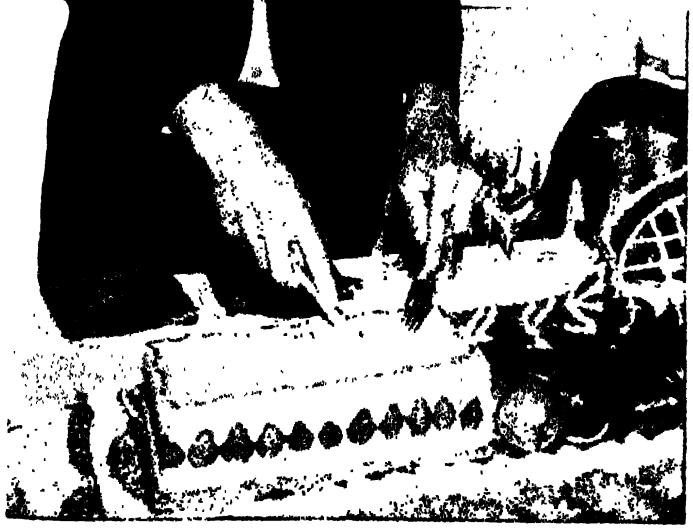
"I think I have everything and I'm starting to use everything. I am feeling comfortable with my shots. I'm not thinking much about ranking. I just want to show everything I have. I think I'm getting better and I think she's (Steffi) not as good."
GABRIELA SABATINI, evaluates her game and feels that Graf has lost her hold over the tennis world.



"The heavyweight division is wide open. There's no real threat out there after Foreman knocks out Evander Holyfield, in Atlantic City on April 19th, which should take three to four rounds."
LARRY HOLMES, puts his money on Foreman, for the oncoming fight with Holyfield. Holmes incidentally is planning a comeback himself, a la Foreman.

"Vince Lombardi, the famous American football coach once said, that winning is not everything. It is the only thing. And the Americans take that very seriously. Former IOC President Avery Brundage said that winning is not important, but participation is. And we Indians take *that* very seriously."
VIJAY AMRITRAJ, believes that Indian sport lacks that winning attitude.

"I'm not actually a musician. I'm doing this tour because it's so much fun. After the tour I'm going to start playing tennis to get ready for the French Open."
MATS WILANDER, before embarking on a 17 stop Swedish tour. This time he will be playing the guitar for a six member group, called Wilander.





"It'll be nice to come into the locker room and have someone who's got something to say back to me. With these young guys, there's not much there, not much to say. Two things have happened. They've changed the equipment and the guys now play one speed-fifth gear."
JIMMY CONNORS, is back. He played Borg recently but here he takes a dig at the modern boys of tennis.

"This is the best chance I have of getting one (a Lamborghini). I'm hoping my parents will surprise me with one. But there isn't a storybook life in tennis—you can never predict. One day you can be down and the next day you are back again."
MONICA SELES, on her ambition after becoming the No. 1.



DIFFERENT STROKES

THE ENGLISH STALLION

EVER heard of a 12-year-old steeplechaser, who on a quiet week receives around 200 letters from his fans, who has a fan club of 2000 members (from one year olds to a 82 year old woman), who sends T-shirts, stickers, jogging pants, holdalls etc to his fans, embossed with his picture. He was even a celebrity at the 90th birthday parade of the Queen Mother, in London.

We are talking here of a horse, Desert Orchid, Dessie to his fans, who after the 1989 Cheltenham Gold Cup, became a celebrity of sorts. And he is one stud who loves being in the limelight. When he is surrounded by his fans, the cynosure of attraction, he cocks his head in a flirtatious way, and whisks his tail. And woe to them, who come in his way (usually his cousins)—they are gently but firmly nudged aside. Posing for the camera is a job that he now does with finesse. He receives every thing from Valentine cards to wedding cakes from his admirers. Dessie is so much in love with the blitz that getting him back to the stable after a day with his fans is 'murder' for his trainer.

Although he has won a record amount as prize money and subscriptions (put into charity), Dessie has not earned a fortune for his owners. After training fees and living costs are deducted, the owners just about break even. But then you surely can't put a price on a living, galloping, leaping legend, can you?



Dessie with one of his fans

STAYING ALIVE

18TH of February '91 was a terrible day in the history of London. On that Monday, as Londoners were queueing up for another week of hustle and bustle, two bombs went off in the railway stations at Victoria and Paddington. One killed and 38 injured. Courtesy the IRA.

What was amazing was the fact that the list of casualities was so small. Providence that day was sure smiling on London. Among the early morning office-goers in Victoria was a 12-year-old, Hugh Carling. Darling of his school cricket team, this lad could work wonders with the ball. He, like numerous others just too glad to be alive, after the incident.

Recuperating at the Westminster Hospital in London, Hugh had three surprise visitors calling on him. His idols Graham Gooch, Bob Willis and John Emburey presented him with a bat autographed by the whole England team. Emburey also invited the youngster to a coaching session and said, "He's just what the team needs."

And man, was our little hero thrilled? As he said, 'It was almost worth being blown up.'

Hugh Carling flanked by his idols, Bob Willis and John Emburey (left)



SHE'S GOT THE LOOKS

FOR 21-year-old Felicity Gallup of Purley, life was one big dream. A dream to make it big. She started small, working as a barmaid, along with a part-time job to survive. But lasses with her looks don't go unnoticed in the male dominated world-especially in Japan. Soon she was gracing fashion magazines and fashion commercials in Japan.

But an ultimate dream still remained unfulfilled—to make her name in the world of badminton, the game she cherished the most.

Just when the mantle of celebrityhood was being slipped on her head, she decided to chuck it all. She crossed the oceans, came down to England and started concentrating on her game. And before long she was wowing spectators in the Hi-Tec English National Championships, where she defeated former European and Commonwealth champion, Helen Troke, on her way to the finals.

Although she lost in the finals, she was chosen to represent England for an unofficial international against Scotland. Her coach, Tom John is now fully concentrating on getting his client a full-time sponser. Till then she is relying on funds dished out by her family and friends. But Felicity is certainly not dogged by these drawbacks as she says, "I believe I can still make it." Maybe the next stop will be Copenhagen, for the World Championships in May.



Felicity Gallup: Galloping away with the hearts of spectators all over Japan and England

SOMETHING new about that 15-year-old schoolgirl, who had the journalists racking their brains for adjectives to describe her game. We are talking here of none other than Jennifer Capriati. Her least favourite subject in school happens to be history. The reason: "You always have to remember things and I don't understand the point. It happened like 2,000 years ago and has nothing to do with what I have to do now."

Well recently she stood alongside history, with the Reagans', Ronald and Nancy. Now that they have shifted residence from Capitol Hill, to the swank Bel Air locality of Los Angeles, the only way for them to remain in the limelight is to lend their names to noble causes, like the 'Just Say No to Drugs', a tennis tournament at Pacific Palisade in California. The Reagans' did not sweat it out on court, they were mere spectators, but managed to rope in $500,000 . Everyone had a good time, and Jennifer and mother Denise managed some photographic momentoes. Now that's courting history, right Jennifer?



Capriati with Ronald and Nancy Reagan


PATRICK EAGARI

With the Reliance World Cup: 1987

AUSTRALIA

Undoubted Champions in One-day cricket?

Australia against each opponent in One-day cricket from 1987 Reliance World Cup till date

OPPONENT	P	W	L
West Indies	13	8	5
England	9	6	3
Pakistan	14	8	6
India	5	3	2
New Zealand	18	16	2
Zimbabwe	2	2	0
Sri Lanka	10	10	0
Bangladesh	1	1	0
Total	72	54	18

* Australia won 75.00 per cent off the total one day matches they played since 1987 Reliance World Cup.

* Australia also won the World Youth Cup Cricket Championships held in Australia in March, 1988-beating West Indies, India, New Zealand, England, Sri Lanka, ICC Associates and Pakistan in the final only one match they lost in the tournament to Pakistan in the Round Robin League.

Australia before 1987 Reliance World Cup

P	W	L	T	Abandoned
176	78	87	1	10

Against each opponent

OPPONENT	P	W	L	T	Abandoned
England	41	18	22	—	1
West Indies	45	13	31	1	—
New Zealand	30	18	10	—	2
India	28	15	10	—	3
Pakistan	19	7	10	—	2
Sri Lanka	10	5	3	—	2
Zimbabwe	2	1	1	—	—
Canada	1	1	0	—	—
Total	176	78	87	1	10

* At present, Australia's overall performance in one-day internationals, as follows:-

P	W	L	T	Abandoned
248	132	105	1	10

IN "THE WORLD"

Allan Border correct in claiming that his team is the best one-day side in the world?

AS long-time readers of this correspondent's scribblings will know, I am not essentially a betting man The same readers will also know that when I do have a bet, my horse does not even get to the starting line, or I put my money on the wrong race. My fame-or lack of it in this sphere has spread to regions of the city of Melbourne, capital of the graceful Australian state, Victoria So when I sidled up in early January this year to a self-styled bookie at the newspaper office which employs me there was a great degree of mirth

"Nah, mate," he said, "I can't take money off you You haven't won a bet in three years "

"This one's different," I insisted "I want to put money on the Australian cricket team to win the one-day series against the West Indies." When he had stopped laughing and wiped the tears of mirth away, his reply was unprintable. Basically, what he told me was that Australia had about as much chance of winning the one-day contest as a one-legged man would have of winning a bum-kicking competition.

He's not laughing now. Australia won four of the

WEST INDIES VS. AUSTRALIA:

AUSTRALIA

Batting

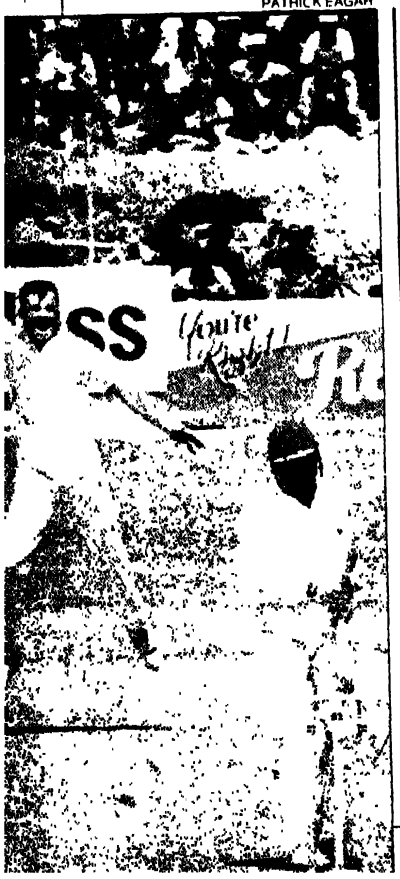
	M	INNS	NO	RUN	AVGE	HS	100	50	Ct/St.
Geoff Marsh	5	5	1	349	87.25	113	2	1	1
Ian Healy	5	3	3	52	——	33*	0	0	7
Dean Jones	5	5	1	206	51.50	88*	0	2	1
Allan Border	5	5	0	169	33.80	79	0	2	3
Mark Waugh	5	5	0	156	31.20	67	0	1	2
Steve Waugh	5	5	2	86	28.66	26*	0	0	3
David Boon	3	3	0	48	16.00	34	0	0	0
Craig McDermott	5	3	2	5	5.00	3*	0	0	2
Mark Taylor	2	2	0	8	4.00	5	0	0	1
Peter Taylor	5	2	0	3	1 50	2	0	0	4
Mike Whitney	5	1	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	2
Bruce Reid	4	0	0	0	——	0	0	0	0
Merv Hughes	1	0	0	0	——	0	0	0	1

Bowling

	OVERS	MDNS	RUNS	WICKETS	AVGE	BB	4W
Merv Hughes	9.5	0	33	3	11.00	3/33	0
Craig McDermott	39.1	0	153	12	12.75	4/34	1
Mark Waugh	27.3	0	146	8	18.25	3/34	0
Steve Waugh	32	1	153	5	30.60	2/25	0
Peter Taylor	29	0	160	5	32 00	2/45	0
Mike Whitney	42	2	180	4	45.00	3/41	0
Bruce Reid	26	3	138	3	46.00	1/25	0
Allan Border	2	0	21	0			

Geoff Marsh scored two consecutive centuries in the fourth and fifth one dayer at Bridgetown and Georgetown. Altogether he scored 9 centuries in one day cricket. Moreover he is the only batsman, who scored hundred in this series. Richie Richardson twice missed centuries after reaching 90 and plus.

PATRICK EAGAR



PATRICK EAGAR



That man Craig, yet again...Greenidge goes and the Aussies are on their way

five one-day matches to win the series 4-1. Allan Border, therefore, could be forgiven if he boasted that his squad was the best one-day side in the world. The statistics certainly back up that claim, for Border was at the helm when Australia beat England in the the final of the 1987 Reliance Cup at Calcutta's Eden Gardens.

They have gone from strength to strength since that victory on Indian soil, and the only thing they needed to do was beat the West Indies. To have done that, not just so convincingly, but more importantly, on West Indian soil to boot, is the final proof if anyone cared to quibble with the fact that Australia were the world one day champions.

You could find fault with the format of the World Cup. You could argue that Australia still has not found a world class spinner capable of breaking a batting partnership. You could argue that there was actually a section of the West Indian crowd that was vocally anti (yes, anti) the West Indian cricket team. But you can't take anything away from the total mastery the Australians displayed when they stepped onto the field for the one-day matches.

The batting was simply brimming with runs. Even Mark Taylor, who had a disastrous debut against the West Indians here two years ago, survived the battle of

ONE DAY AVERAGES, 1991

WEST INDIES

Batting

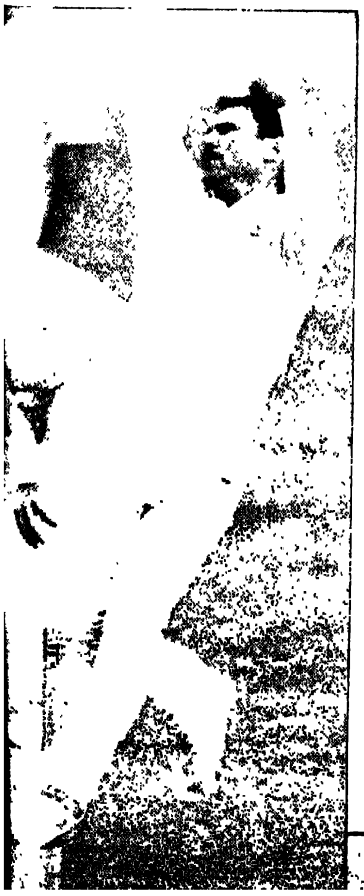
	M	INNS	NO	RUN	AVGE	HS	100	50	Ct/St.
Richie Richardson	5	5	0	278	55.60	94	0	3	0
Gus Logie	5	5	1	150	37.50	65	0	1	0
Desmond Haynes	5	5	0	158	31.60	58	0	1	1
Gordon Greenidge	4	4	1	82	27.33	40*	0	0	0
Vivian Richards	5	4	0	75	18.75	27	0	0	1
Phil Simmons	4	4	0	70	17.50	34	0	0	0
Jeffrey Dujon	5	4	0	49	12.75	39	0	0	4/1
Curtly Ambrose	4	3	1	19	9.50	12*	0	0	1
Carl Hooper	5	4	0	37	9.25	18	0	0	3
Malcolm Marshall	3	3	0	25	8.33	19	0	0	0
Antony Gray	4	3	1	8	4.00	6	0	0	1
Courtney Walsh	3	3	1	7	3.50	4	0	0	1
Ezra Moseley	1	1	0	2	2.00	2	0	0	0
Patrick Patterson	2	1	1	1	——	1*	0	0	0

Bowling

	OVERS	MDNS	RUNS	WICKETS	AVGE	BB	4W
Curtly Ambrose	37	5	138	8	17.25	3/37	0
Antony Gray	37	0	206	8	25.75	6/50	1
Patrick Patterson	15.3	0	86	2	43.00	1/34	0
Courtney Walsh	27	1	130	2	65.00	1/30	0
Phil Simmons	28	0	140	2	70.00	1/15	0
Carl Hooper	43	1	212	3	70.66	1/44	0
Malcolm Marshall	22	0	131	1	131.00	1/67	0
Viv Richards	17	0	82	0			

(Also Bowled Ezra Moseley: 5-0-22-1)

Compiled by Hari Prasad Chattopadhyay



The captaincy factor...while Border has been a source of inspiration even to rebels like Merv Hughes (centre), Richards has struggled to come to terms with his personal form

mental mastery. In the company of David Boon and Geoff Marsh, these three were always there to get their side off to a great start.

As if that wasn't enough, the middle order also chipped into the run-getting act. Names like Dean Jones and Allan Border always had a sizeable score alongside them in the scorecards. And, of course, there was the gritty Ian Healy. Having made it to the Aussie squad for the Pakistan tour of two years back mainly as the best wicketkeeping batsmen around, Healy is shaping up like his illustrious forerunner Rod Marsh. Wonder if anybody made any money on Ian Healy coming second in the batting averages for the one-day series? Not me. What's new, huh?

Not one to rest on his batting achievements, Healy has also started working on his keeping. His latest ploy being to use even the few minutes spent waiting for the team bus to make a teammate throw a ball to him in the car park.

On the bowling side too, Australia proved a point. With Terry Alderman horribly out of form, Bruce Reid and Craig McDermott (initially) injured, Merv Hughes and Mike Whitney were always in among the wickets. Of course, once McDermott reported fit, it was only a matter of time before the series was wrapped up.

Funnily enough, the guy who really rubbed salt into the West Indian wounds was Greg Matthews. Relieved of his wedding ring by a mugger, he decided to do his own sleuthing. And approached the local head of crime Big Daddy for help. So incensed was Big Daddy that the crime amnesty=for the period of the cricket=had been violated, that he not only forced the mugger to return Matthews' ring, he even banned him from mugging ever again.

However, that steal doesn't compare to the way the Australians stole the West Indian thunder by thoroughly drubbing them 4-1. And gave skipper Allan Border the gall to make whatever comment he felt like.

David McMahon, Melbourne

Cricket as demonstration sport

1996, the centenary year of the international Olympic movement, is the right time for, all the cricket-playing countries to forward their proposal to the President of the International Olympic Committee include cricket as a demonstration sport at the Atlanta Games. Cricket, after all, was played in the 1900 Paris Olympic Games, England beating France.

Now that quite a few sports have reached demonstration level at the Olympic Games—Baseball and tennis were included in the '84 L.A. Games, taekwondo, and badminton in the Seoul Games—I hope that this suggestion will find favour with the BCCI.

They should take up this proposal with the ICC before sending in an application to the International Olympic Committee

NELSON F.M LOUIS,
Velim,
Goa



An Error

IN the Readers' Quiz by Mrinmoy Dhar (*Sportsworld*, 13th March), there was an answer which said that the Olympic 2000 will be held in Atlanta City, USA. That is wrong The 1996 Olympic Games will be held in Atlanta while the venue for the 2000 Olympics will only be decided in 1994. Although *Sportsworld* is not responsible for the answers sent in by the contributor, nevertheless they should try to rectify the mistake

S SURESH,
Madurai.

You are right! The error is regretted and we request all contributors to doubly check their questions and answers before sendind them to us Thank you Editor

The Downfall

SO, the downfall continues and Steffi Graf has ultimately lost the top spot to Monica Seles. It is indeed sad to see Steffi going off form from day to day. The touch is missing and it is high time she does something to improve her game. I still consider her the queen of tennis and we want her to be back—at her very best *-fast!*

PRABAL GUHA,
Dibrugarh



Superb

THANKS a lot for a superb issue (*Sportsworld*, 20th Feb) which contained a profile of the youngest US Open Champ—Pete Sampras. He is certainly the player to watch in the next season and if all goes well, he will be a serious contender for the number one spot.

DANI BELO,
Arunachal Pradesh

Maradona On The Downswing

WHATEVER has happened to Diego Maradona? The loss of his skills, the fall from public grace; the object of investigation by police about his alleged Mafia and drug connection; the charge of fathering an illegitimate child....the list goes on and on.

It is indeed saddening to see a man of genius make such a mess of his life. Let us hope that he comes out of all these sticky situations unscathed so that he can continue to enchant us on the football field.

RANJAN LAHIRI,
Calcutta.

The cover picture of Ivan Lendl was by Tommy Hindley; that of Monica Seles by Action Plus and of Maradona by Colorsport

MONEY MAKES THE MARE GO

Not in China

CHINESE bookies-a tribe of hustlers-are all set to make money again. Horse racing, which was banned as capitalist decadence in China, in 1949, has returned to the ancient capital city of Xian.

The overseas edition of the *People's Daily* said that thousands of people crowded the race track for China's, 'first ever horse racing with prizes'.

The accent here, however, is more on entertainment than on gambling and therefore there is a marked difference between horse racing in Xian and overseas.

Difference indeed. For backing a winner—ridden by an army jockey—the pay-off was a colour TV set.



SENNA AND PROST

'Pairing' of misfortunes

MISFORTUNE sometimes comes in pairs. Ditto for Alain Prost and Ayrton Senna. These two have been going at it (and each other) for a long time and the things that happen to them, sometimes just cannot be termed coincidental.

Prost, meanwhile, lost more than just the opening Grand Prix of this year's racing season. He lost-along with the race—$ 12,000! Police said that while Prost and Senna were whirring around the track for the U.S. Grand Prix, burglars broke into Prost's room and fled with $10,000 in French francs, $2,000 in American currency plus some driver's clothing.

So what did that have to do with Senna? Well, the Brazilian speed demon wasn't spared either. Senna too had his room broken into. He, however, lost considerably less. The burglars departed with a compact disc player, cologne and his sunglasses.

These two are really made for each other.

FROM SYRINGE, TO CRUCIFIX

Differing priorities

SPRINTER BEN JOHNSON has turned from chemist to God. This is a result of his attempt to break a world record in the sprints. Chances of that, however, seem to be remote.

"I hear what's been said," said Johnson of his detractors; especially Linford Christie. "Some of the guys have been for me. Some like Christie have pointed a finger."

"What they did is not right," Johnson said. But I pray and hope to God that I get out of the blocks right. If I do, it'll be over," Johnson warned. For a guy who derived his energy from steriods once, Johnson gets a 'high' from being spiritual, nowadays. Nevertheless, God isn't looking down on him too kindly as his fourth place finish in Seville suggests.

A MILLWALL-WEST HAM FRIENDLY

Everyone's cup of tea

AND then there was this friendly between Millwall and West Ham football club. This match was played only by the supporters of these two teams. In normal times, a Millwall-West Ham friendly is as rare as Saddam and Bush having tea together. But then peace is the universal watchword today.

The reason for the match according to the supporters of these two teams, was that, "Even those who have been in trouble do not want to carry on like this."

"We don't want it carrying on to our children," said another supporter who didn't disclose his club leanings. For the soccer buffs, it should suffice to say that Millwall beat a scratch West Ham team, 5-0. P. S. There were no bookings!

THE JAIPUR CIRCUS

IN the year 1975, the Senior National Table Tennis Championships were held in Jaipur in a make-shift stadium. During the course of the men's singles final, the skies opened up and the tent was blown off. The venue for the final had to be changed and was held elsewhere on the following day. Niraj Bajaj was the winner then.

Now, 16 years later, and after several editions of the Senior Nationals had been hosted by many associations, Jaipur took it upon itself to conduct the 52nd National and Inter-State Championships. While the rules of the game have undergone a sea of change and the championships were played with orange-coloured balls on blue-top tables, and on synthetic surface for the first time, the playing conditions remained the same, if not worse at Jaipur. A circus-like tent was pitched near the basketball courts of the spacious Sawai Man Singh Stadium. The arena looked more like a village fair with dust all over the place. The players had to cover their faces with handkerchiefs to avoid the dust entering their nostrils.



Mantu Ghosh holds aloft the women's singles crown

It is regrettable that the Nationals were held under such primitive conditions at a time when Indian table tennis is passing through a bad phase and struggling to move up the ladder in world rankings. With the Commonwealth and World Championships round the corner and a Chinese national coach having arrived in the country to impart the latest coaching methods to the Indians, one was looking forward to better playing conditions. Even the secretary of the TTFI, Mr Suresh Gawade, who seems to be having very little say in matters concerning the affairs of the federation, conceded that conditions were not conducive for holding such an important event in an improvised stadium. He, however, seemed to be helpless in the matter. But one wonders why the TTFI allotted the Nationals to the Rajasthan unit which could not provide the basic necessities for such a big event.

But these factors did not deter the players, especially the younger lot to give off their best and catch the eyes of the national selectors. One must give full compliments to Bengal's sensation, the 16-year-old Mantu Ghosh,who beat B.Bhuvaneswari in the final to herald a new era in Indian table tennis.

In the women's section, barring Nandini Kulkarni and Monalisa Mehta.All other contenders belonged to the young brigade. In fact, the top half of the seeds were in their teens. It augurs well for Indian table tennis. Besides Mantu and Bhuvaneswari, Ambika Radhika and Rinku Acharya are still in their teens, having just moved into the senior section. Sejal Shah, a Railway colleague of Mantu, is only 23.

Mantu Ghosh has been showing lot of promise ever since the day she claimed the 1988 national sub-junior singles

title in Delhi. That very year, the girl from Siliguri annexed the sub-junior, junior as well as the women's singles titles in the Bengal State championship. She has not looked back ever since. Participating in the senior section for the first time in the Kozhikode Nationals last year, Mantu lost to Niyati Shah, the ultimate winner, in the quarter-finals. The result got reversed at Jaipur as Mantu toppled the reigning champion in four games in the quarter-finals and then went on to beat Sejal Shah and Bhuvaneswari for the title. Rinku Gupta of Madhya Pradesh had been the youngest winner, having claimed the title at Hyderabad at the age of 18.

For a player, who is still eligible to play in the junior section, Mantu showed extreme confidence against all her senior adversaries. She showed no nerves at all, despite playing in her maiden women's singles final. The stronger the opponent, the better she responded. Despite her short stature, she got on top of the ball, perched on her toes and surprised her opponents.

Bhuvaneswari, who had lost to Niyati in the last Nationals, once again had to be content with the runner-up position. Despite her limitations in movement, the reigning junior national champion did well to thwart the heroic attempts of veteran Nandini Kulkarni to make the finals. But her tactics against Mantu Ghosh did not bear fruits and she went down bravely.

Niyati Shah, despite her loss, remains a step ahead of the other girls. She had problems with the orange-coloured locally-manufactured balls. She could not adjust to the slowness of the ball. But Niyati's best opponent is herself. She loses confidence very fast in her play and abilities, if she is under

The Best Available Players Selected

AFTER a very long time there was a pleasant surprise in regard to the announcement of the Indian team for the World and Commonwealth Championships. The selection of the squad was completely in order and it was impossible for even the wildest critic of the TTFI to criticise it. The men's team comprises Kamlesh Mehta, S. Raman, Chetan Baboor, Arunjyoti Barua and Sujay Ghorpade and the women consist of Mantu Ghosh, Bhuvana, Sejal Shah and Radhika and all of them are automatic choices.

While Kamlesh maintained his form by remaining unbeaten in the team and open events, thereby establishing himself as the outstanding Indian player of the decade, Raman kept up his good show this year by reaching the final of the Nationals and failing to cross only the last hurdle.

Chetan is easily the most promisng player in India today. And he lost only two matches throughout the Nationals. Arunjyoti picked himself on his good showing in the Nationals particularly his victories over J. Premkumar and S. Sriram, the two rivals against him whom he has always had problems. A singular distinction of his is that he is the only player who has beaten Kamlesh this season and thus fully deserves his place.

Sujay Ghorpade got himself selected as there is no other contender for the fifth place. After becoming national champion last year Sujay has not won a single major tournament. He,however, has always kept himself among the top five. The argument that the fifth place should go to a youngster may not hold much water as except for Chetan no youngster is really deserving of a place in the team.

The omission of Arul Selvi, seeded no one for the Nationals, may come as a surprise to her supporters. The fact remains that she has never been able to cope against certain type of players even as she makes mincemeat of her opponents at times. She is affectionately called "Richards" for her consistency and power packed game. To me the dropping of Arul Selvi might be a blessing in disguise. She will now concentrate more on certain technical aspects of her game and hopefully will be a better player next season. She is still young and has the hardest forehand among all women players in the country today.



I do not know which particular God Bhuvana prays to but one thing is sure. She invariably wins when least expected. Surely God's choicest blessings must be on her because she beat three tough opponents on her way to the final. Ultimately her luck ran out but all said and done hers was a notable performance for a girl so young. If she does not get distracted by other activities, a great future is in store for her.

Radhika with the most consistent record picked herself automatically while Mantu Ghosh presented a strange combination of being India women's no one in and India no five in girl's in the same year. By winning the Nationals she made her place in the team certain.

Sejal Shah, the other selected player, was also an automatic choice. There may be some criticism about her selection on the grounds of her woeful past record in international tournaments. But she is certainly most deserving of a place on current form.

Then the inclusion of Niyati Shah raised some eyebrows but although technically the best player in India her performance this year has been far from satisfactory.

All in all the best available players have been selected to fight for the country in the Commonwealth and World Championships later this month (April). I would however be surprised if the two squads achieve good results though I expect Kamlesh and Raman to do well.

By V. Chandrashekar

ressure. Temperamentally, Mantu, Bhuvaneswari and Radhika were far ahead of the others.

In the men's section, it was an altogether different case. Kamlesh Mehta, despite his age, still remains the best allround player in the country. He showed that he could always rise to the occasion and to the demands of any given situation. The challenge in men's section was always against Kamlesh. Others in Kamlesh's age-group have slowly faded out. Sujay Ghorpade, the reigning champion, had a lean season. He did not participate in the team events as Petroleum Sports Control Board, last year's winners in team events, failed to qualifty from Inter-Institution Championships. He has definitely slowed down. Sriram, a player with a different game, the pimpled-bat attacker, was swept off the field by Arunjyoti Barua of Assam. Manmeet Singh, who has not been playing regularly since winning the national title at Hyderabad, bowed out without a fight, to Ganesh Kundu.

Among the youngsters, the two most impressive were Chetan Baboor and southpaw S.Raman, both of Tamil Nadu. Chetan was the most popular player among the spectators. His popularity can be gauged from the fact that the spectators could not stomach his straight-game loss to Kamlesh Mehta in the semi-finals. The 5000-odd spectators cheered Raman and booed Kamlesh in the final. Chetan had a twin task in Jaipur: representing Tamil Nadu in team and open events as well as appearing for his plus two final examination. He had been granted special permission to write his papers in Jaipur as the examination coincided with the Nationals. Most of the days he was shuttling between the stadium and the examination hall. And in between his matches, he was seen going through his text books.

The late holding of the Nationals is terrible for the juniors, who are students. Chetan's performance must have been surely affected. Arup Basak, another promising youngter, could not make it to Jaipur because of his exams. It would have been better if the Nationals are completed before January so that the juniors can concentrate on their studies.

Kamlesh who had beaten Chetan so easily was up against a different player in the final, in the form of left-handed Raman. The Tamil Nadu player had beaten Kamlesh in the quarter-finals at Hyderabad and once again threatened to repeat the act.

But Kamlesh, for all his repeated mistakes, did not give up. Despite losing the first two games and down 14-19 and then 19-20, Kamlesh did not throw in the towel. He just waited for a lapse of concentration on the part of his young opponent. And it did come. As Raman wavered in concentration for a second, Kamlesh struck. Kamlesh has proved that if one works hard he can wriggle out of any bad situation. Raman is still young and if he too works hard, he may still win the national men's singles title.

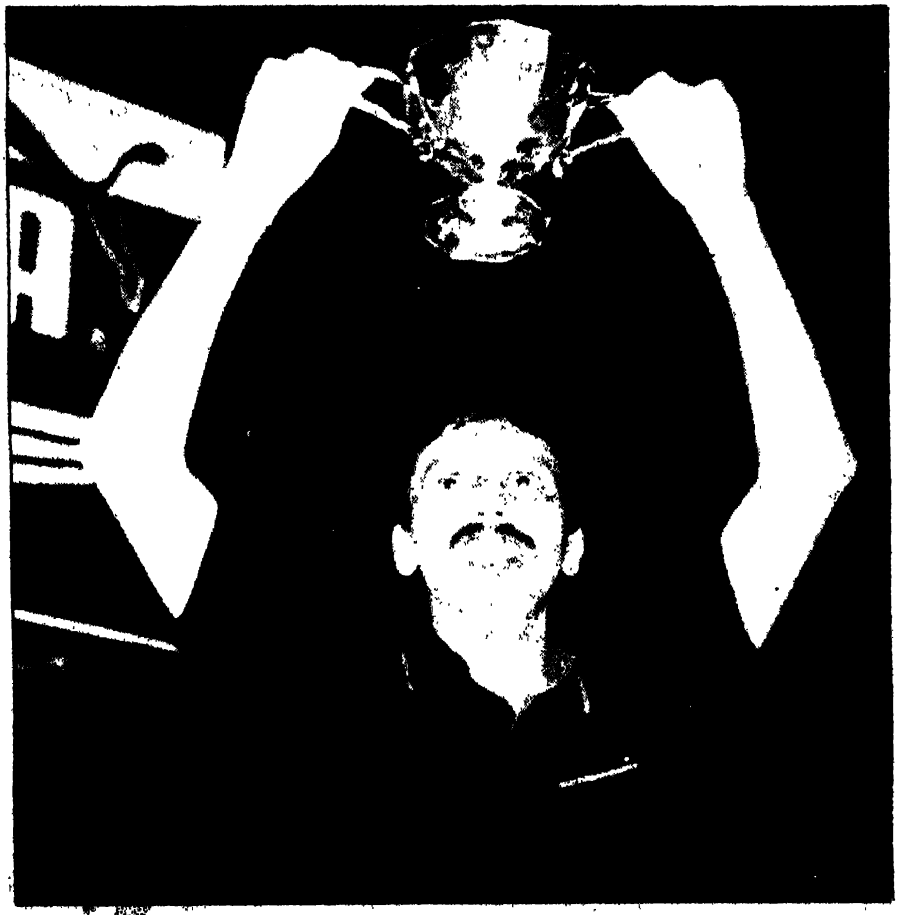
The experienced team of Kamlesh, Manmeet and Sunil Babras won the men's team title, beating the youthful Tamil Nadu in the final. The Banks Sports Board team was indeed superior to their opponents. The loss of Raman to Babras was a big loss to Tamil Nadu's aspirations.

Railways claimed the women's team events, coming back from a two-zero deficit to turn the tables on Petroleum Sports Control Board, who boasted of Niyati and Monalisa Mehta in their ranks. But PSCB made the blunder of playing their two star players in all their matches and not resting them at all. In the final analysis, it told on their performance. Niyati and Monalisa looked stale and tired in the final which was fully exploited by the Railways' young team of Radhika and Sejal Shah. PSCB's third player, B. Usha, was not played at all, even in group matches.

One went to the Nationals, looking for a new-look championship and came out satisfied with the performance of the women players, who though nowhere near Asian class, are still young and have ample years before them to prove their worth. The men did disappoint. Kamlesh still remains the only player of international standard although a few youngsters are on the horizon. Like the Chinese coach, Li Teyang said, "The Indians need to work much harder if they stand any chance of improving upon their positon in world rankings".

By A Correspondent

Kamlesh Mehta, the men's champion maintained his form throughout









Clockwise from top: The outside view of the table tennis 'circus' at Jaipur.
The Berna Bellack Cup winners: Bank Sports Control Board (from left): Kamlesh Mehta, Manmeet Singh, Sunil Babras, Kishore Gharepadi and Viswanath.
The Railway women's team with the Jayalakshmi Cup. (From right): A. Radhika, Seja, Shah, Monto Ghosh and Poorna Rao

PHOTOGRAPHS: KAMAL JULKA

IT'S SO

MARK KILTSH researches into some top class sporting literature and extracts funny anecdotes hitherto unknown to the world...

THE clock had struck midnight and there didn't seem any logical explanation for an English cricketer to be holding four Indian waiters at bay with a cricket bat in a Delhi hotel corridor. What exactly was happening?

The reason behind this odd behaviour was that his more experienced colleagues had convinced him that most Indians were homosexual and would find his tanned looks irresistible.

The only deviation he hankered after was the flight of a cricket ball and the thought of turning on the wrong half of India worried him By the time the tour reached Delhi the worry had turned into a phobia. He was even wearing his jockstrap back-to-front. And there was worse to come for the gullible bowler.

His team-mates phoned him in mock Indian accents to announce that they loved the cricketing 'sahib' and would be coming round to 'pay their respects' that evening

The bowler panicked. He locked his room, but his colleagues in the attire of Indian waiters were not stumped. They climbed on to his balcony and made amorous overtures.

Clutching a cricket bat and screaming for help the young cricketer ran from his room just ahead of what he thought was a bunch of Punjabi poofs. His team-mates found him two floors up, back against a wall, threatening to brain the first waiter who so much as blew a kiss.

'*Cricket On The Brain*' by Bernard Hollowood (Eve & Spottiswoode) is just one of the numerous books doing the London rounds that enlighten the reader with the lighter moments of sports. Also high on the funnies' list is *Game, Set & Deadline—A Tennis Odyssey* (W. Heinemann), which narrates some of the most fascinating episodes in tennis history. Yet another book which tickles the funny bone is *Eddie The Eagle: My Story* by madcap British ski-jumper Eddie Edwards. These and many such books have gone into several reprints because of their infectious humour and their unconventional way of narrating superstar events.

Take for example, Bellamy's classic description of a match between Miloslav Mecir and Tom Gullikson at Wimbledon to 1987.

"Mecir likes fishing," Bellamy wrote, "He is a big, highly bearded



FUNNY!

man who always looks sleepy. His demeanour suggests that having shaved and dressed in the morning, he probably feels he has had as much exercise as he can take in one day. On court he sometimes serves underarm when his arm and his heart get weary.

"It was fun watching this dreamy Czechoslovak—treading an alien surface and fighting many of his natural instincts—set about a man who knows what grass court tennis is all about.

"Mecir certainly had a go. He threw himself this way and that. He skidded. He fell. He walked around on his knees for a while, implying that he was too tired to get up.

"A charming, spectacular match had an appropriate ending, with Mecir sprawling on the ground again, looking puzzled and resigned as a desperate forehand went out of court. He may have mused that grass was not for tennis. It was simply something you sat on while fishing."

Eddie Edwards does not sit on his laurels. He says he has swooped down on earth out of his time. He's a man of the future, he says. Or perhaps, as he quickly contradicts himself, with his 'never-say-die' and 'good sport' attitude he's a man from the past.

And going by his book he seems deadpan about his sport. His main contention at the Calgary Games before stepping on the 90 metre platform, as he puts it "was to stay alive. After all," he points out "I



The clock had struck midnight...an English cricketer was holding four Indian waiters at bay with a cricket bat in a Delhi hotel...The reason: his colleagues had convinced him that most Indians were homosexual and would find his tanned looks irresistible...

hadn't drawn any life insurance!"

TENNIS too is a startlingly spectator sport as Bellamy discovered. In 1985, when the tall Anne White came out to play against Pam Shriver, clothed from head to toe in a white body stocking, the match was instantly suspended because of White's wrong choice of clothes. Says Bellamy in his non-chalant style: "Wimbledon did not permit her to wear the same clothing as yesterday. They insisted that she expose her legs, which seemed to go on forever but could not honestly be described as boring."

A leading tennis scribe of the *London Times*, Bellamy, has covered most of major tennis events in the last quarter century. Writing on Martina Navratilova in 1976, the author said: "Miss Navratilova is more demonstrative, less predictable. Groundless though the fear might be, one would never be hundred per cent certain that, if the waiter spilt the soup, she would not sock him with the spoon. Yet, here she was, convincing us that within a year or two she could be mature enough to win Wimbledon".

BORIS BECKER.....He 'was flinging his racquet at the ball as if he expected neither to come back'

Although his finest humour comes while describing women's matches, he is never condescending or ill-timed. Just tongue-in-cheek. Like during the match when Linda Siegel's low cut dress "briefly failed its policy of containment." or when Navratilova's skirt came unwrapped at Wimbledon. "The shared laughter", says Bellamy, "instantly settled her nerves."

At another occasion he remembers the memorable moment at the Australian Open at Melbourne's Kooyong Stadium, when a lady walked up to



Australian tennis star John Newcombe and tried to pull off his moustaches to see if they were real. When convinced they were, she walked away without apology. Further in the article Bellamy recounts the incident when an aging Newcombe after being trounced by the then teenager Bjorn Borg lamented: "After a match I ring home and talk to the kids. He rings home and talks to his parents!"

Talking about age Hollowood's. *Cricket On The Brain* narrates a hilarious incident when an England county bowler getting ahead in years set about a way to break the monotony of the game. He substituted the ball for a round piece of red span for the first delivery after lunch at a seaside British county game. The unsuspecting batsman swung his bat and was covered in flakes. The bowler only stopped laughing when the umpire said he would report the matter.

However, if some players have a penchant for lifting the spectator spirits there are others who can make a match look like an eternity. Bellamy discovered this to his dismay when he witnessed the 1984 French Open between Mats Wilander and Ivan Lendl.

"Lendl and Wilander," Bellamy wrote in his despatch. "Seemed to play through a change of climate. Clocks and watches, which do not capture the essential nature of such matches, insisted that they slugged it out for only two hours and 45 minutes.

"The match seemed longer because of the monotonous baseline exchanges. One joker started a rumour to the effect that, outside the stadium, bouncers were throwing people in.. One British photographer said he took all the pictures he needed while Lendl and Wilander were playing one rally. Without shame," he continues "I confess to escaping for half an hour to a leafy cabin in Bois de Boulogne and lunching on pate and coffee".

Writing in his usual laconic style, Bellamy says of Boris Becker at Wimbledon in 1987: "Becker was hurling himself all over the place and flinging his racket at the ball as if he expected neither to come back. He was also doing his now famous imitation of a man cycling down a cobbled street, without a bicycle. Becker pumps himself up, as they say, and makes no secret of his intense excitement and the iron will of a sporting hero."

But says Bernard Hollowood, the press sometimes has a nasty habit of turning a sporting hero into a zero. Back in the days when Sir Donald "The Don" Bradman was being the best batsman in cricket history and was over in England beating the tripe out of the Britishers (1948), the British sports scribes became so sick and tired of his century stand that one paper, after one particular match, brought out a banner which proclaimed, "The Don Fails!" Bradman had scored only 83!

Another of Bradman's anecdotes dates back to 1936 when in an interstate match held at Adelaide, Don Bradman broke yet another record—this time one belonging to another mighty hitter, Clem Hill, who had belted 360 not out against the Tasmanians in 1900. Cheeky old Clem immediately sent The Don a telegram which read. "Congratulations, you little devil for breaking my record."

Hollowood strikes a sombre note talking of one sunny day in the summer of 1909, at a cricket ground where a batsman belted a stong cover drive which hit and killed an attendant pigeon.

A local ginger tomcat seized the dead bird and raced off with it Two weeks later the same cat was "fielding" in the covers hoping for another drive. It came, too and killed him! ●

NEWSMEN FEATURES



"Mecir likes fishing. He is a big highly bearded man who always looks sleepy...On court, he sometimes serves underarm when his arm and his heart get weary"...Rex Bellamy



If you're talking the sexiest man on the tennis circuit, you're talking Andre Agassi

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND

Tennis or sex

NO insult to Professor Freud but we feel he might have slipped up in his studies on sex. At least, Freud didn't know that sex and tennis vibe really well together. If Freud didn't, a lot of others did. This is how they responded to a survey:

If forced to pick between tennis and sex, which would you pick?
57 per cent voted....sex!

Do you spend more time thinking about sex, or tennis?
48 per cent said sex, 36 per cent said tennis while 16 per cent were thoroughly confused (funny)

Do you ever think about sex while playing tennis?
54 per cent said a big YES!

Do you ever think about tennis while having sex?
Obviously, 86 per cent said no.

Do you enjoy tennis with the opposite sex?
83 per cent said yes

Do you believe in the saying that 'tennis player make better lovers'?
45 per cent said yes, 47 per cent said no, while 8 per cent were undecided.

And who's the sexiest male on the pro tour?
Andre Agassi!

The sexiest female?
Gabriela Sabatini (P.S. Miss Capriati is running a close second there)

When sex is good it's wonderful, and when it's bad it's still pretty good. Too bad the same can't be said of tennis.

COACH VS COACH

Who's got? Who's not

1991, we have deduced, is the year of the tennis coach. In short: Who's hot? Who's not? Starting from the top of the ladder, we have Boris Becker who has said his farewells to coach Bob Brett and welcomed Niki Pilic into his fold. A rather lost Brett looked, and found solace in Goran Ivanisevic who hired him.

'Gentleman' Tim Mayotte who has rocketed—downwards—to 105 in the rankings has taken on Billie Jean King to instil in him a bit of confidence. Ditto for Thomas Muster who's pleaded with (hold your breath!) ol' Jimbo Connors to give him that much needed pep that might push him up in the rankings. Connors agreed, or rather, he said 'grunt'.

Tommy Thompson is still loyal to teenage prodigy Jennifer Capriati and Carlos Kirmayr to Gabriela Sabatini. Tony Pickard has decided to earn a little 'extra' by assuming the responsibility of the British Davis Cup team but he still pans the gold from Edberg's rich mines. And last, but most important, Lendl has asked former Wimbledon 'flukey' Chris Lewis of New Zealand to team up with him. The arrangement is strictly for fitness purposes while Roche is the real McCoy. The rest are doing fine, thank you.

PRIVATE EYE



Edberg with coach Tony Pickard. Pickard has decided to invest his talents into the British Davis Cup team

TOMMY HINDLEY



COLA BOWLER

Thums Up or Lehar?

If he's not getting involved in the local 'pace wars' then he's falling victim to the Cola wars. Yes, Kapil Dev seems to be a scapegoat all the time.

Under contract with Lehar Pepsi to undertake a door to door campaign of their product in Delhi, Kapil soon saw himself facing opposition from Parle's Thums Up.

Parle took out a seven year-old ad featuring the Dev himself and flashed it all around town.

"It's not legal," Kapil told *Sportsworld*. "I mean the ad was done in 1984. Since then my contract with them has expired. How can you suddenly take out a picture of me and flash it all over town?" Kapil spewed. "They could have done it if they had renewed my contract. But they didn't so I objected. Since they persisted with this adverse campaign. I have put a stay order on them," he concluded satisfactorily.

The fans, however, are thoroughly confused as to which is Kapil's favourite Cola. Some people wonder wether drinking any Cola is good for Kapil who's a fitness freak.



PANKAJ SHARMA

t's just straight epsi promotion. But can we ask, Kaps: are you really into soft drinks?

TIE-BREAK

Martina-Judy split!

WHILE Monica Seles has gone and assumed the top spot in women's tennis, Martina Navratilova has made another return. But it's not the same Martina that one would normally expect. True she's probably fitter than ever before but this time she's going it alone.

Why, you may ask. Martina's undergone a kind of 'tennis divorce! She's gone and broken up with her long-time friend and travelling companion, Judy Nelson. This highly publicised split might just involve a visit to the law courts.

But who is Martina going to hug after climbing the stands when (or if) she wins her tenth Wimbledon title? For that matter who's going to iron her clothes and take care of her kit? And then who might design the MN—or Martina Navratilova—clothing line. Looks Martina is just left with KD for company. And we're not referring to Kapil Dev, but Killer Dog!

ACTION PLUS



Martina Navratilova (centre) and Judy Nelson (right) have undergone a highly publicised 'tennis divorce'

freewheeling

IT'S so difficult to know when to retire. Billie Jean King was still playing tennis when she was 40, but her fans didn't like seeing her lose in the first round. Many wondered why she didn't call it quits and go out gracefully. I should know; I was one of them.

But really, age has nothing to do with retirement; some people play their best tennis in their early thirties. I retired because tennis had become a strain on both my body and my personal life. It was getting too tough for me. But it's not necessarily the same for everyone. I understand why some players stay past their primes. They've put so much time and hard work into being professionals, and they don't want to relinquish that. The older you get, the more you realise how lucky you are to be a professional tennis player. You want it to last as long as possible.

You also have to know what you're going to do when your playing days are over.

I wanted to start a family, but I also had to feel comfortable knowing that I wouldn't have tennis in my life anymore. On the one hand, I knew that I wasn't competing. But I also knew it would have been harder to leave without having other projects—commentating for NBC, organising my pro/celebrity event and being president of the WTA—to keep me busy. I also have exhibitions to fill the void of not playing.

After John McEnroe was defaulted from the Australian Open last January, many of his fans thought he should have retired. But John continued even though he often lost in the quarters or sometimes earlier. He still tried, knowing he wasn't the best in the world anymore. John is a winner, and I admire his attitude.

He is very result-oriented and now feels he's on the comeback trail. Look at what he did at last September's U.S. Open. Sometimes it takes winning one match to carry you for another six months. And it's just a matter of time before such a match shows up again—like at a Wimbledon final.

John has so much talent. I don't know what his training routine is now, but I think he's hard at work trying to regain his old form. I get the sense that he's not saying that; he's really building up to something.

Jimmy Connors, on the other hand, didn't play much tennis last year (He had an operation on his wrist in the fall). But Jimmy's love of the game is unequalled. And though he doesn't think he can win another major, he still relishes the chance to hit the ball, to entertain the crowd. Competing is in his blood.

How can you tell a Jimmy Connors to quit? He's happy even when he loses early. I think he should keep playing. He has at least one more year left, though I think he'll have to plan his schedule and pace himself.

John's and Jimmy's timetables are different than mine. They can play until age 40. They both have wives and kids and yet find plenty of time for tennis. But as rewarding as a family is, it does interfere with your career, especially if you're a woman. It's hard to commit your entire being to the game when you have young children at home. The younger players are hungry and have no other responsibilities or commitments. I also think people forget that tennis players compete to earn a living. A man's mentality—that he must be the breadwinner—tends to prolong his career.

As a fan and a friend of Martina Navratilova, I would like to see 1991 be her last year on the tour. She should retire at the top of her game. I think she has one more year to finish in the top two or three before Monica Seles, Jennifer Capriati and Arantxa Sanchez Vicario start to pass her. Actually, Martina is already preparing for retirement. She has a clothing line—MN by Herman Geist. She'll live in Aspen and be happy there—and she'll have me as a neighbour!

Without tennis, you have the freedom and the money to do anything you want. You might not find anything as intense as tennis, but you can find something challenging. With retirement comes the pangs and panic of seeing others getting attention. But every tennis player has to retire...sometime.

Chris Evert

'Hey Jimmy! When is the last act?'



TOMMY HINDLEY



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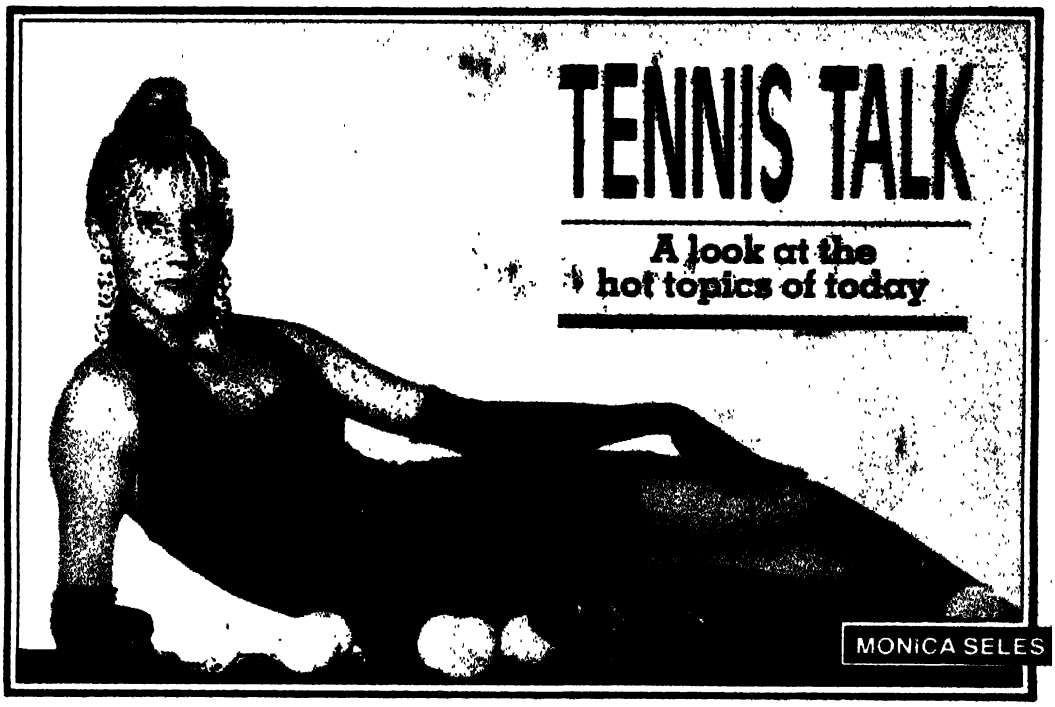
THEY'D ALWAYS SIT HERE,
THEIR OLD BONES SOAKING THE SUN,
PLAYING THE SAME GAME.
OURS WAS A LITTLE DIFFERENT.
YOU WERE SHY.
AND I KEPT RUNNING AWAY.
I WONDER SOMETIMES.
HOW IS IT BOTH OF US WON.

COME HOME TO

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TENNIS TALK

A look at the hot topics of today

MONICA SELES

* The new image of Monica Seles
* The rise of Sabatini and the Graf decline
* Is life off the court affecting Becker's play?



RICHARDS AND BORDER

NOW, IT'S WAR

Controversy, intense rivalry, dangerous fast bowling and Caribbean pessimism sets the stage for even deadlier battles between the Aussies and the West Indies

FEATURING THE LATEST AND THE BEST FROM THE CARIBBEAN

FREE POSTER: STEVE AND MARK WAUGH



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VOICES



MONUDEEN HAMEED

I don't want to do the men down, but the three pictures on the front pages of the papers this week have all been women.
MONICA SELES, now that she is the No. 1 becomes spokeswoman for womens' tennis. Here she takes a tongue in cheek review of the mens' and womens' section of the game.

You play a few good shots and there's no reaction from the crowd, then you duck under a bouncer and they're up on their feet. They seem to like bouncers here and not much else.
Cricketers down the ages have had problems with tne Caribbean spectators. This time it is MARK TAYLOR who voices his opinion.

People like the Irish love to come to the great cathedral of Wembley. It inspires them. It lifts their spirits, their morale and their determination. I'd be surprised if Ireland won, but the England team will have to fight tooth and nail.
BOBBY ROBSON sums up the fervour that accompanies an England vs Ireland match. The two teams are scheduled to meet next for the European Cup quarter finals.

She (Sabatini) has become steadier and more aggressive and she always does the right things at the right time. She used to give up a little earlier than she should have done, but she does not do that anymore.
STEFFI GRAF, now that she has become the hunted, analyses Sabatini's game.

It's a challenge for me right now. My game is all about confidence and when I've not got the confidence to make my shots, it gets frustating. But I can't play defensively, or my opponent senses blood.
ANDRE AGASSI, takes stock of his game.

I would not pinpoint a particular date to retire, but at the moment, it looks as if this tour against Australia may be my last in the West Indies. The trip to England may also be my last trip abroad.
VIV RICHARDS, now finding it difficult to slow down the onslaught of age, contemplates retirement.

Jamaica has got to make sure that it doesn't happen again. It was absurd. The right people should get a kick up the backside.
ALLAN BORDER on the inadequate covers that led to water seeping onto the pitch in Sabina Park.



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How Monica Seles reacts to being the new world No. 1. Has Boris Becker given up on being world number one? How the fall of Steffi Graf has coincided with the rise of Gabriela Sabatini. A look at the current hot topics of the tennis world.

Sportsworld

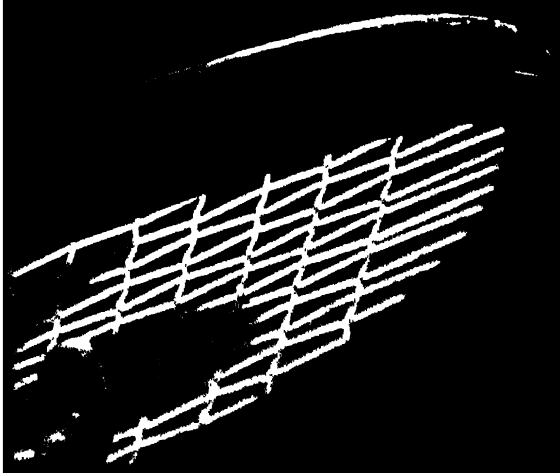
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Cover and poster photographs by Patrick Eagar

All illustrations by Debashish Deb



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Ramesh Krishnan and Leander Paes took India to an easy victory over Indonesia in the Davis Cup match in Jaipur. Rohit Brijnath was there to tell the story

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Is England's Paul Gascoigne a true soccer great or just a punk created by the British media into a legend? Is the Gazza hype justified?

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TENNIS TALK

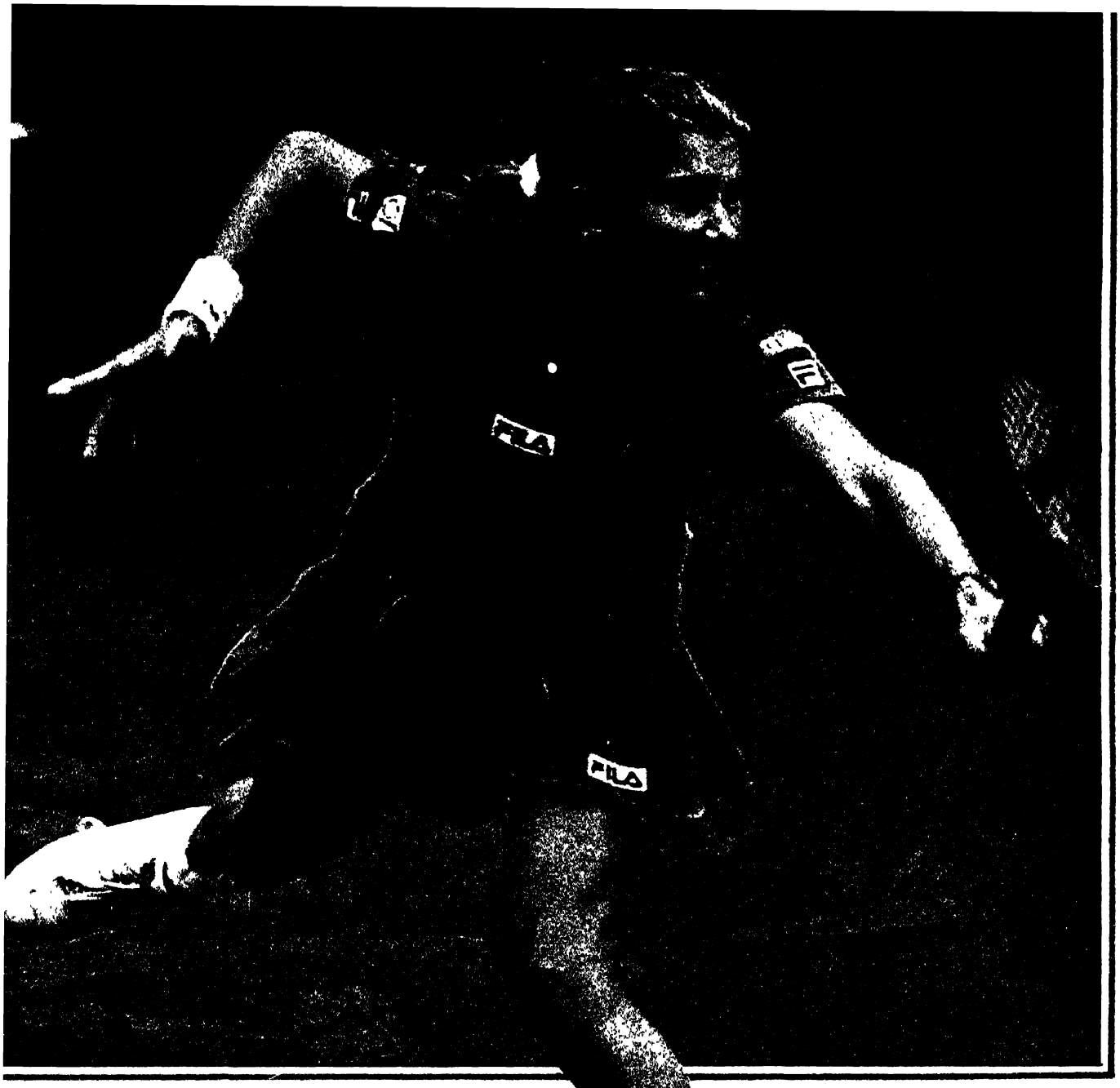


QUEEN MONICA

WANNA know how Monica Seles celebrated her promotion to number one in the world? She had a party with around 100 close friends and her family in a posh club in Florida. The funny thing was that none of her circuit colleagues, except fellow teenage sensation Jennifer Capriati, called to congratulate her. But that was fine with Seles, who last week increased her lead over Steffi Graf at the head of the ATP computer rankings. The new queen of the court took all this in her stride just as she does victory or defeat. "Not too many of them know my phone number," was her comment.

It's clear now tennis has a new grande dame, and she's really cool.

The gruff and thunderous reign of Steffi Graf is over after a record-breaking 186 weeks, to be



replaced by the sunnier smiles, pink knickers and grunts of 17-year-old Monica Seles, the youngest ever world number one in women's tennis.

To dethrone Graf, earn enough to buy her first Chanel suit (red) and become the youngest Grand Slam title-winner this century, suggests the possession of formidable talent. But she sees it rather differently.

Having won the Australian Open in January, her second Grand Slam title, she succinctly outlined her flaws. She could not serve with any venom, volley

...nfidence nor lob with much control. "I ne... on my game," she said with pok... dissatisfaction.

So ...tion arises: How can a player so bad becom... one in the world? "Well," she said, pondering the mystery, "I still have a lot of good sides, I would say."

This is true. Even before her waif-like arms had made any acquaintance with muscle, in the days when comparisons with Oliver Oyl were irresisti ble, she could clout a tennis ball with

'After being number one for as long as Steffi, I might get tired too. But I guess it's not being like a big rock star like Madonna. So it's bad but happy at the same time'

"That's Steffi's problem": Gaby



IF LIFE at the top is lonely, life just over the top seems to be even lonelier for Steffi Graf. Not surprisingly, perhaps, after years of being ground into submission, no one is rushing to help her rediscover her superiority complex. Asked what Graf should do to get back to No. 1, Sabatini, her conqueror in the semi-final of the Lipton International, replied: "I don't know. That's her problem." And Sabatini is Graf's doubles partner

The Argentinian could be pardoned for her lack of concern.. When the school bully has been picking on you for the last five years, it is hard to shake hands when the moment of revenge finally arrives. In 17 defeats over five years, Sabatini suffered more than most from Graf's domination and the fact that she was touted as the next world No. 1 before the German would not have eased the pain of perpetual defeat.

While Graf won nine Grand Slam titles, Sabatini ground away on the baseline, making a lot of money from her tennis and her range

"It would be hard for Steffi to change": Seles

of perfumes, but very little impression on the statistics that really mattered.

Now Sabatini has won her last four matches with Graf and there was just a hint of disdain in the way she meandered through the first set of her semi-final at Key Biscayne giving Graf a 6-0 start before coming back to win 0-6, 7-6, 6-1. The No. 3 seed won just eight points in 22 minutes, as if she wanted to find out how far she could let Graf race ahead before applying the brake.

Graf's plight was treated more considerately, if not compassionately, by Monica Seles, her successor as No. 1 and the Lipton champion. But then Seles did not suffer as much as Sabatini under Graf's yoke. "It would be hard for her to change her technique after 14 years," Seles said. "Any number of people can tell me to go to the net and volley but you have to feel it inside. You have to feel it. It's the same for Steffi. She can change her game, go to the net more but only if she really wants to.

"It was always going to happen. It happened to Navratilova and Evert. Someone younger and better is always coming along." Wisely, no one mentioned the name Capriati. Now people are talking of Seles-Sabatini duels.



astonishing power.

The timing on her double-fisted groundstrokes was, and remains, immaculate and the supergrunt she emits with every shot eerily resembles a karate chopper in the throes of an ippon.

As if that were not enough, she is now doing press-ups. "I see some girls of my age able to do 40 press-ups. I can only do two and I'm supposed to be a big sportswoman."

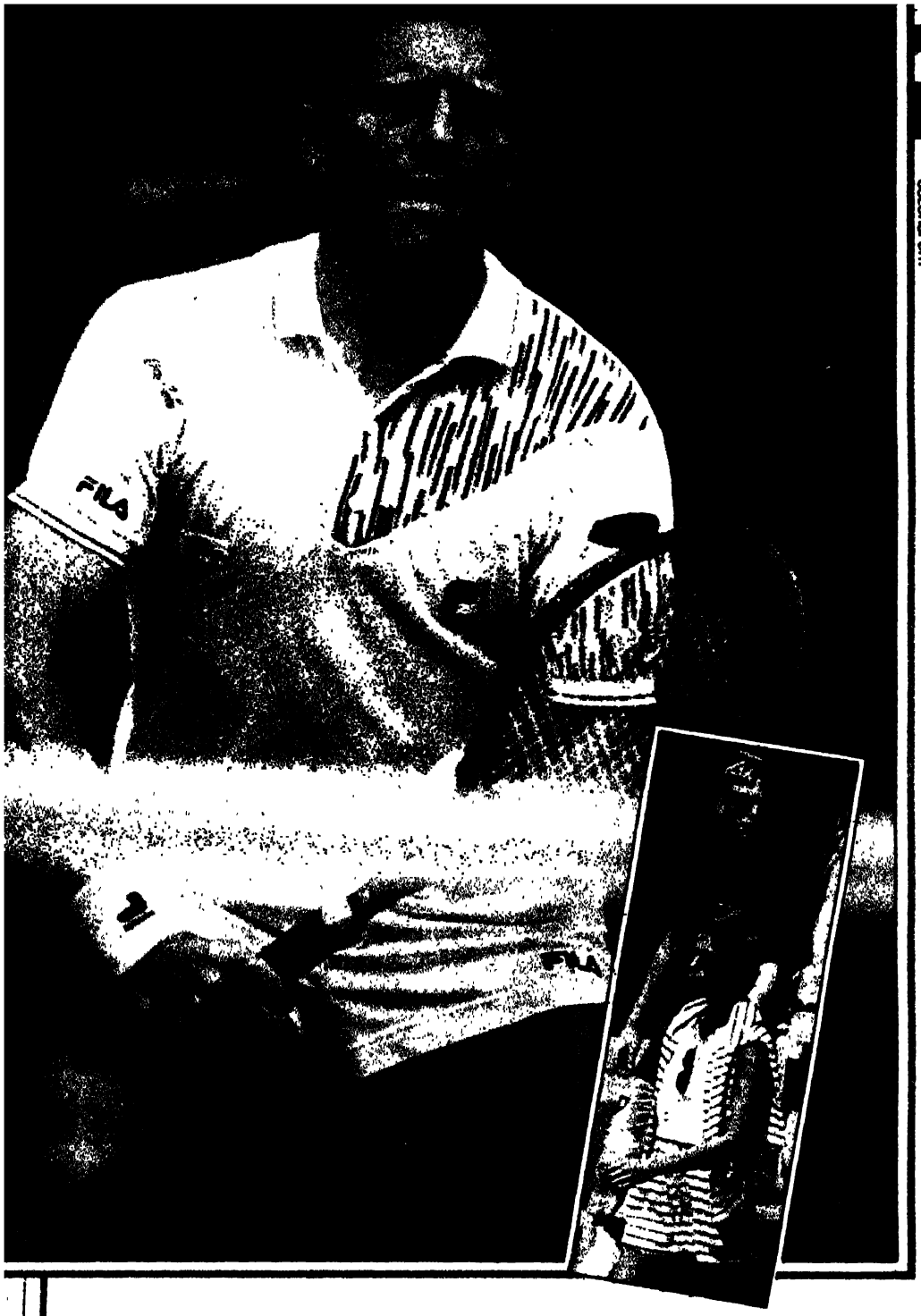
But self-disgust at her enfeebled state is tempered by realism. "At least I'm a big fighter. I never give up until the last point is over." And that is the real key to the rise and rise of Monica Seles.

"Above all, she has a fantastically strong mind," said Peter Terry, consultant sports psychologist to the U S. Lawn Tennis Association. "She has the ability to hit her best shots when the pressure is most intense. Age is bound to be a factor.

"Like the young Boris Becker, she plays with incredible freedom because she is in complete ignorance of the magnitude of what she is doing. To her it is still fun."

It sure is. After a party last week at her home in Sarasota, Florida, to celebrate her precocious achievement, she reflected on her number one status. "You practise to be number one. That's your goal and I was kind of projecting to make it when 20 or 21. To happen this soon is pretty unbelievable.

BEACH BOY



AS a welcome to his new coach, Nikki Pilic, Boris Becker's recent displays have been somewhat less than ecstatic. Rarely can Becker have played so poorly as he did in his narrow victory over a qualifier who had only ever won three matches on the tour and in a humiliating defeat by Patrick McEnroe in the third round at Key Biscayne. Pilic, more used to watching Becker's triumphant days, must be wondering just what he has taken on as the successor to Bob Brett.

Becker recently patched up with former girlfriend Brenda Schultz and went off to the beach

Becker and Pilic have just over two months to pick up the pieces in time for the French Open in May. Though he would not be drawn into admitting that victory in the French Open, the only Grand Slam he has not won, rather than Wimbledon is now top of his list—"the French comes before Wimbledon, so that is the next step", he said—all the arrows in his life and his preparation are pointing towards Ronald Garros.

After parting company with Brett in February two weeks after becoming the world No. 1, Becker has hired Pilic to take him through what might prove to be the final phase of his career. Besides being a good friend and the German Davis Cup captain, Pilic has been in a final of the French Open, an experience Becker has yet to enjoy. Semi final defeats by Wilander and Edberg are the nearest he has come to success on a surface which has never suited his game or his temperament..

But this is new territory for Pilic. A new Becker, too. A casual, leaden footed character, who has played with no pride here, openly admitting that the attractions of the Maritius beach and girlfriend Karen Schultz have been greater than those of the tennis court. A

OR COURT COLOSSUS?

totally different player from the colossus who lifted Germany single-handed to the Davis Cup in successive years and won the Australian Open earlier this year. It will take all of Pilic's considerable experience to effect a transformation back to champion in the next month.

Quite apart from the appalling mediocrity of Becker's tennis, characterised by the two double-faults he served when he had just broken back to 4-4 in the second set against the younger McEnroe at Key Biscayne, the signs have not been too encouraging. After beating Steve DeVrics more by luck than judgement in his opening match there, Becker talked like someone in the midst of an anticlimax. 'Since becoming world No. 1 (for two weeks), I have a different outlook on it. I do not think about it so much any more,' he said.

Deprived of the motivation which drove him through an oppressive schedule at the end of last year and to the pinnacle of his career in Melbourne in January, Becker has only pride left to cling on to in tournaments like this which, despite its competitiveness, he considers less than momentous.

But the pride seems to have vanished, too, at least for the moment, and it will only be of limited comfort to Pilic that, in winning 6-1, 6-4, Patrick McEnroe joined a list of players who have beaten Becker in the third round at Lipton, Tim Mayotte, Milan Srejber and, last year, Jean Fleurian. Becker has never been beyond the third round and probably never will because unlike the Australian Open, Becker will not move heaven and earth to improve his record at the Lipton. He might not be back next year.

Last weekend Becker returned to Davis Cup duty against Argentina in Berlin, but his pre-Paris schedule is different from last year. He intends to play in Monte Carlo, Hamburg and Rome and then do some exhibitions and practice instead of leading Germany in the World Team Cup— where, incidentally, Pilic will be otherwise engaged captaining the team—in Dusseldorf the week before Paris.

By then, Becker will hope to have rediscovered his fire and fitness.

"Now my ambition is to stay there for as long as I can. I want to enjoy it and have fun. I can't put pressure on myself. If I play well I'll stay there."

To that end, the maligned serve is being remodelled. "I'm trying different mechanics. I might mess up my serve for a few weeks but I can't expect miracles. I can't expect to be John McEnroe in two weeks' time. But I get a little impatient sometimes. I want to make it much harder for anybody to beat me."

What clashing music to the ears of Graf, Gabriela Sabatini, Martina Navratilova, Mary Jo Fernandez, Jennifer Capriati and Jana Novotna that sentiment will be. These are the players Seles regards as major threats, not necessarily in that order.

Graf's relative decline has been Seles's good fortune. The German is like Liverpool FC. She can no longer count on her reputation to paralyse opponents. She has claimed none of the last four Grand Slam titles and Sabatini, formerly Graf's decorative cannon-fodder, has won their last three meetings.

So Seles has timed her run to perfection but has a mature appreciation of the pitfalls. "After being number one for as long as Steffi, I might get tired too. There are so many people you have to deal with. Journalists camped outside my home last month trying to get pictures. Everyone wants a piece of you. But I guess it's not like being a big rock star like Madonna. So it's bad but happy at the same time."

'I see some girls of my age able to do 40 press-ups. I can only do two and I'm supposed to be a big sportswoman'

Still coached by her cartoonist father Karoly and student brother Zoltan, which seems to defy every law of sports professionalism, Seles is blithely clear-eyed about her ambitions

"I don't want to do a Wilander" (who became number one in 1988 but not so you'd notice, for his decline was swift and conclusive). "I don't want to do a Lendl" (who continues to fail to win Wimbledon).

If there is an element of default about the uprising of Seles, Graf has only her age, temperament and father Peter's embroilment in a paternity suit to blame. Sabatini has a splendid new attacking game but remains unburdened by a mote of intelligence, Capriati is only just beyond the babe stage at 14 and Navratilova has to contend with age, injuries and a much-publicised split with her long-time friend, Judy Nelson.

So Seles's dynamic progress should not be halted yet. Not, in fact, until the advent of boys, boredom and that bleak moment in the future when fame becomes a nuisance rather than a novelty.

Sue Mott

BOO, VIV!

DURING the last of the one-day internationals between West Indies and Australia, the great Vivian Richards was booed to the wicket, and when he was out for ten, caught at long-on, he was booed again. It was symptomatic of the pressure he and his team will be under through this series.

Nothing else has ever united the West Indies like cricket, and there is now a widespread consensus that the time has come to discard some of the old school. Having grown accustomed to winning, the man in the run shop has not taken kindly to Australia's conclusive victory in the one-day series. In Guyana and Trinidad, two conspicuously cosmopolitan countries, Richards' insinuation of a year ago, that West Indian cricket is omnipotently African, also still rankles. He must have regretted it as soon as he saw what he had said.

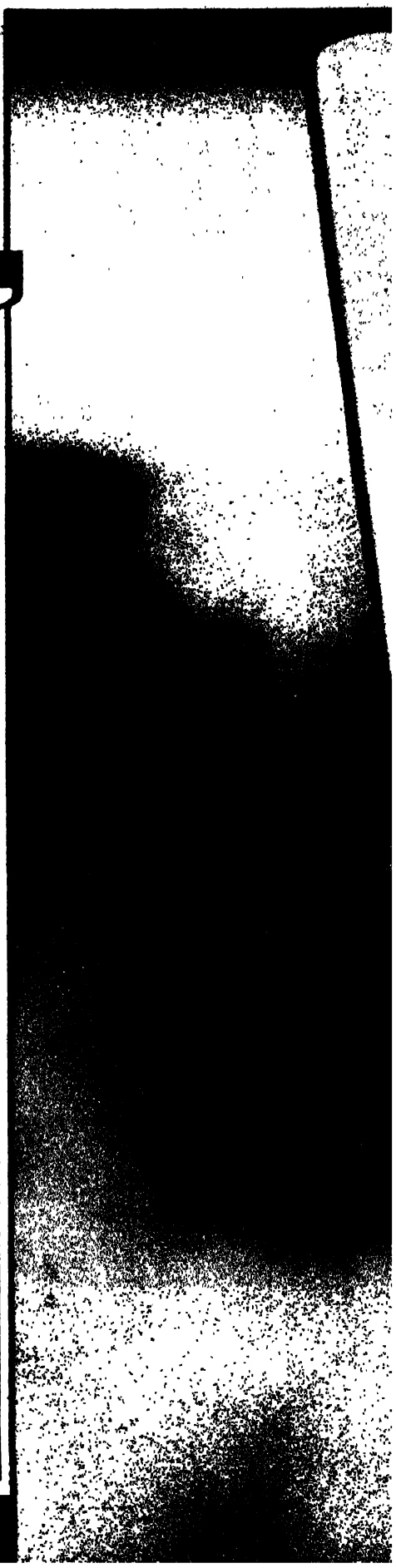
On the field, too, West Indies for the moment lost the initiative. Like Clive Lloyd before him, Richards has never been a particularly profound tactician. For most of the last 15 years, captaining West Indies has been a matter of deciding which fast bowler to fire off next and waiting until the opposition has no conceivable chance of winning before declaring. But that has changed. Against England last year, then in Pakistan last autumn, and most recently against Australia in Jamaica, West Indies have been reduced to hanging on.

Nothing else has ever united the West Indies like cricket and there is now a widespread consensus that the time has come to discard some of the old school

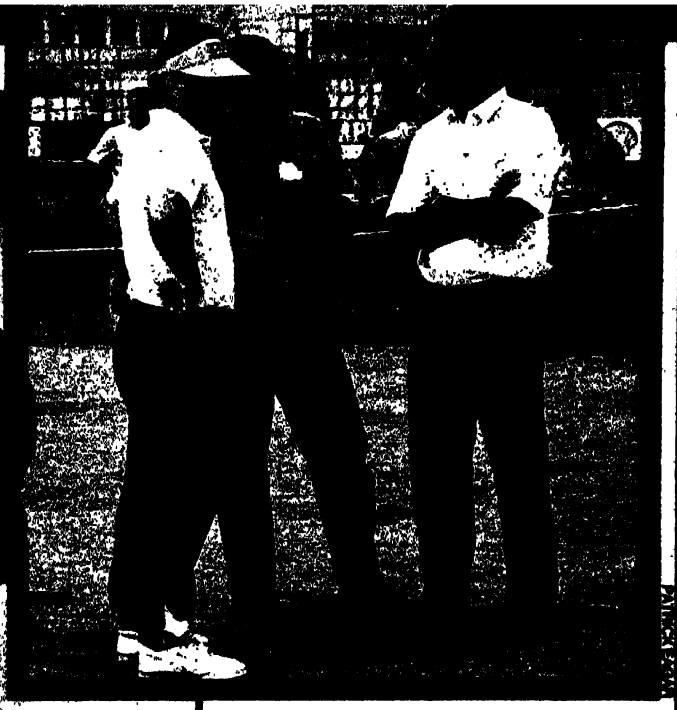
That first Test match of this present series, although ultimately marred by the weather, showed what excitements are to be expected. At three-to-one against, before the series started, Australia were clearly outside the odds, but I was never sure that on good pitches they have the bowling to win it, as the Guyana Test has proved. The crunch is more likely to come in the last two Tests in Barbados in Antigua, where the pitches are bouncier.

It is not at all according to their plans that Australia find themselves today without Alderman and Reid, the two bowlers who had most to do with their retaining the Ashes only a few weeks ago. Since coming to the Caribbean weeks ago, neither of them has made an impact. Alderman because he has not swung the ball and Reid through a rather mystifying lack of confidence as much as a shortage of work. If their shoes should now be successfully filled by McDermott and Whitney, one really might be persuaded that Australia's second XI could beat England's first.

In a five-day match, Australia







Richards, Border and umpire Crafter discuss the weather and the pitch

are going to start perhaps 50 runs to the good with their much more aggressive running between wickets. Against that, West Indies still have some tremendous cricketers in their side, and word that Australia are looking to bounce them out sounds highly questionable to me.

Time was when the two sides would have gone into the match with little but spin. It was here that Lance Gibbs took the first steps towards becoming such a prolific taker of wickets. Yet, before the 2nd Test, Australia's intention was to play no spinner. When, in the last one-day international, the ball turned, they thought again. The slow bowling in the match will be entrusted, therefore, mostly to Matthews and Hooper.

One wonders whether the West Indies' ten wicket win in the second Test at Georgetown has in reality given a fresh lease of life to Caribbean cricket in general and some of the veteren players of the team in particular. The question being asked is whether the win has laid low the pessimism which had come over the Caribbean game over the last few months?

By John Woodcock, Georgetown

NOW IT'S WAR!

Intense rivalry, dangerous fast bowling and a controversial win for the Caribbeans have set the two mighty cricketing superpowers on the warpath...

PATRICK EAGAR



Dean Jones: victim of inept umpiring?



F the Australian cricket squad touring the Caribbean believes in omens, then the signs before the second Test at Bourda were not good. Even before the Test began, West Indies cricket manager Lance Gibbs was in a rage···and he was making no secret of his displeasure.

Gibbs, the former Test spinner, was up in arms when he discovered spike marks on the wickets before the start of the second Test. Outspoken as ever, he vented his wrath on the Australians who had used the wicket for a practise session before the Test match As also the fact that cricketers who were wearing Test spikes had wandered onto the playing area

Gibbs stopped short of blaming the Australians for having deliberately spiked the wicket but did not mince his words "They should have known better than that" he said, "this would never have happened at Lords. I wouldn't go out in Melbourne or Sydney with spikes on, would I? In other countries in the world, we are not even allowed out near the wicket, let alone onto the wicket itself "

Pacing up and down like an angry lion after the damage had been discovered Gibbs demanded of his groundstaff, "Are you frightened of them?", indicating that his employees should have taken a stronger stand against the touring cricketers West Indies captian Viv Richards, true to form, refused to let this ruffle him. All he would say on the matter was that "if you worry about wickets, you end up worrying about everything else as well."

Australia's selectors had more on their mind than the wrath of Gibbs. There was much discussion on the matter of whether to drop Greg Matthews and bring Steve Waugh back instead. There was some speculation that the out-of form Dean Jones would be left out to make way for the senior Waugh. Ultimately however both Matthews and Jones kept their place and Steve Waugh was left to ponder how long it would be before he wins back the Test slot he lost to his twin brother.

As it happened, Matthews made a solitary run in Australia's first innings. Jones, a scratchy 34 Yet Australia's batting seemed to be sitting pretty on the first day, six down for 249. Of the much vaunted top three batsmen, Mark Taylor, David Boon and vice



Lance Gibbs was understandably annoyed at the Australians trampling all over the playing area with their spikes on

Gibbs did not mince his words... "This would never have happened at Lords. I wouldn't go out in Melbourne or Sydney with spikes on, would I?"



The pace war hots up! Gus Logie (inset) bears testimony of the Aussie firepower while David Boon has his helmet—and his chin—attended to, courtesy Patterson



captain Geoff Marsh. Taylor had departed for no score to Patrick Patterson and Boon had made only seven before falling to Marshall. Marsh and Border had stitched the innings together, the opener falling six short of what would have been a richly deserved century while Border ground his way to a gritty 47. Mark Waugh then played a restrained innings in his stay of 71 in almost four hours trying to provide the sheet anchor role in the middle order collapse. Without too much support expected from the tail. Waugh found an ally in wicketkeeper Ian Healy, who got 53 in just under three hours taking Australia to 348.

Australia's batsman had actually scored 309 but 39 runs--the fifth highest score of the innings-- had come from extras With the West Indian fast bowlers contributing 23 no balls, the point of contention at the end of the first day's play was that the West Indies had been intentionally slow.

They had employed blatant time wasting tactics. At the end of the evening, Australia did not spend too much of time in the dressing room and manager Bobby Simpson was openly scornful of the West Indian tactics. "Australians have never played that way. I don't think we ever will. If they are going to play in

that fashion, we have to adjust our thinking to cope with it."

Yet the West Indian fast bowlers, with all their time-wasting and mid-over conferences had bowled extremely well. The batsmen had continued where the fast bowlers had left off and although Gordon Greenidge had gone, with only ten runs on the board, Desmond Haynes and Richie Richardson added almost 300 runs before Australia managed to break the partnership. It was a partnership that decided the course of the entire Test match. On a slow wicket where the likes of McDermott and Hughes should have thrived, these two gifted bastmen rammed home the West Indian supremacy. The West Indies would not lose this Test match but would Australia save it?

Bobby Simpson was openly critical of the West Indian time-wasting tactics... "Australians have never played that way. I don't think we ever will"



Haynes finished with a 111 and Richardson with a 182 in a shade under six hours. The contrast with Australia's batsmen was amazing. Richardson had almost got his 200 in 344 minutes Marsh had got 94 in 335 minutes. There, in a nutshell, was the difference between the two batting approaches.

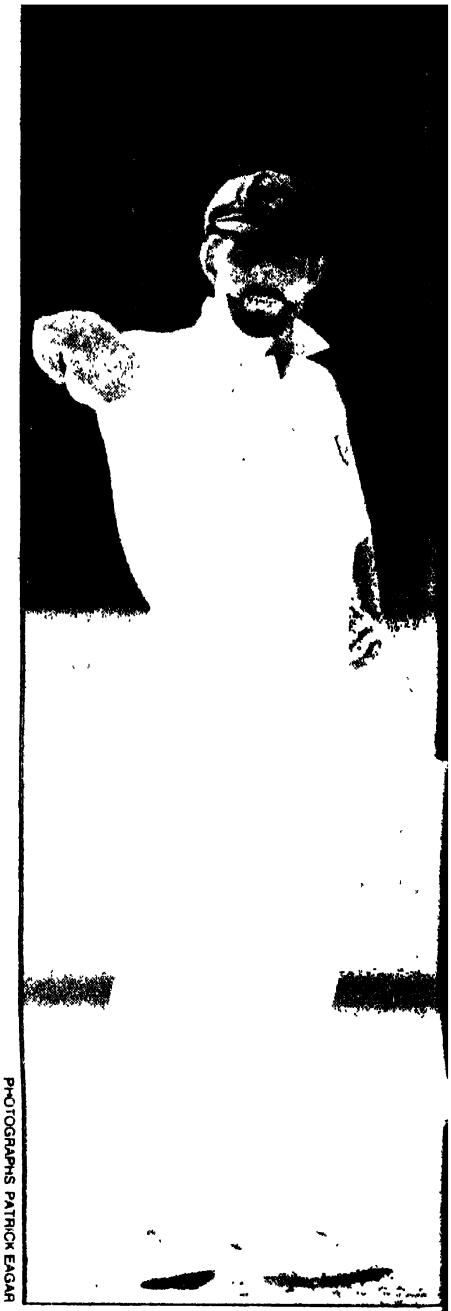
Australia had to grab for runs against a hostile attack. The West Indians plundered the runs against an attack that was ground mercilessly into the dust. Richardson led the West Indies past the Australian score at a pace no team in modern cricket could hope to match The way he savaged the bowling, the West Indies had all but wiped the first innings lead with eight wickets remaining.

Richardson was the man of the

Annoyed that he had not bowled earlier Border said "Maybe I have negative thoughts about my own bowling because when I play grade cricket or Shield cricket and I bring myself on to bowl, I get pogoed everywhere"



Richardson was the man of the moment



PHOTOGRAPHS PATRICK EAGAR

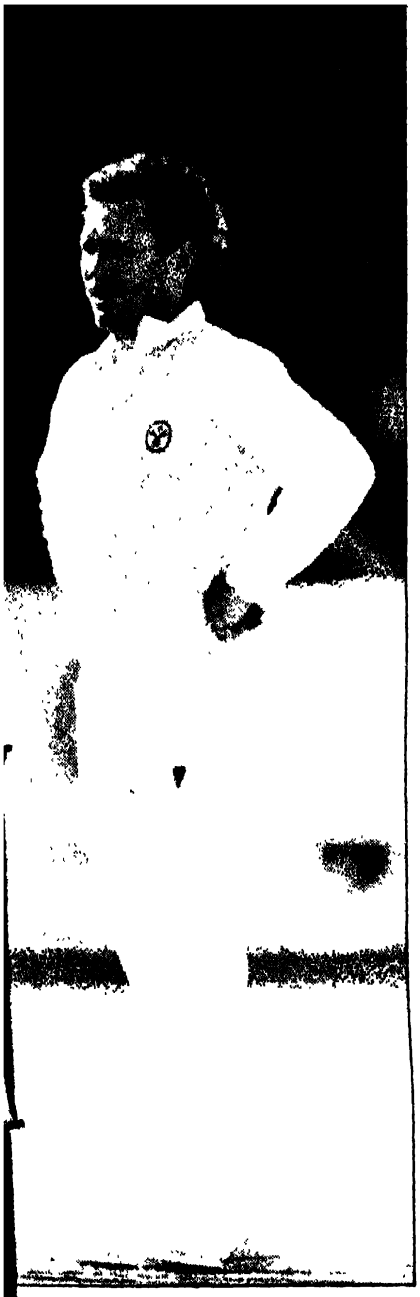
Border and Marsh stitched th
couldn't prevent th

moment No helmet for this man. He wears nothing more complicated than a batter's sun hat. Even his bat seems to be the sort of thing little West Indian boys use in a game of beach cricket It has a weather-beaten air about it, the sort of bat you will never associate with a Test player It is held together in parts with bits of sticky tape but he wields it like King Arthur would have wielded Excalibur

That flashing blade got 26 boundaries and 2 sixes before McDermott quenched the rampage It is interesting to note, in retrospect, that after the first Test, the Australians had reckoned they could get Richardson out cheaply in the gully. Richardson heard of the theory and stubbornly backed himself to make runs That he did make runs was not surprising but the manner in which he plundered them will leave the Australian bowlers with the type of thing nightmares are made of.

Allan Border has been playing Test cricket for the last 13 years, yet he shook his head in amazement as he said, "That was one of the best Test innings I have ever seen. He didn't let up for a moment from when he went to the wicket at 1 for 10 and his innings alone got the West Indies into a position of strength. It was an absolute classic, a blinder of an innings and we won't see too many of those around. What was disappointing was that Geoff Marsh and myself and the top three batsmen really had to struggle for runs, and then Richardson came along to belt us all over the park and wipe us off the board."

Yet it was Border who took five wickets, including four for no





strallan innings together, but ntual defeat

Craig McDermott's plight typifies the way Australia's batting performed in this Test

runs off nine deliveries, who cleaned up the West Indian tail. Annoyed that he had not bowled earlier, Border said, betraying a trace of exasperation "They made 9-532 and I took 5-51; it looks ridiculous. I'm really annoyed I didn't bowl myself earlier. I probably should have more faith in my own bowling, but hindsight is a wonderful thing. Maybe I have negative thoughts about my own bowling because when I play grade cricket or Shield cricket and I bring myself on to bowl, I get pogoed everywhere.".

But nothing could save Australia as the tourists slumped to a ten-wicket defeat, the frontline batsmen collapsing and Dean Jones becoming the victim (see accompanying story) of a curious umpiring decision. Since defeating the West Indies at Sydney in January 1989, the Australians have lost only two out of 22 Tests, and the disappointment showed clearly on Border's face. "We know we can bat better than we did here and we certainly can bowl a lot, lot better. We'll fight back if we are a good team and we think we are "

Richardson's bat is held together in parts with bits of sticky tape but he weilds it like King Arthur would have wielded Excalibur

David McMahon, Melbourne, with William Rhodes in Georgetown

The Dean Jones dismissal controversy...

Did The Umpire Deserve The Hangman's Noose?



PATRICK EAGAR

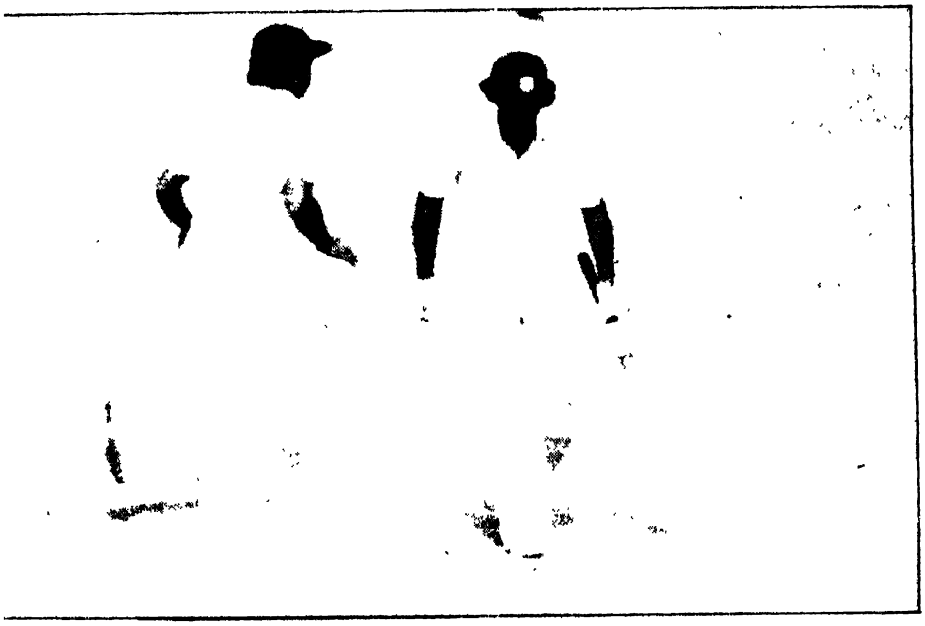
THE main talking point of the second Test between the West Indies and Australia at Georgetown should have been the inspirational batting performance of Richie Richardson, instead, and sadly for Test cricket, the heroics of Richardson was overshadowed by the controversial second innings dismissal of Dean Jones.

Jones, struggling for form, was run out for 3 in bizzare circumstances, as Australia fought for survival. Jones was bowled by a no ball from Courtney Walsh, after he failed to hear the

Thinking he had been bowled by a legitimate delivery Jones removed his gloves, strung his bat under his arm and headed towards the pavilion...

no ball call from the umpire Ceane Cumberbatch; nor did he see the no ball signal by the umpire. Thinking he had been bowled by a legitimate delivery Jones removed his gloves, strung his bat under his arm and headed towards the pavilion.

The ball was only a few metres from the stump and the man who had summed up the situation and the laws of cricket the quickest was Carl Hooper. A number of his teammates had still not realised what happened when he sprinted forward, grabbed the stump out of ground with the ball held in his hand.



Jones had been alerted by a shout from Border at the non-striker's end and had sprinted back to the crease with his bat outstretched Hooper had beaten him by the barest of margin and the fielders had gone up in a unanimous appeal.

Jones, still bewildered at the rapid turn of events was judged out and the reaction of the West Indian fans at the members' stand was to jeer Viv Richards and the umpire. Umpire Cumberbatch later admitted he had made an error in giving Jones out, yet once the dismissal had gone into the score book, it could not be reversed.

Richards had had his chance to recall Jones, yet chose to ignore his prerogative. According to the laws of cricket, no batsman can be given out in such a situation, unless he had attempted a run. Jones had not attempted a run, and therefore could not have been given out.

"It was silly cricket all round," said a disappointed Allan Border. The Australian coach Bobby Simpson, angry at the decision approached the umpires in the next break of play and asked for an explanation, but came away with the observation that both umpires were 'embarrassed and upset'.

Simpson questioned not just the decision but the spirit in which the run out had been made by the fielder "This can t be in the spirit of the game and it's annoying that such a thing should happen, because the umpires don't know the rules and captain did not see it fit to call the batsman back "

Alvin Kallicharran was recalled to bat in 1974 after being dismissed in controversial circumstances

Richards defended himself in no uncertain terms "I didn't see the incident, I was too busy celebrating with the crowd When I turned around, I thought it was a legitimate dismissal. I didn't know the rule until tea, when everyone else was talking about it."

Former Australian skipper Richie Benaud called it "the most astonishing umpiring decision imaginable"

Benaud pointed out a remarkable parallel in history which had favoured the West Indies in 1974 "Jones could not be recalled once Mark Waugh, the next man in, had faced his first delivery. This had been the case when Alvin Kallicharran was run out by Tony Greig at Port-of-Spain in February 1974 After the last ball of the second day Kallicharran walked off at close of play, but Greig broke the stumps down. However, Kallicharran was recalled the next morning, because no other batsman had taken his place at the crease

Border made no public protest against the umpire "If it was one of their players and they had started to walk off the ground, we would have probably done exactly the same.

Asked if he had any objection to Cumberbatch standing in the third Test, Border replied, "No Does every umpire know all the rules I don't know They should, I suppose. But I was ignorant of the rules as well and I have been playing longer than they have been umpiring "

West Indian fans at the ground made it a point to display their anger the next day. At the ground they strung up a hangman's noose and 'hanged the effigy of an umpire in white hat, white coat and black trousers

But the last word in the incident must go not to a cricketer, not to an umpire, but to an Australian journalist No one had questioned the decision by Cumberbatch until a reporter from the Australian Associated Press took a copy of the laws of the game to the Australians after the dismissal to point out that Jones had been unfairly dismissed.

Border, now that the disappointment had gone, could see the funny side of the situation "Why didn't you yell out and tell us what was happening?" he demanded, screaming.

David McMahon

BACK IN THE FOLD AGAIN?

VIEWPOINT

MUDAR PATHERYA

POOR Graeme Hick. Just after he has spent the best part of his adult life qualifying to play for the country of his adoption, it appears that the wait may have been wasted. The IOC has hinted at the possibility of South Africa being invited for the Barcelona Olympics next year. David Frith, renowned editor of *Wisden Cricket Monthly*, has ventured to suggest that Pakistan's tour structure of England in 1992 could be squeezed to just about slip in a test match against South Africa. Amazing. A year ago, before they released Mandela, who would have thought of it?

The incredible reality is not that South Africa was barred from Test cricket in 1970, but that it took the better part of a century for it to be done. Despite legalised racism very much in evidence, no Australian or English Cricket Board suggested that they should not tour South Africa. Not a whisper about equal playing opportunities for the coloureds, not even the faintest curiosity about why South African sides contained only whites despite

DAVID Frith, editor of Wisden Cricket Monthly, has ventured to suggest that Pakistan's tour structure to England in 1992 could be squeezed to just about slip in a Test match against South Africa

coloured and blacks comprising 88 per cent of the population.

To top it, the MCC continued to indulge in its own brand of feudalism by persisting with its Gentlemen vs Players fixtures up to 1961, separating cricketers on the basis of income. What's new, it discriminates unto this very day; women are not allowed into the 'hallowed' precincts of the Long Room, though embarrassed adjustments are made for a certain Elizabeth II whenever she decides to watch a Test at Lord's.

But back to apartheid. I quote from '*Arlott in Conversation with Brearley*' and it is the veteran broadcaster who says that he was "desperately shocked by what I saw there. I never dreamt that these things went on(Arlott incidentally was 34 at that time)I had heard lip-service paid to the awfulness, but you see this was just the time when the first nationalist government of Doctor Malan



was returned, and I saw and heard some quite terrible things about what happened to ordinary black people. I didn't know what to do. I still haven't really done much about it. I haven't done as much as I ought to have done "

Arlott continues to tell the story of how 'out of the blue' he got this letter from a young man, 'beautifully written in green ink, terribly courteous, saying how much he loved cricket and how much he would like to learn to qualify to be a coach in England so that he could go back to South Africa and teach his own people. I thought I never heard of anything much more hopeless, really. There was such charm in the letters, and I went on replying to them to see what we could work out '

Arlott also began to get curious. He began asking for the player's statistics The letter came in: 286 with quite a number of sixes. Add figures of 6 for 16 When Arlott showed the letter around, club officials in England shook their head, they said it must have been a plumb batting track; when Arlott pointed out the bowling analysis, they'd cut him short with 'Terrible wicket or bad batting side.' No side wanted to touch an unknown coloured from South Africa.

Until Arlott relates he got a call from a club called Middleton, saying that Gilchrist had been sacked, Wes Hall had let them down at the last instant and could they have this Mister Anonymous come down from South Africa to play a season in the leagues – at terribly low wages, but what the hell?!"

Courtesy a public subscription, the young man migrated Over to Arlott: "He made a terrible start, poor kid, couldn't get a run for a month. He had never seen these slow, sodden, muddy, wickets. Then all of a sudden everything came good for him at the end of May He actually finished with more runs than Garfield Sobers in his first season. And I mean, if you had seen, I almost wept, his amazement at sitting down to eat with white people in the dining car of the train and at the airport and so on. Yet he kept utter and absolute dignity and good nature, and I think, through all the troubles, probably behaved better than anyone else. ..he never made a fool of himself, which would have been so easy "

The uncomfortable young man who would have been wasted in South Africa, went on to play 44 Tests for England—Basil d'Oliveira.

Arlott's important footnote "...he gave hope to his own people, millions of them. It isn't going to happen to them, but they knew there was hope. It was possible, if not for them, for their children, or their children's children, and this was the important thing about his coming here To prove that bondage was not inevitable."

If Basil d' Oliveira had been a just about average club or county cricketer who knows, we might still have had South Africa playing Test cricket It's an interesting story of how in that summer of 1968 this quietly dignified man played one of the most controversial roles a single cricketer has played in the history of the sport

He was third on the list of reserves for the Oval Test against Australia and almost certain to sit out for the game Quite unexpectedly however, Tom Cartwright failed a fitness test, the next alternative Barry Knight confessed 80 per cent fitness and opening batsman Roger Prideaux went down with a virus infection Captain Colin Cowdrey immediately shuffled the batting order, Colin Milburn would open and in his place was drafted d' Oliveira.

"The next two days," wrote Cowdrey later, "brought one of the most significant innings in

A little white girl gazes at her Winnie Mandela doll in a Johannesburg shop. Signs of coming together *Below*: Mike Proctor promoting cricket among the underprivileged

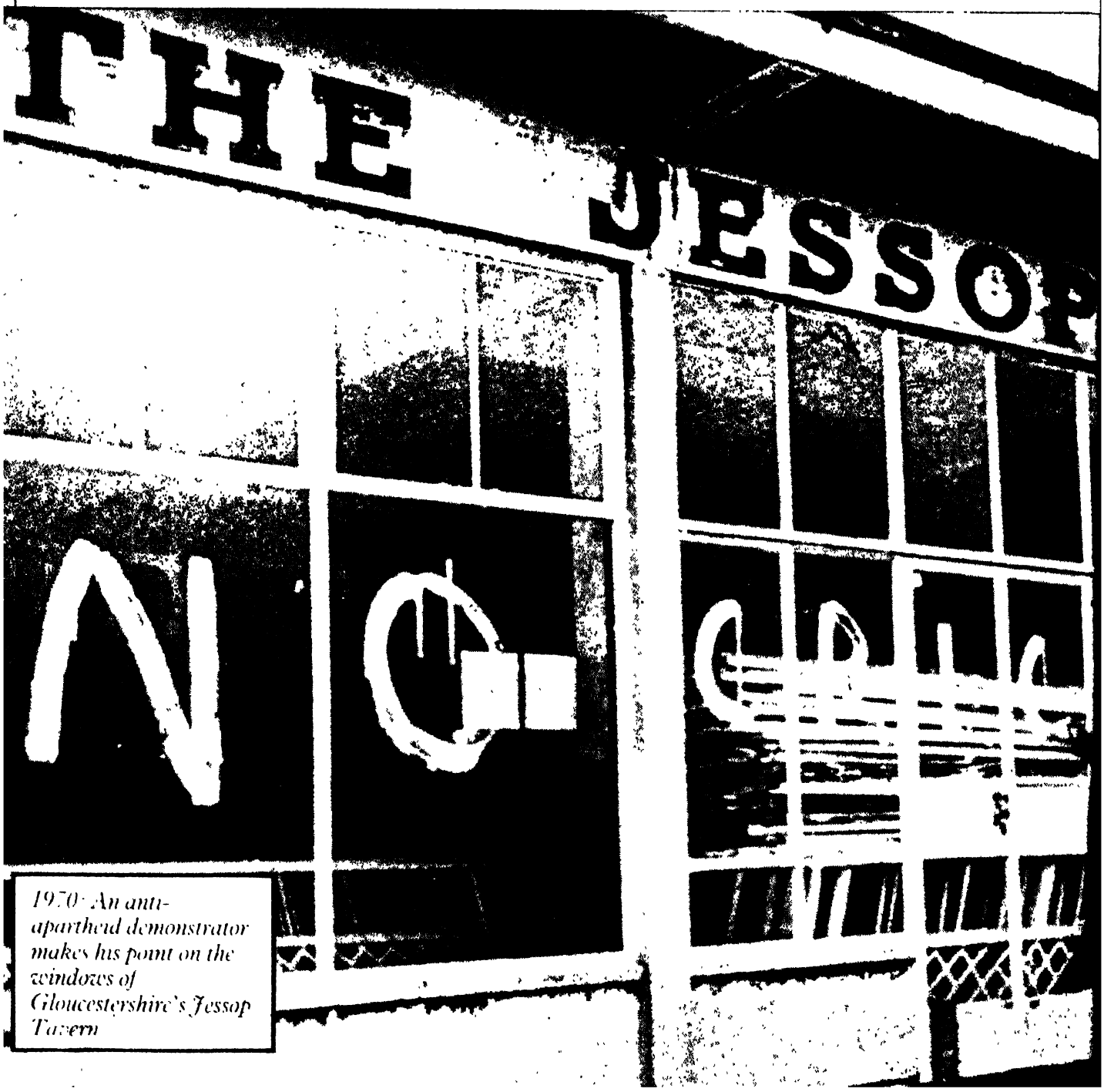




modern cricket." Milburn went for 8, Dexter for 21 and Cowdrey for 16. An hour before the close walked in d' Oliveira. ."an utterly calm figure, betraying none of the huge tension there must have been within him." If he failed, d'Oliveira would slip back into the shadows; if he pulled it off, there was the incentive of being selected that winter as a member of the MCC side to tour - irony of ironies South Africa.

Let Cowdrey tell the story: "He (d'Oliveira) began slowly and rather tentatively. Quite often, with his short back-lift and staccatto style, he can look like a novice in the early moments of an innings But it is misleading. This day he was lucky to be dropped at 31, but thereafter he played a superb innings, full of attacking shots and commanding presence. The next day, batting as if this was a mission utterly divorced from a Test match, he dominated the scene. The slow wicket suited him perfectly and he took his personal score to 158 before he was at last out. He returned to the pavilion to a standing, emotional ovation. Public opinion was convinced that the die was now cast. d'Oliveira, they maintained was now a certainty for South Africa."

d'Oliveira was dropped. But ouce again, destiny got its act going. Cartwright, selected as one of the principal seamers, reported unfit. With a place vacant yet again the selectors pencilled d'Oliveira in.



1970: An anti-apartheid demonstrator makes his point on the windows of Gloucestershire's Jessop Tavern

The process of selection took 10 minutes. The draft of the press statement:four hours.

Almost around the same time, thousands of miles away in Bloemfontein, the very stronghold of the Afrikaaners, Dr Ian Vorster the South African Prime Minister, took one look at the list of MCC players and mercilessly tore into the English administration. And yes, cancelled the tour.

d'Oliveira? The man who had figured out exactly what sort of social function he would attend in South Africa and which he would avoid; the man who had confessed that certain people would be waiting to have a go at him, waiting to get him involved in some incident or the other; the cricketer



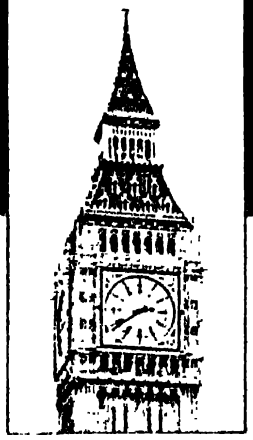


Basil D'Oliveira, with his wife Naomi and son Damian, on the way to Buckingham Palace to receive the CBE in 1969

who was under no illusions that he was going to be watched every minute of the tour to make just one false step, he was awfully remorse at having aborted the tour for his country "I'm terribly sorry that I should be the cause of you and the lads missing the tour," he told his captain

In 1970, the return tour to England was cancelled and South Africa consigned to the purdah of international cricket Twenty-two years later if Frith's vision of a Test between South Africa and England at Lord's does become a reality, I wonder if the TCCB will have the sense of the historic to ask a certain Basil Lewis d'Oliveira to give out the Man of the Match award If destiny is the perfect matchmaker then it could be Graeme Hick receiving it, who knows! ●

THE FRANK KEATING COLUMN



FEW passages in sport anticipate with such exactness the fizz and expectation of springtime as a 7-a-side rugby union.

The swirl and clamour of the Sevens season is well under way already. The National Schools' Championships were recently fought out in London, and friends had been staggering, satisfied, back to Heathrow, proudly displaying their bruises and clinking their duty-frees, after the grandest and most exotic tournament of them all, Cathay Pacific's truly international fiesta, the Hong Kong Sevens.

April is a frantic month for seven-a-siders. Everybody's at it—from north of the border at the oldest tournament of them all at Melrose (April 13) to Camborne's great carnival in the south (May 4). The women's RFU sevens are held at Clifton on May 3, and the curtain is rung down with the Middlesex 7s at Twickenham a week after that. Only then will a rugger bloke turn his—or her—attention to tennis and cricket and summer.

It is an ancient game. Melrose staged the first ever knockout tournament way back in the mists, in 1883, to raise funds for a new club house. The RFU itself had only been founded a dozen years, but London got rather snuffy about Borders' upstarts altering their game and put a veto on any English club taking part.

They were ignored by England's northern clubs, and by the time the first War ended, no end of English clubs were enjoying their end-of-season frolics.

In 1925, Twickenham relented—as they usually have to in the end—and a group of Middlesex RFU committee members gathered after a day's work in the City at the Old Cock Tavern in Fleet Street and resolved to organise a Sevens



COLORSPORT



COLORSPORT

The Siz

tournament at Twickenham for hospital charities. The celebrated Middlesex 7s was born.

Compared with its 15-a-side parent--the game is played on a full sized pitch--the team's seven players must go at one heck of a lick throughout for the two halves of seven minutes. It makes for voluptuously spectacular rugby—though the players would change those words to "retchingly knackering"

This spring represents one of my own most cherished anniversaries as a pale pencil-pushing loiterer on the fringes of big-time sport. In 1966, 25 years ago, I was sent to cover the great national schools' Sevens jamboree, organised by Rosslyn Park at the end of each Easter term for over half a century now.

Millfield School won a famous final, inspired, by a barreling, bullish little mudlark of a captain. At the final whistle, I asked him his name "Edward", I thought he said. Edward who, I asked? "No, sir, Edwards with an 's', sir. My first name's 'Gareth', sir".

Well, how many men in the history of the world can claim to have been addressed as "Sir" three times in the same breath by the immortal Mr Edwards? I can: thanks to resplendent, super Sevens. ●



zling Sevens



Viswanathan Anand is no Mutant Ninja Turtle like Donatello (below). But the speed with which he can rattle off his moves could make even a Ninja pause...and Karpov (right) knows that



Anatoly Karpov lost five times at Linares, more games than he is expected to lose annually. He also went into time pressure in all his games, especially ominous for anyone preparing to meet Anand

VISWANATHAN ANAND's draw in the Candidates' Chess quarter finals reminds one of the old good news—bad news jokes. The good news is that his opponent is in the worst form of his life and looking very vulnerable. The bad news is that his adversary is Anatoly Karpov.

The old order in the chess world is clearly changing after the Linares tournament last month. The Spanish Super tourney saw several firsts. For the first time in nine years Kasparov failed to take first place (or at least share it). For the first time in his long and distinguished career starting 1967, Karpov ended up broke on payday. And for the first time, Vassily Ivanchuk controlled his

fragile temperament and won ahead of the two Ks. El Hindu Gran Maestro—as the locals called Anand—started with a bang, and ended respectably. The world's highest rated vegetarian, beat Karpov and drew with Kasparov in the process of taking 7th place. That was good going for a debut at this level in a meet where he was seeded ninth. The win against Karpov came when the former world champion blundered in time trouble, showing that Anand's rapid fire methods could upset even the best. Kasparov offered the draw when he realised he was drifting into severe time pressure himself.

Anatoly Karpov lost five times



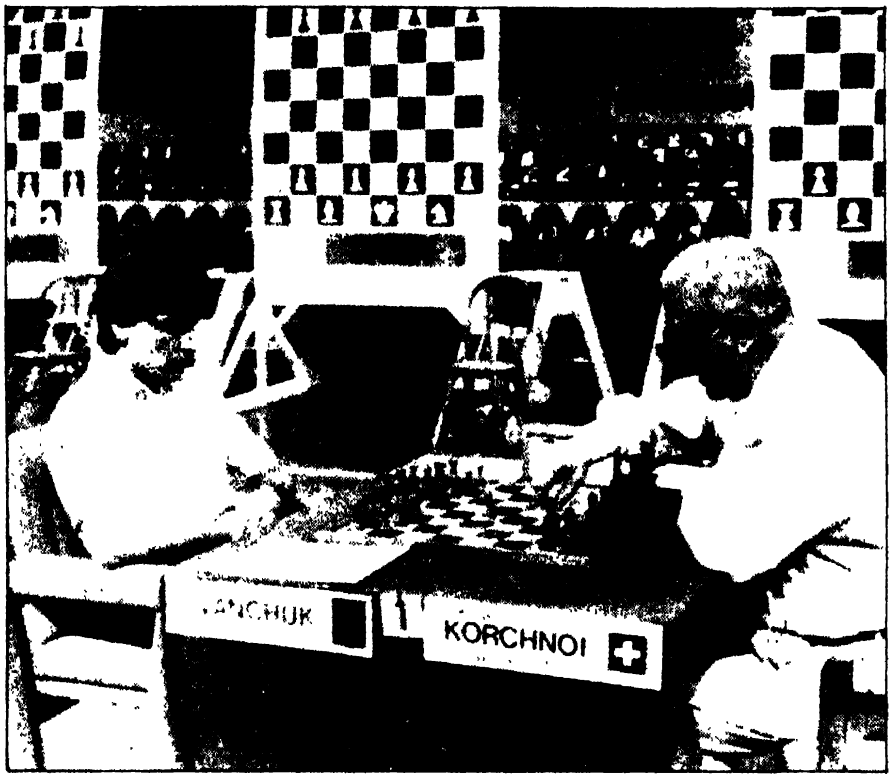


Gureyvich's reasons for toppling Karpov are purely personal and political

There is a good chance that the match will be in Calcutta, where Anand would also enjoy home advantages and enormous crowd support. Calcutta has put in a bid offering 100,000 Swiss Francs (Approx. Rs 14 lakhs) prize money for the match which is scheduled for August

Viswanathan Anand has drawn to meet Anatoly Karpov in the Candidates' quarter finals. Jaded, but no pushover, Karpov may be a tough nut to crack. Devangshu Dutta studies the two rivals

TIME!



Vassily Ivanchuk (left) faces Korchnoi: If there is anyone who can usurp the crown, it's him

at Linares, more games than he is expected to lose annually. He also went into time pressure in all his games, especially ominous for anyone preparing to meet Anand.

Is time finally catching up with 40-year-old "Tolya"? Has the edge gone from his ambition after losing the bitterly contested world title match? Perhaps he no longer believes he can take Kasparov and the motivation to work his way through the gruelling qualifiers is no longer there.

Perhaps not--but there are three young men who genuinely believe they will be the challenger in '93 They have implicit faith in their ability to beat anyone. Two are Ivanchuk and Boris Gelfand. The third is Anand.

Anand's attitude to his pairing with Karpov is, sooner or later he must meet and beat Karpov if he is to meet and beat Kasparov subsequently. Sooner, rather than later, is his pragmatic attitude.

Actually, Anand has several other factors going for him besides Karpov's bad form and increasing propensity to time trouble. It will be a short match and tiebreak games, if any, will be played at a 60 moves in 45 minutes control—just Anand's forte. Karpov may find it difficult to get into the groove and recover if he does suffer an early defeat.



Lev Polugaevsky is strictly a Karpov loyalist

There is a good chance that the match will be in Calcutta, where Anand would also enjoy home advantages and enormous crowd support. Calcutta has put in a bid offering 100,000 swiss francs (Approx Rs 14 lakhs) prize money for the match which is scheduled for August Finally we come to seconds and there too Anand has done well, paradoxically because he is meeting Karpov. Mikhail Gureyvich, who is actually higher rated than the Madras GM himself, has agreed to help him out for ideological reasons.

Gureyvich is a Soviet defector, a Jew who has migrated to Belgium. The 31-year-old Kharkov native is not just anti-communist, he is specifically anti-Karpov as well A lot of Jewish chess players in the Soviet Union feel Karpov is anti-semitic in addition to being a communist deputy and upholder of the system.

It's a tragicomic situation Gureyvich was looking set to win the inter zonals when Anand knocked him out of the cycle with a sensational penultimate round defeat. Now Gureyvich hopes Anand will fight a proxy war and beat Karpov on his behalf. He can be trusted to produce high quality analysis to help his principal

Karpov will be relying on his long time trainer GM Zaitsev and ex-candidate Lev Polugaevsky. They will presumably work out some game plan for him to adapt to Anand's incredible speed and snuff out the Indian challenge. But it may not be easy because no one else plays that quick and that good, so training matches are difficult to set up.

Sure Karpov will be the overwhelming favourite, but maybe we could see a major sporting upset. Sure Karpov has never lost a match to anyone except Kasparov that there has to be a first time. And we may just see an Indian in the semi finals for the "times they are a changing" ●

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Which cricketer is nicknamed 'Clint Eastwood'?

2. Whose autobiography is titled, 'The sun has got its hat on'?

3. Three English Test grounds have also been the venue of international soccer matches Which are they?

4. How many Test wickets, did Geoff Boycott take in his career?

5. Arthur Conan Doyle wrote only one cricketing story. Name the story

6. Who wrote, "The person who invented cricket is greater than the one who wrote Hamlet."?

7. Jim Laker bagged 19 Australian wickets in the Old Trafford Test during the 1956 Ashes series. Who took the only remaining wicket?

8. Who is the author of, 'Sort of a Cricket Person'?

★ WIN RS. 300!

If your quiz is selected.
(1) All entries must be neatly typed.
(2) The maximum number of questions is 50.
(3) Quizzes on specific sporting topics will be given preference, that is, each quiz should deal with one particular aspect of sport.
(4) Questions which have already appeared in the column will be discounted immediately.
(5) Send in your entries with full name and address to:
Sportsworld Readers' Quiz
6, Prafulla Sarkar Street
Calcutta-700 001
(6) As we can only publish 52 quizzes annually. The best will be chosen. The Editor's choice is final.

ANSWERS

1. Peter Willey
2. Derek Randall
3. Oval, Trent Bridge and Bramall Lane
4. Seven
5. The story of Spedegue's Dropper
6. Sir James Barrie
7. Tony Lock
8. E W. Swanton
9. Jack Hobbs
10. A fast under-arm delivery which travels just above ground level
11. France
12. For the series between India and Pakistan
13. At Indore in India, where a 60 ft high concrete bat was erected in 1971 to mark India's victory over England and West Indies
14. A move that interrupts an apparently forced sequence
15. Attack on two pieces on the same line. When the front piece moves away the second piece is captured

THIS QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY:
S.B. SARKAR
C/O EASTERN INDIA
TEXTILE MILLS' ASSOCIATION
2, CHURCH LANE,
CALCUTTA 700 001

All answers sent in by the contributor

9. About whom did Herbert Sutcliffe, say, "I can say this without any doubt that he was the most brilliant exponent of all time and quite the best batsman of any generation on all types of wickets."

10. In cricket, what is a 'Daisy cutter'?

11. The only time cricket was played in the Olympic Games was in 1900 when Great Britain won the championship beating the only other entrant. Whom did they beat?

12. For which cricket series is the A.S. DeMello Trophy awarded?

13. Where would one find a 'Concrete Bat'?

14. In chess, what is a 'Zwischenzug'?

15. In chess jargon what is meant by a skewer?

BRITISHER John Lowe is becoming something of a One Day Specialist. He rode the Bombay season with great success before flying back to England in the last week of February '91. Since then he has made two "flying visits" to the Mahalaxmi Racecourse literally just for a day and on both those days he delivered the goods. In the second week of March he rode Ponta Delgado to victory in the richest race of the year, The Poonawalla Breeders' Million.

COURTESY THE INDEPENDENT



This (1991) was the most valuable Leger on record, with the winner earning over Rs 8,14,000 in stake money. The winner Majestic Eagle was the first got-abroad filly of the nineties to win the race. She clocked—2min 57.7sec—the fastest Leger time ever, but more than that the record that had stood for 34 years had been broken

Majestic Eagle (John Lowe astride) finishes the McDowell Indian St. Leger (2,800m), at the Mahalaxmi race course

McDowell Indian St. Leger

MAJESTIC SOARS THE EAGLE

BY CYRUS. J. MADAN

Three weeks later, Lowe was back, this time soaring to even greater heights as he steered a got-abroad filly, Majestic Eagle, trained by Uttam Singh to a record breaking victory in the McDowell Indian St. Leger.

Run over a gruelling distance of 2800 metres, the Leger was returning to Bombay after a lapse of over two decades. Held in Pune in the month of October until 1990, Messrs. McDowell & Co Ltd did lend their name to it last year, but the support they extended to the Leger this time made it one of the richest Classics in the land. A race worth winning in whatever way you looked at it

Just how well received their support turned out to be, was seen when nine colts and two fillies lined up to face the starter The largest field in over a decade

In fact, the 1991 Leger ended up having a host of firsts to its credit For starters it was the most valuable Leger on record, with the winner earning over Rs 8,14,000 in stake money. The winner, Majestic Eagle was the first got-abroad filly of the nineties to win the race The time she clocked— 2 min 57.7 sec —was the fastest Leger time ever, but more than that it was a record for 2800 metres.

A record that had stood for over 34 years, to the credit of one of the legends of Indian racing—Rock of Gibraltar Majestic Eagle erased his record by 0.1 seconds, the only difference being that Rock had shouldered 7 kg more on his back when posting that time.

Last but by no means the least, the victory gave part owner Mr J.P Goenka, the man in whose silks she raced, his fourth Leger triumph. Only last year he had won the Leger with Classic Story and in the years before that with Almanac and Mayapan,all of whom sported his pink and white quarters.

Razor Sharp, the first to show out as the field of 11 broke from the gates, set a blistering pace, immediately Majestic Eagle with John Lowe astride was loving every inch of it. She settled beautifully and was always travelling easily in fourth place just behind Le Gris Cheval. The two fancied "Stars" in the race—Star Contender and Star Fire Boy – were close to the rear of the field most of the way, but the former did move up and essay some sort of a challenge in the straight and, eventually finished second.

Just before the turn, Le Gris Cheval did manage to get into the lead, but the moment they straightened up for the final run there was just one horse in the race—Majestic Eagle.

The bay daughter of Tender King out of a Nijinsky mare named Marinsky, bred at the Pratap Stud and Agricultural strode away in splendid solitude and Lowe was virtually easing up in the last furlong or so Star Contender, with Robin Corner up, came second producing a gallant run, having travelled all the way from Madras. Stingray plodded on to be third and was finishing the fastest at the close, while Copper Crown hung on to fourth place

Trainer Uttam Singh had thus shown yet again that with fillies he was still the number one. What a remarkable job he had done with Majestic Eagle. He had nursed her all the way with his ultimate sights fixed on the Leger-and when Uttam sets his sights on something, he rarely misses. Majestic Eagle had never performed better and proved her mentor right with her most authoritative victory yet, and that too with a record timing ●



A 'SPECIAL' EVENT

The Indian contingent for the Special Olympics gears up for their showdown with the world's best sporting talent among the mentally retarded

A MAJOR international sporting event is going to take place in barely three months—and not many of us are aware of it, as yet. Perhaps because the event is not glamorous. Or perhaps because it does not involve stars. But when the Special





TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHS JOY



Refusing to let their mental handicap slow them down are these athletes (far left, left and right) while others enjoy a taste of victory on the medal podium (above)

Olympics gets underway at Minneapolis, U.S.A. this July, around 6500 participants from 101 countries will be displaying more grit, more talent than their superstar counterparts. You see, they are all mentally retarded.

At a rough estimate, there are 300 million mentally retarded people in the world, amounting to about 5-6% of the world's total population. It is the single largest disabled group. And when they get together for their Olympics, it has to be a 'special' event.

In preparation for this Special Olympics, the first Indian National Games for Mentally Retarded athletes was held in Madras last January. From the 2000 athletes who took part, 100 gold-medallist 'special' athletes are undergoing a three-week training camp at the SAI Premises in Bangalore. Of these, 35 would be chosen to represent the country in mainly four disciplines—namely football, athletics, swimming and basketball. While football is for the boys, basketball is exclusively for girls.

At a rough estimate, there are 300 million mentally retarded people in the world...and when they get together for their Olympics, it has to be a 'special' event

Since the previous Special Olympics—held in USA, 1987—saw the 16-Indian athletes, mainly from Bombay and Maharashtra, bring home a rich haul of 4 golds, 6 silver and 8 bronze medals, there is special interest in the preparation for this event. According to the Director. Spl Games Mr Vijay Kant, the preparation this time has been good with the help of sponsors and the infrastructure of NIS. Birla 3M, the co-sponsors for this Special Olympics programme in India, are even organising an awareness-cum-fund raising scheme to enable the safe passage of these eager 'special' athletes.

Having been long starved of an Olympic medal, let us hope these gutsy athletes can bring Olympic honour to our country. The 'Special' tag only makes the achievement more special. ●

Romeo James Reminisces



BY SRIRAM

FOR a man whose promising international career came to an abrupt end he does not show any rancour outwardly but the hurt still lingers. The anger is not against the action—in his case a ban from international hockey for five years—but is against the Indian hockey Federation (IHF) which, he feels, did precious little to fight his case with the International Hockey Federation (IHF).

Romeo James has a point to make against the federation. The ex-India goalkeeper, who is 32 now, feels the IHF's action of allowing him and compatriot Rajinder Singh to stew in their own juice put finis to their international career in '85 itself. He feels the ban could have been reduced to a year at the most had the IHF presented the players' case in a proper manner and this, more than anything else, hurts him most.

"No more Nationals for me. I don't want to block a youngster's chances. I intend to play for my company only"—Romeo James.

The incident which led to the ban is still fresh in his mind though he says "let it be buried." It happened during the Asia Cup final against arch-rivals Pakistan at Dhaka. It was a rousing match, spoilt by Japanese umpire Ueta's decision to award a goal to Pakistan even though their forward Kalimullah had tapped the ball into the goal from handshaking distance, a tennis-like shot with a stick raised high above the head. Some of the Indian players disputed the goal and surrounded the umpire to try and force him to reverse the decision. In the melee the Japanese official was hurt and five Indian players—Mervyn Fernandes, Tikken Singh, Hardeep Singh, Rajinder Singh and James—were debarred for five years by the FIH at its sitting in Brussels four months later while skipper M.M. Somaiya was banned for a year

"The ban against Tikken and Hardeep was lifted after about six months, Mervyn was reinstated just before the '88 Seoul Olympics through the personal efforts of Mr. Prasad (The IHF president and the then director of Indian Airlines of which Fernandes is an employee), Somaiya served out his short ban period but we two (James and Rajinder Singh) were left in the lurch," James said in Bombay during the Petroleum Sports Control Board hockey tournament recently where he turned out for hosts Bharat Petroleum's 'A' team.

All the players involved in the unsavoury incident later submitted written apology letters and handed over these to the manager and coach of the Indian squad for forwarding the letters to the tournament committee.

"What was the outcome of the apologies we don't know," said James, who made it clear that had an Indian representative been present at the FIH meeting at Brussels things could have been different in terms of the period of punishment.

As James, who has turned out for India in 60-odd internationals from his debut in the 82 Champions Cup tournament at Amsterdam till the Test series against Pakistan in the Arabian Gulf just after the Dhaka Asia Cup, explained the ban on the leading six coupled with the IHF selectors' axing of six other experienced men prior to the Asia Cup (including the skilful Zafar Iqbal and the resourceful Marcellus Gomes) put the clock back on Indian hockey.

"From 82 to 84 Los Angeles Games we were ranked among the top four teams in the world. But the sudden exit of twelve leading players weakened the team



Airlines' Grewal tries to push past the then ASC goalie Romeo James in the Gold Cup in Bombay. The others are ASC's Topno and IA's Zafar Iqbal

"Playing on natural turf and playing on the synthetic variety are altogether different ball games. We need to play both the junior and senior Nationals only on artificial turfs. The reason given by the IHF (paucity of synthetic surfaces) does not hold water as Pakistan have only three surfaces in comparison to our nine or ten. In fact, we have to train our youngsters from school level onwards only on artificial pitches."

considerably and, as everyone knows, in modern hockey a team building process takes at least three to four years to succeed", James opined.

What about the personal effect of the ban? The custodian felt that if it had been reduced to one or two years he could have made a comeback as a hockey player's career on the international scene on artificial surfaces lasts just about six or seven years. What rankles him even now is the fact that the IHF is yet to intimate him or Rajinder Singh about the lifting of the ban, not that it makes an iota of difference to his chances of playing for India again, as he himself admits.

The ex-Army Services Corps short tenure officer, who opted out of the armed services in '86 before joining Bharat Petroleum in '87, spoke at length about the high and low points of his career. The high point was the period between '82 and '84 and he rates the '84 Los Angeles Olympics team as the best he had played with.

How and towards which direction has the game changed from the mid-Eighties? "The game has become more speedy and power-oriented with a distinct decline on individual skills and stickwork", James explains.

James felt the present Indian team needed a lot of exposure against European teams to mature by gaining valuable experience. The ex-India star termed the IHF's recent decision to hold the championship on natural grass for the next two years as 'absurd'.

"Playing on natural turf and playing on the synthetic variety are altogether different ball games. We need to play both the junior and senior Nationals only on artificial turfs. The reason given by the IHF (paucity of synthetic surfaces) does not hold water as Pakistan have only three surfaces in comparison to our nine or ten. In fact, we have to train our youngsters from school level onwards only on artificial pitches. A good player on grass does not necessarily turn out to be good on synthetic turfs", James said.

Does he intend to take up coaching at the national level? "Not before another seven or eight years definitely which is the time I would need to mature as a coach".

MAHARAJA FEATURES

KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND





Swing right leg behind you and turn other way



Go into right kokutsu-dachi, performing a mawashi-uki with the right hand. Follow it up with a step forward to left at 45°, performing a left mawashi-uki (inset)

CONTINUING with the *kata*, swing the right leg out behind you and turn to the opposite side. Then, with the right leg forward, go into *kokutsu-dachi* while the right hand performs a *mawashi-uki*. Now step forward with the left leg, going 45° to the left, and go into *kokutsu-dachi* while performing a left *mawashi-uki*. Then pull the left leg back as you get ready to go into *zenkutsu-dachi*.

By Shivaji Ganguly
Kyokushinkaikan karate

PHOTOGRAPHS: RAMAN BHALLA



Pull left leg back, getting ready to go into zenkutsu-dachi



FAST CARS, FASTER MONEY!

These are the vital ingredients of Formula One racing, the sport that boasts nine-figure salaries and budgets larger than some developing countries



Ayrton Senna flies into Monaco on his private Lockheed aircraft. Blows away a few thousand dollars on the casino tables, drives back to his apartment in his custom-built Mercedes Benz for a shower and takes off in the evening for Rome to attend a concert of Luciano Pavaroti. His total bill for the day: over $50,000!

To many, this may sound an enormous sum. But for the 30-year-old Formula One ace it is loose change in his pocket. Because Senna makes over $25 million every year and has a personal fortune which could make Sylvester Stallone look like a pauper.

LADIES and gentlemen, welcome to the highstakes world of F1 racing where annual team spendings can, at times, surpass the budgets of many Third World countries.

Fast cars, fast gals and fast money are the three vital ingredients for this mega powerful billionaire boys club. As the world's richest circus travels across the continents, it is nine figure salaries that are touted for its leading performers. A description well supplemented by the fact that to run a two-car team for a season now costs upwards of 200 million dollars.

Ken Tyrell thought he was the king of the sport

Williams is tapping the beer industry



when he announced a budget of $ 1.5 million in 1970. Today it costs that much to have two world class engineers in a team's outfit. McLaren Honda spends nearly $22 million on its all star driver line-up of World Champion Ayrton Senna and Austrian Gerhard Berger. It is estimated that Honda coughs up $200 million every year , a mind boggling amount by any standards.

But who pays for it all? Such mega million budgets surely cannot be managed by teams alone, which at best are small, privately held companies. The money comes from the world's richest corporations who fiercely vie with each other to cash in on the vast commercial bandwagon of Formula One. These companies range from automobile giants and their ancillary companies to an array of international organisations with products as varied as cigarettes, cameras and casual wear.

But why is it that so many organisations are pouring in so much money into this high speed world of F1 racing? The reasons are attractive and plentiful. Longines, for example, has clocked sales of over half a million watches annually ever since it began displaying data and timing billboard as compared to the pre-F1 sales of a poor 80,000. But once the company took to the circuit, potential buyers began associating the watch with precision, design and quality.

Today a cement company, a shoe and perfume organisation, a chain of newspapers, cigarette manufacturers and producers of designer clothes all shuck up mega bucks in order to keep their respective names in the public eye. Top of the line are Shell Oils, Goodyear Tyres and Marlboro cigarettes. For these sponsors, it is not just the media coverage which acts as a motivator. It is the association with a successful Grand Prix team which holds special excitement. "An easy way to get the company's new identity seen and recognised around the world," says a Renault company spokesman.

For most sponsors, the results have been remunerative beyond their dreams. Benetton is one such example. When Lucianio Benetton bought the ailing Toleman team in 1985, he knew what he was aiming for. And thanks to the circuit performances. Benetton is one of the largest casual wear companies, having over 1500 stores in 45 countries around the world. Benetton clothes have a sleek and upmarket image, like his F1 team.

The same is true of Naconial Bank of Brazil. A small strip on Ayrton Senna's helmet has made them the largest and the most reputed bank in South America. Goodyear, a tyre supplier for all top teams like McLaren, Williams and Ferrari has successfully incorporated the lessons from F1 into market share which puts everything else in the shade. Olivetti the typewriter company has developed into a major computer manufacturer,

Rich man and his car : Alain Prost in a Ferrari



Nelson Piquet's helmet alone attracts $ 200,000 sponsorship

thanks to its association with F1 Racing.

For an average man the reasoning is straight-forward. What is good enough for a $10 million car, is good enough for him. But for the sponsors the benefits are manifold. Huge media coverage for a start. The season's annual television audience in 52 countries is a staggering 1.55 billion and nearly 100 million for every race. Add to this the millions who listen to radio coverage, read newspaper and magazine reports and buy special books about Grands Prix. Says Ron Dennis, the chief of the McLaren Honda team: "Our's is the only true world championship in the field of motorsport. Thus it enjoys the maximum following of all kinds of sport."

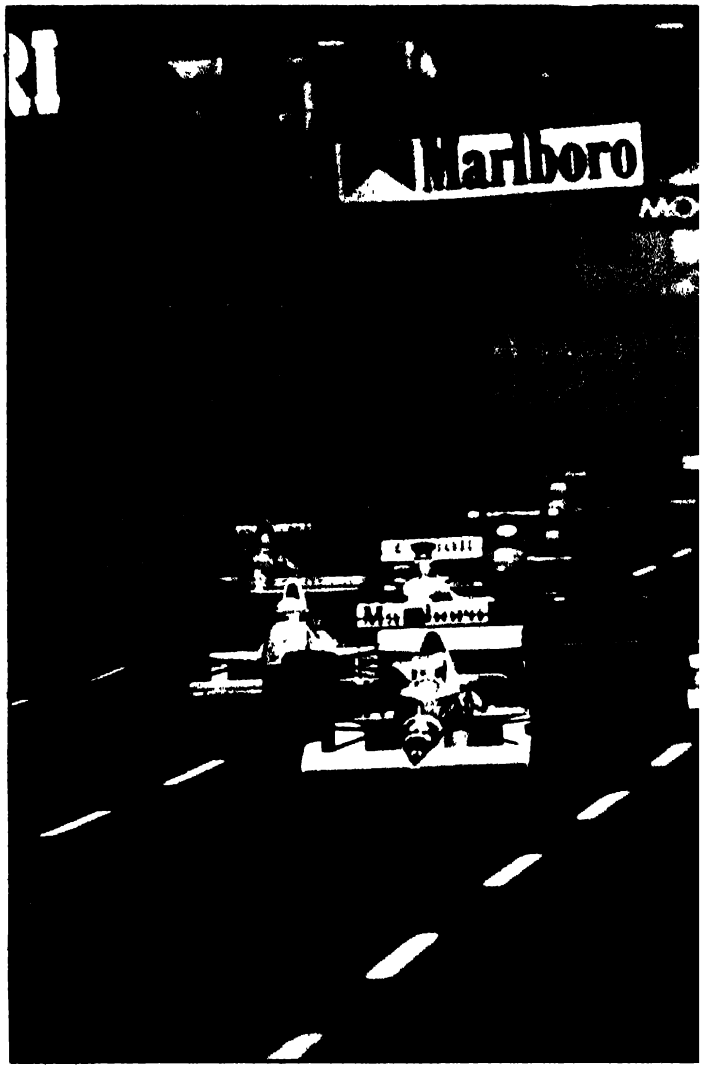
No one, however, can match the sponsorship deals offered by tobacco companies and brewsters for whom the F1 world is a high stakes baccarat. Banned from advertising in many countries, the tobacco giants desperately need high impact sponsorship deals. It is hardly surprising then that Marlboro, Camel, Gitanes, West, JPS and many more have their names splashed all over the mean machines. World champions, McLaren Honda support Marlboro colours at the cost of $25 million plus a percentage of drivers' salary. R.J. Reynolds' Camel brand is widely associated with the erstwhile champion Lotus team.

Credit for this sponsorship should go to the innovative director of Lotus, Colin Chapman. For an engineer, Chapman had far-sighted vision when he attracted an outside sponsor way back in 1968. A part of the deal was to have his familiar green Lotus painted in the company's brand colours. And this pioneering company was Britain's Imperial Tobacco. It began by promoting its Gold Leaf and John Player Special (JPS) brands, the red and gold livery of their Gold Leaf brand being daubed all over the Lotus. And with the Chapman-machinery under the hood and the late Jim Clark on the steering, it was a winning combination.

If Imperial Tobacco started it, the monarch among the sponsors now is Philip Morris. A deal with McLaren, signed in 1974, requires McLaren to have their cars painted in the red-and-white colours of the Marlboro brand. Seventeen years hence, the McLaren cars still carry the name on their cars, albeit the price which has catapulted from $2.5 to $25 million.

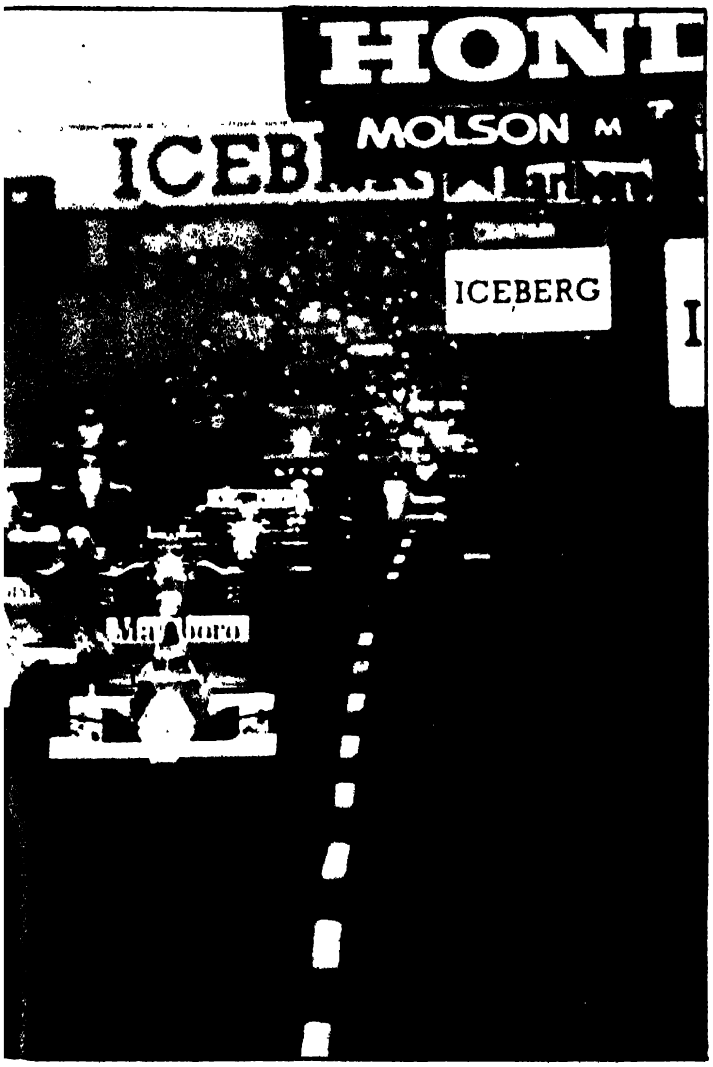
But this dream partnership is facing stormy weather with the advent of anti-smoking lobbies in practically every country. The new brigade of born-again health fanatics are bent upon disintegrating this sporting system which results in a turnover of over $5 billion along with half-a-million jobs. Today, international motor racing is bolstered by an influx of over $300 million annually from the tobacco companies. Ever since the





A billionaire boys' club, Formula One burns money as fast as it devours gasoline





Ayrton Senna and Naconial, the name you can bank upon

television media started to use restraint, tobacco giants have been facing innumerable problems. No wonder the slogan of 'smoke-free-earth' sounds like the chant of the Hell's Angels to the tobacco companies. Many TV networks in various countries around the world are refusing to cover any tobacco sponsored sports events.

The loss of tobacco money can sound the death knell for any sport, but F1 may have help coming by the way of brewsters. Canada's Labatt's Beer is one of the latest entrants from this field. Their 1991 F1 commitment is to the tune of $9 million, of which 50 percent is going to the Didcot-based Williams team. Other beer manufacturers in the fray are England Grand Metropolitan, Molstein, Carlsberg, Ruddles and Budweiser. But nothing compares to the investment of Fosters Beer who sponsor both the British and Australian Grands Prix.

Today most of the world championship races are sponsored by companies varying from soft drinks producers to photo goods manufacturers. For a small fortune of $ 2 million an organisation can put its name with the race. Coca Cola sponsors the Italian Grand Prix while Fuji takes care of the Japanese Grand Prix.

However, like other sports Formula One racing too is prone to the evils of money. Many small teams like Tyrell and Liqier find the going tough as most of the sponsorship is monopolised by the front runners. And thanks to the power of the dollar, at times it seems the corporations are more strong than the sport itself.

Money, in fact, is such an essential factor in Grand Prix racing that it can even assure a driver of a ride if he can bring cash into the sport. Japanese driver Satoru Nakajima is one such example. Despite having accumulated only ten Grand Prix points, he is always assured of a F1 drive, thanks to the financial clout he swings in Japan. German Bernard Schneider, son of an industrialist is also of the same mould. But this is one aspect of F1 Racing which FISA turns a blind eye to.

But it is the drivers who get the best deal of the lot. The top five drivers—Ayrton Senna, Alain Prost. Nelson Piquet, Nigel Mansell and Gerhard Berger—pick up a cool $ 100 million for their respective team drives alone. Mansell is said to have been paid $ 15 million by Williams-Renault for the 1991 season alone. Ayrton Senna gets a bonus of $ 1 million for every race he wins from Honda Motor company. Compensation perhaps for a high-risk job where a lack of concentration for only 1/100th of a second can result in a fiery death.

Thus the perennial question in motorsporting circles to which no one has a convincing answer: What burns faster in F1 racing—cars, gasoline or money?

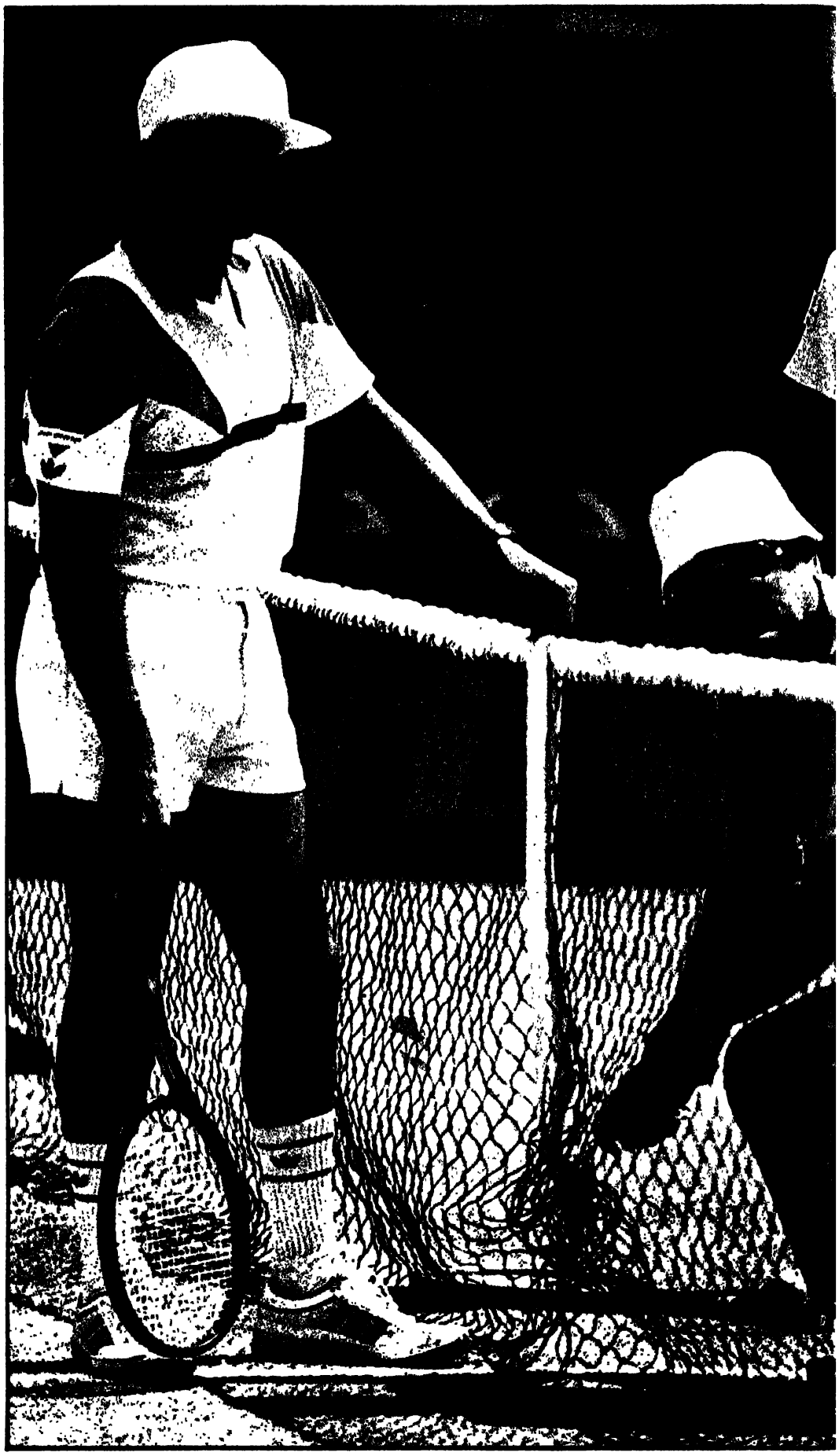
Alison Fowler

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHS. NEWSMEN FEATURES

Ready to rumble: Krishnan, Captain Naresh Kumar and Paes

IN Jaipur, subtlety is a precious commodity. "A PLACE YOU'LL NEVER FORGET" bellowed the tourist brochures in seduction. And to prove the point we gave the visiting Indonesians a fiendish heat, a dust that settled grittily into clogged throats, a crowd vocally better suited to a village wrestling match, and a surface that reduced their game to junk and elevated ours to precious metal.

'Unity in diversity' is Indonesia's national motto, but we're talking tennis here and look at the mix we got. Ramesh and Leander. The stiletto assassin and the grenade bomber. B.B. King and Eddie Van Halen. The artful technician and the toe-to-toe slugger





INDIA-INDONESIA DAVIS CUP TIE

ADVANTAGE INDIA!

The experience of Ramesh Krishnan and the enthusiasm of Leander Paes have placed India two rounds away from the prestigious World Group.

ROHIT BRIJNATH writes from Jaipur



The Indian team, in varying dress, at the inauguration







Boys in trouble: Bonit Wiryawan (left) and Daniel Heryanto

Hey, said the Indonesians, whatever happened to hospitality?

Gee, said the Indians, you should've known this wouldn't be no camel walk.

The answer, and there was one, was in dance, but how the hell were the Indonesians to know that? Two evenings before the tie began, a typically Rajasthani troupe performed for the tennis junkies in the twilight of a muggy evening.

Bhawai was a dance of fire (literally) and audacity (metaphorically); *Cheri* was a dance of balance and grace. They were respectively symbolic of the equally destructive though wickedly contrasting styles of Leander Paes and Ramesh Krishnan.

Indonesia went down 1-4, unware that the Indian team circa 1991 and the Indian team circa 1989 have as much in common as John McEnroe and Mother Theresa

"Unity in diversity" is Indonesia's national motto, but we're talking tennis here and look at the mix we got: Ramesh & Leander. Pffft. Thud. Hssssss. Whack. The stiletto assassin and the grenade bomber. B.B. King and Eddie Van Halen. The landscape painter and the raw graffiti artist. The artful technician and the toe-to-toe slugger. I tell you, even if the Indonesians had brought along a *dukun* (their medicine man), there was no antidote to our guys.

So Indonesia went down 1-4, unaware that the Indian team circa 1991 and the Indian

team circa 1989 have as much in common as John McEnroe and Mother Theresa. Indian tennis has swiftly moved from unsure and docile to cool and combative, the reasons for this adjectival shift being quite clear: the return of Krishnan, the accelerated growth of Paes.

Renaissance, revival, resurgence. Do these labels fit Indian tennis yet? Perhaps, though Indonesia is scarcely the opposition to decide that. Officials in air-conditioned rooms speak cockily of India and the World Group in the same breath, and while we have found a balance of talent to exit the Zonal rounds, for Boris Becker we are not yet quite ready.

Captain Naresh Kumar, unflappable, untiring, warns 'not to get carried away', pointing out the credibility of Zonal teams like China and the Phillipines and the high quality of World Group first round losers like Mexico. Yet caution does not override his optimism completely

"Most Asian teams have one good player, and if Leander improves further we shall have two. Moreover (should we beat South Korea in May) if we get lucky we could draw a beatable team to qualify for the World Group"



A difference in style, strength and attitude, but not in effectiveness

"TRUST IN GOD" read the misspelt message emblazoned on the taxi driver's dashboard. India had being doing exactly that for two years but it was time to reinforce divine intervention with something more tangible: Ramesh Krishnan. How would the man who still fenced in an era of guns adjust to his changing role: from a silent existence in Vijay Amritraj's shadow, he was now surrounded by a Brat Pack, a generation removed from him, awaiting his leadership. To his credit, the man, who speaks as softly as his racket does, responded well.



Krishnan: neighbourly serve but hostile returns

"Okay, Leander same thing like yesterday, good aggressive shotmaking".

"Hey Vasu, I thought you had a sore shoulder", when Vasudevan, living up to his Tarzan nickname, broke the net with a thunderous serve.

"Hey Leander, not so many drop volleys, put the first one deep".

"No, you guys practice on the main court, I'll manage on the other one".

By the eve of the tie, the team glowed in his presence while captain Naresh Kumar was running out of adjectives: "He's fantastic. So much enthusiasm, so genial. No prima donna stuff. I'm so pleased I don't know what to say".

There was however one jarring note in this otherwise spectacular Indian symphony—payment. At the end of the third day, with Leander's contribution immense, it appeared incongruous that Krishnan was paid Rs 250,000 (allegedly) and the rest only Rs 10,000 each.

"SPECTACULAR improvement" was captain Kumar's assessment of Leander Paes, sensibly qualifying his praise by adding, "his opponents were ranked No. 300 or so and the conditions (grass and severe heat) were foreign to them". Nevertheless, what was evident and heartening was the introduced element of sophistication in Paes' game. Impetousity, to some measure, had been replaced with a professional maturity; flawed technique, to some measure, had been replaced by more assured strokeplay. Merely a week's intensive coaching in the U.S.A. in mid-March under former world No. 4 Gene Mayer was paying immediate dividends.

From the moment he silently mouthed the national anthem at the inauguration it became apparent that Paes' patriotic flare and flair for athletic serve and volley was a fire Daniel Heryanto could not douse.

In Christian legend, Daniel entered the lion's den, but was saved by prayer. Indonesia's Daniel, no legend so far, may have had a prayer in his heart and a ranking 101 places higher than Paes, but on court Leander is not a forgiving man. Heryanto was destroyed, going down 6-4, 6-3, 6-2 raising Paes' Davis Cup singles record to 4-1.

Against Thailand in early February, Paes did not drop a set in singles either, but the difference in performance, here and there, was marked. His first serve percentage jumped from 35% to 55% in Jaipur, but it was the spin and pace control of his second serve (Mayer has delicately altered his action) that impressed most. Complimenting this was his improved technique on the volley—especially the forehand—reason why, on serve, against Heryanto he lost 7 points in five games in the first set, 2 points in five games in the second (four games on love) and 4 points in four games in the third set.

Solid on serve, cutting down on low percentage shots like drop volleys which he relishes (he hit his first in the third set), Paes broke Heryanto comfortably with a series of angled pushes and intelligent net charges. Yet he remains technically deficient on the return. Keen to take the ball early, he compromises by using a push instead of a stroke, which is fine on grass but not so on hardcourts. Still, in the midst of Paes' earthy splendour and sizzling cobra speed this seemed, and was, inconsequential.

His game accelerated in the third set, indeed it roared as he is prone to do. First a race d[illegible] the



Daniel prayed hard but was left for dead

baseline for a backhand flicked cross court kissing the chalk for a sublime winner, and to demonstrate it was no fluke, he repeated the action next point from the forehand side. Up 5-1, his fists were in a perpetual pump and as a wag from the crowd put it, *"Aisa mazaa aura kaha kaha"*.

Quite simply, Leander Paes has never played better—and it is a tribute to his class, that at every successive tournament the razor that is his game, is sharper.

LESS vocal, less athletic, less powerful, but more creative, more composed, more subtle was Ramesh Krishnan in the first singles. To paraphrase what Rex Bellamy said of John McEnroe, Krishnan is an illusionist, who sometimes hits the lines so often that it seems the court is moving to accommodate him. He cares not for topspin but prefers a flat shot hit with a steely wrist, some which hang in the air and move like floating balloons out of reach, and some which will hiss by you and skid softly off the grass. He makes the best of men look stupid, and though his game is frayed at the edges, it made a mockery of everything Bonit Wiryawan offered.

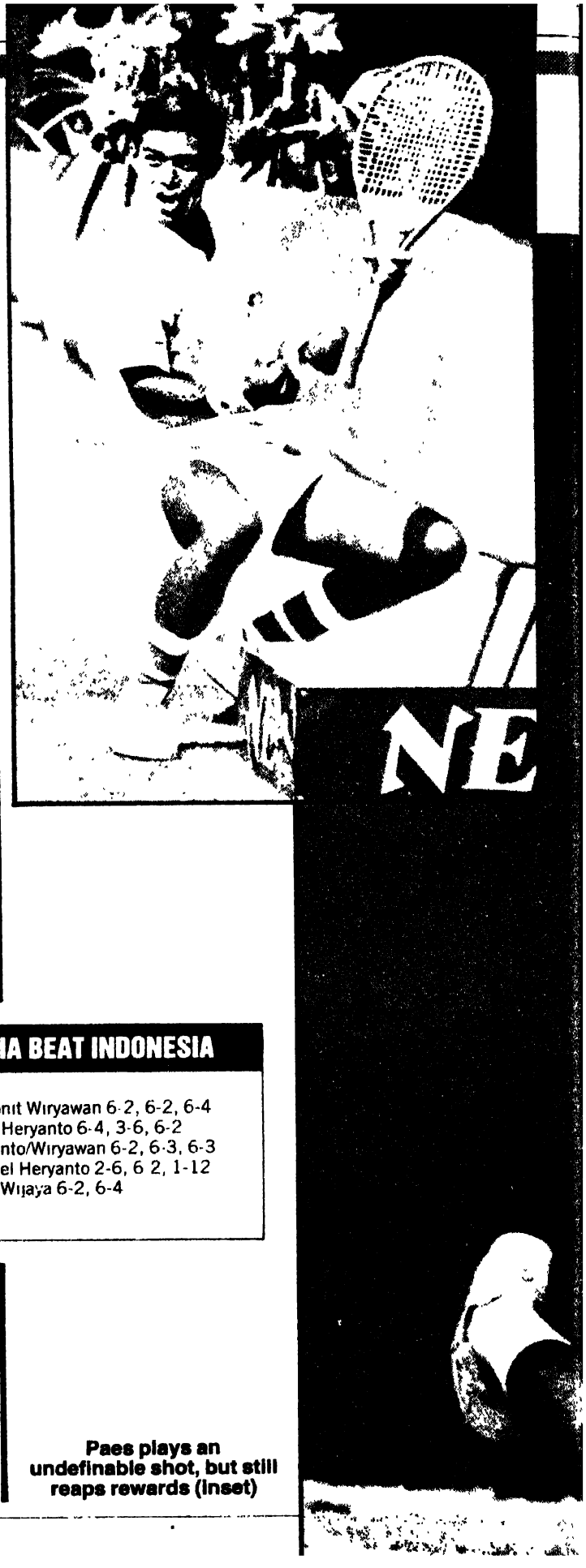
Wiryawan, with a brace on his leg and a passing resemblance to Bugs Bunny, was floored so often, diving vainly at the net for balls that had already passed him, that he resembled a boxer fighting in the wrong weight category. Indeed, Ramesh was a class apart, winning 6-2, 6-2, 6-4

Krishnan brings a welcome professional touch to this team, a balance, a stability. At the Asian level he is unparalleled, and if he is the ice to Paes' fire, then it could not have been better evidenced than in the doubles

SCORECARD: INDIA BEAT INDONESIA

Ramesh Krishnan bt Bonit Wiryawan 6-2, 6-2, 6-4
Leander Paes bt Daniel Heryanto 6-4, 3-6, 6-2
Krishnan/Paes bt Heryanto/Wiryawan 6-2, 6-3, 6-3
Zeeshan Ali lost to Daniel Heryanto 2-6, 6 2, 1-12
Leander Paes bt Benny Wijaya 6-2, 6-4

After some aimless manouvering, Indonesia eventually settled for their regular pair of Heryanto and Wiryawan and were thrashed 6-2, 6-3, 6-3. Foolishly ignored against Yugoslavia in 1988, Krishnan finally made his doubles debut, his easy authoritative returns and sharp competent volleys music to captain Kumar's ears, for doubles is a decisive factor in Davis Cup and the search for a competent partner for Leander



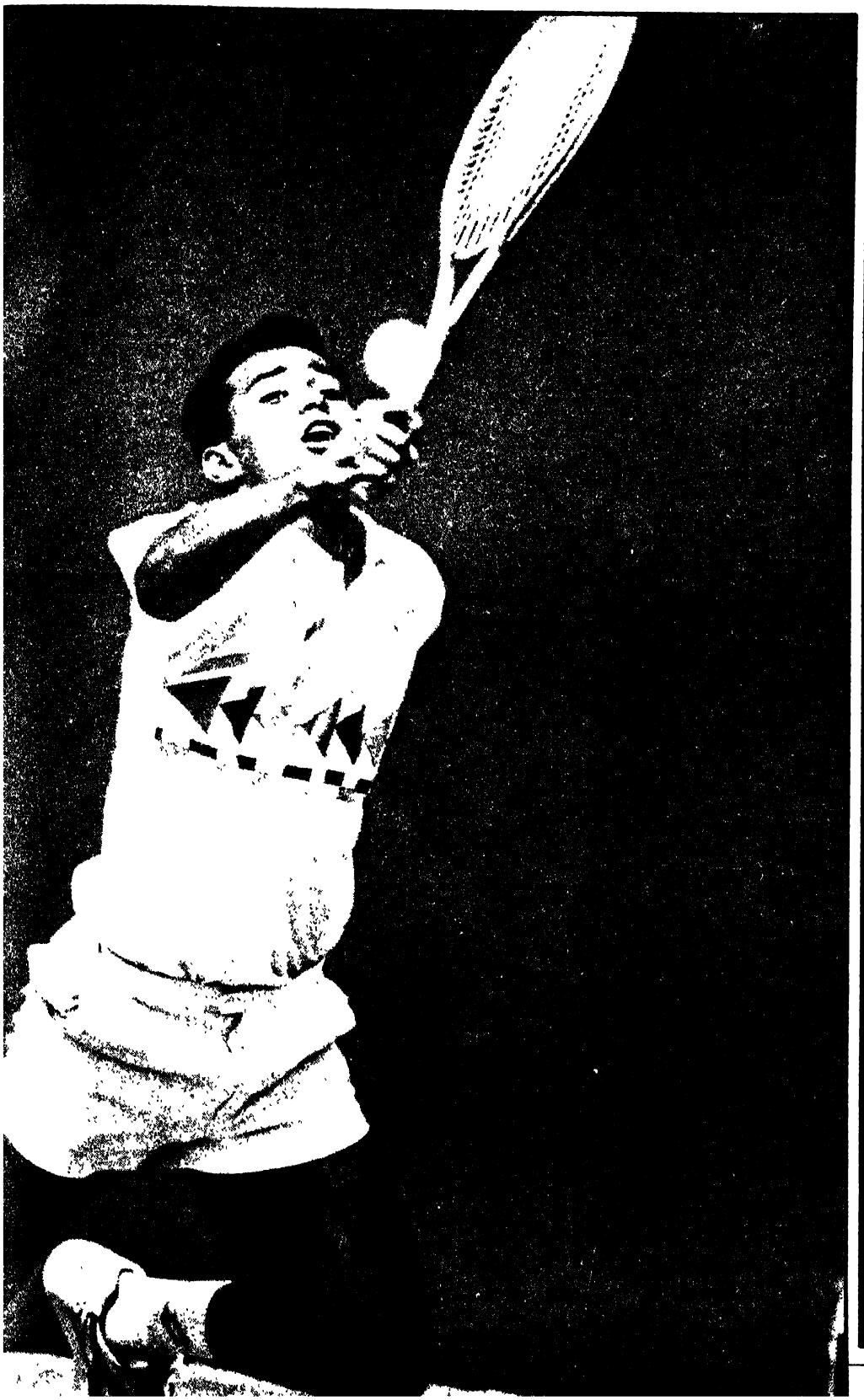
Paes plays an undefinable shot, but still reaps rewards (inset)

had ended.

"He was great", said Paes

"What an athlete" said Ramesh.

Ah, sweet magic.



In doubles it is considered bad manners to focus on individuals, yet as Krishnan was tough, Paes was emphatically brilliant. He lost four points in 7 service games, gave lightning a new meaning at net, volleyed winners off smashes, reflexed like touched by a 100-volt wire and was so intense that even Krishnan admitted, "Even I found myself responding to his aggression". They still share an awkwardness; the barrier of age and personality will eventually defer to mutual respect, and their hesitation in certain situations will be overcome by further experiences together.

It will take a team quite some more gifted than Indonesia to deal with this duo.

SOUTH KOREA comes next in May in Delhi. Again grass and heat will be nice allies, but it will take more to devour this opposition. Ramesh will remain guide and mentor, but at 17, if Paes can add to his present attributes, better shot selection and superior defensive play, the responsibility will gradually pass to him. With these two up there and a supporting cast of S. Vasudevan, Zeeshan Ali, Asif Ismail and Rohit Rajpal, India's Davis Cup team can afford to be ambitious while always realistic.

Team India is on the move.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY KAMAL JULKA

"BAT has accomplished a lot"

Dave O'Meara reviews his coaching stint with the Britannia Amritraj Tennis (BAT) academy

RAMANAN/RELIANCE NEWS



O'Meara: headed home after five years with BAT

SPORTSWORLD: Having completed your five-year contract with BAT, you are now headed back to the USA. But can you recall what exactly were your thoughts about the scheme and your responsibilities when you first arrived in 1986?

O'Meara I am by nature an idealist. I believe that winning is not everything, that you have to be a gentleman also. So I was impressed that the BAT scheme was being run along those lines. I had an open mind when I came here though I was aware of my duty and that was to produce champions. As I leave the BAT programme I can honestly say that there have been many achievements.

Could you list some of the achievements?

Well, I guess some of them are obvious. Leander winning the Junior Wimbledon and finishing runner-up in the Australian Open. Rohit Rajpal and Asif Ismail winning the Asian junior titles. Also, the chief objective of BAT was to produce players for the Davis Cup squad and now we have three players- Leander, Rohit Rajpal and Asif Ismail—who are either in the main squad or in the reserves when I came to India I quickly realised that the two things dearest to the Indians are Wimbledon and Davis Cup. And I am glad we have done something to figure prominently in both.

What about some achievements which, as you are hinting, are not so obvious?

I am particularly pleased by the way the programme has raised the physical fitness and nutrition level of the boys. When I came here in 1986 I found the level of fitness was horrendous and nobody had any knowledge of the right nutrition, without which there cannot be a champion. The boys were eating anything at anytime. In addition the boys were generally lazy, they had no ambition and were ignorant of many aspects of the game. In a way, I think the greatest achievement of the BAT scheme has been that it has changed the attitude of the Indian boys who today are fitter, aware of proper nutrition, and possess better knowledge of the game They now think big.

Can you list any failures of BAT?

As regards the scheme proper, no there are no failures. We have produced results even if, admittedly, they have been a little slow in coming. If we did not achieve anything much in the first years, we achieved a lot in the next three. Which

RAMANAN/RELIANCE NEWS



makes me optimistic of the programme's future. Which makes me feel that, in future, results could be achieved over a quicker period. No, there is nothing wrong with the basic concept of the scheme

If there has been one failure, it is that BAT, set up to be an example to others, has not become a forerunner to other such programmes in India. As yet there are no other programmes in the country though I hear that the Batra Tennis Centre in Pune is being run along similar lines. But that is not enough. From quality comes quantity. And there has to be a lot more depth in Indian tennis I don't know why more such programmes have not been set up.

But even if there are other schemes, there will not be one like BAT. It is a unique scheme involving Indian tennis' foremost family, a foreign corporate giant and PBI, the world leader in producing professional coaches

In your five years of moving around the Indian circuit what has been your assessment of the Indian boys, their plus and minus points?
Some plus points first: They are good learners. They respect parents, teachers and elders. And, in that sense, they are disciplined. The Indian values, the family tradition, is excellent; much better than the values abroad. I would appeal to youngsters that even if they leave India they should not forget Indian values But in a way these excellent qualities act as an impediment to a speedy tennis growth. Because they hold on to their parents for that much longer, because there is that lack of independance, they tend to mature late.

Three of the BAT trainees undergo service drill under the eagle eye of Dave O'Meara

Champions are insatiable people and that's one thing the Indian boys have to learn

The other negative aspect is that Indian boys do not think big They are afraid of hard work, are not overkeen to overcome hurdles. They are happy to be in the comfort zone, happy to be playing around the Indian circuit, happy to win the odd match or two or the odd tournament or two Champions are insatiable people and that's one thing the Indian boys have to learn If they are content with their goals they can never become champions.

To return, however, to the plus points, the eye and hand coordination of the Indian boys is generally very good, and so is their ball sense. They have sound groundstrokes. But we have also faced a problem when it comes to selecting a BAT boy as regards to his physical strength. There have been cases when we have picked a promising boy at 12 and then at 16 or 17 he suddenly stops growing at 5'6" or 5' 7". The tendency is there for tennis champions to be big and strong. A few examples are Becker, Edberg, Lendl, Courier and McEnroe who are either

almost six feet tall or well over that height. If Ramesh Krishnan is still surviving out there despite his disadvantage in height it is because of his enormous talent And we have not seen another player of his talent in India.

What is your advice to officials and tournament organisers in India?
I must confess that the tournaments over here have been a very big disappointment It is as if they just want to get the tournament over with. Schedules are not adhered to. There are no proper staying arrangements, no proper transportation arrangements, no proper arrangements for food, no practice courts, no proper balls. The basic things which are so important are not attended to And they don't observe the 15-minute default rule at all.

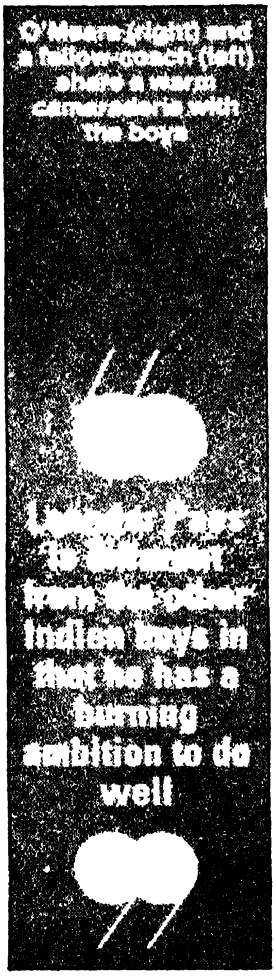
In the USA, if a player is over 15 minutes late, no matter who he or she is, that player is scratched. Here a BAT boy, for example, for his match starting at 3 pm, has trained accordingly, has taken the right amount of food and rest and then is made to wait till 5 pm. Or the match is postponed to the next morning. This is not the way a tournament should be run Although, at this juncture, I must also point out there have been one or two tournaments that have been conducted in exemplary fashion I feel that the AITA should have a seminar which should be attended by all tournament directors and conducted by someone from the USA. This way perhaps they will learn how a competition should be organised properly.

What is your honest assessment of Leander Paes? Do you think he is a fluke or will he last the course?
No, I have no hesitation in saying that he is not a fluke. He is a special boy, he is also an idealist which is perhaps the reason we hit it off very well. He is determined to reach his potential though I cannot predict to what extent he will reach But I am saying that if his potential is that he should be in the top 20, then he will reach it.

He is different from the other Indian boys in that he has a burning ambition to do well. he is not content to rest on his goals and he has all the traditionally good qualities of the Indian boy—eye and hand coordination, all the strokes, good ball sense He is also a strong lad. Provided he stays on the right path, and understands his priorities, there is every reason to believe that he will stay the course and achieve a lot

RAMANAN/RELIANCE NEWS





As you leave India what are your thoughts and what are your future plans?
This was my first visit to India and I can tell you it won't be the last I have developed a close relationship with Indians I have a lot of friends now in India And I am sure these will be lasting relationships I am happy too that BAT has accomplished a lot and I have been able to do my bit to make it possible The Amritraj family and Britannia Industries have been very kind to me and overall it has been a memorable five years particularly since I have been able to prove a lot of critics wrong. I remember when I came to India there were these cynics who asked me, "But why are you going to India? you are going to produce a champion from India? That's impossible". I am glad that we have been able to produce champions.

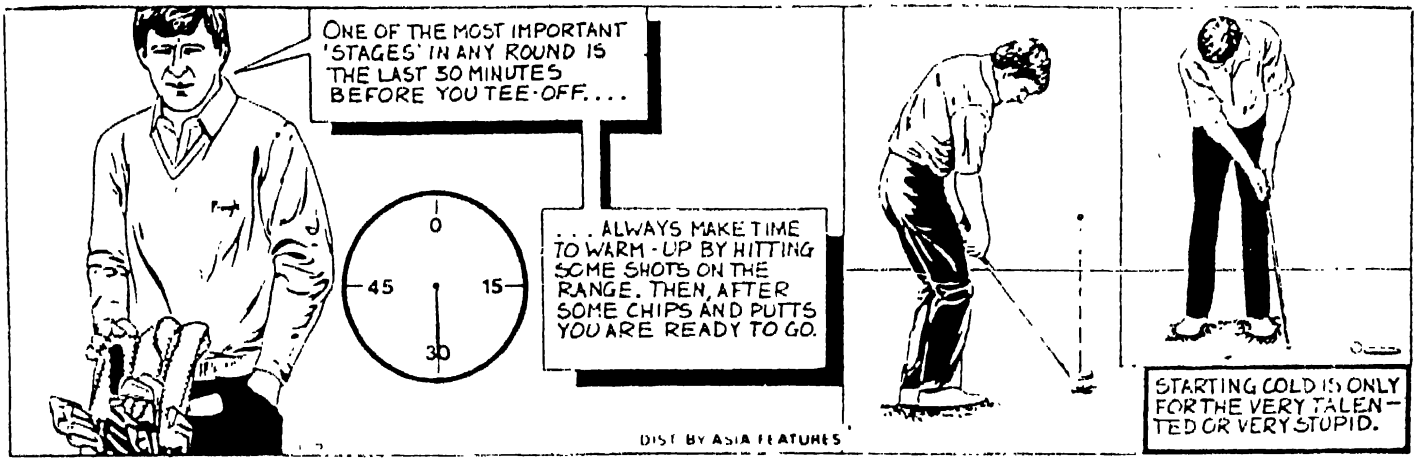
Regarding my future plans, there are a few options. One is to be attached as coach of a country's Davis Cup squad. The other is to be the coach of a young player not in the top 100 and then guide him to the top if possible. Another option is to be connected with the Olympic movement and make tennis popular there. A clear picture should emerge when I reach the USA.

Interviewed by Partab Ramchand, Madras

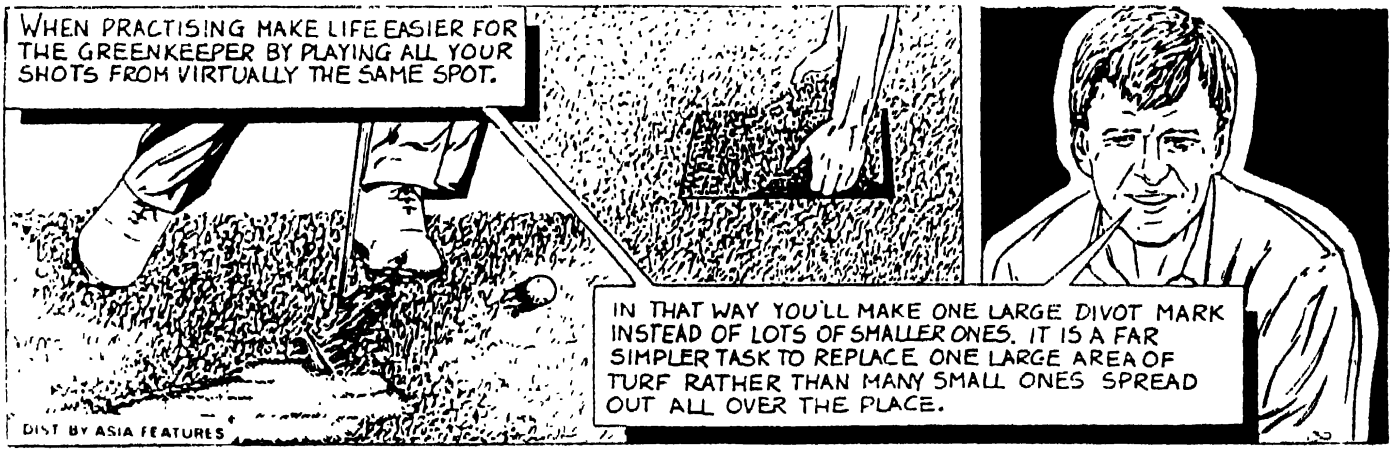
THE FALDO FORMULA

FROM TEE TO GREEN

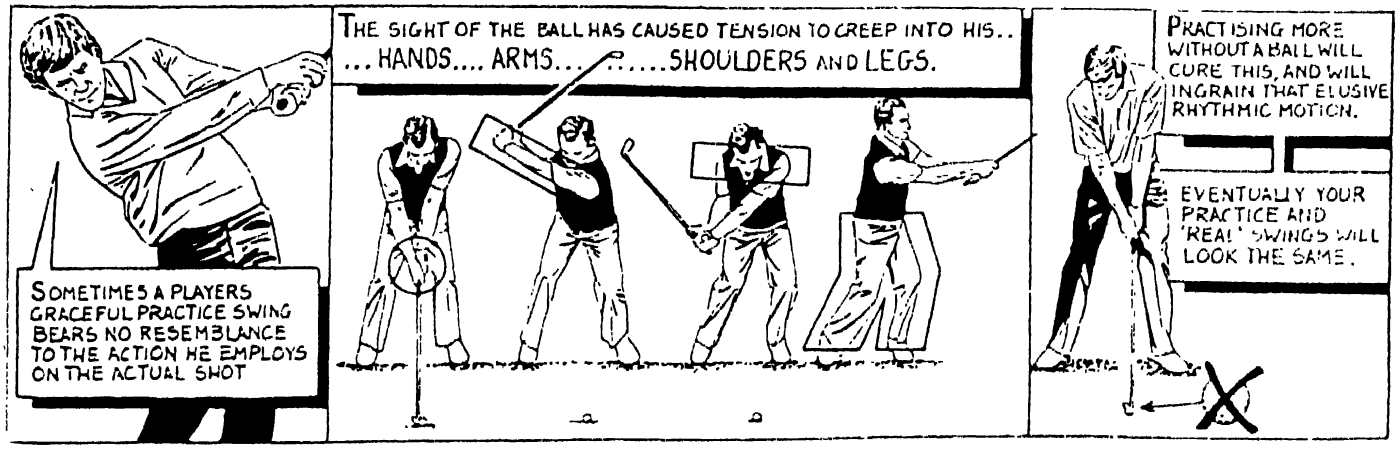
30 Minutes before Tee-Off



Make One Big Divot



Practice without the Ball



Interesting snippets from the world media we generally don't get to hear about...

SPORTING TRIVIA

WOMEN AND MCC

THE Marylebone Cricket Club came into being in the year 1787. For 203 long years the club was an exclusive domain of male chauvinism. The only lady who was allowed into its hallowed portals was none other than, Queen Elizabeth II

Three years ago,the admission of women to the club was one of the topics that came up for discussion in the general body meeting, but only to be turned down by a majority of 70 On May 1 this year, the topic will again be put up to the voters.

There is an existing rule which states that distinguished persons can be elected to honorary membership. The proposal is that admission to women should also come under this heading.

If the ruling is not vetoed this time then Rachel Heyhoe Flint, captain of the English womens' team from '66-'67 and recipient of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for her contribution to the game, will be the second woman to be allowed into the pavilion of the MCC club

Heyhoe Flint's application for membership has been seconded by Tim Rice (lyricist of Evita and Jesus Christ Superstar), Brian Johnson (cricket commentator for BBC), Dennis Amiss (former English batsman) and Sir Jack Hayward (a millionaire businessman) Heyhoe Flint, 51 is of the opinion that there are no rules against membership to women, it's just that no one thought they were allowed to join.

If all goes well then MCC and Heyhoe Flint are both set to create history

THE NEW DIEGO

LOOKS like the legend of Diego Armando Maradona, can now safely be relegated to books of football history. It seems that he now cannot come clean off the various allegations heaped on him-and they range from drug-trafficking to doping.

The next question that comes up in the minds of football enthusiasts is-- who's the next guy to get into his boots?

Well, the news from Argentina is that a replacement has already been found by Argentina's new coach, Alfio (Coco) Basile. This guy also goes by the name of Diego. Diego Fernando Latorre. He was apparently sidelined by Carlos Bilardo, but his heir, Basile, is very impressed by this youngster. Claims that Latorre is as good, if not better than, Maradona on the ground and definitely better in the air

Latorre, a music buff (his farourite singer happens to be Phil Collins), is already creating waves for the Boca Juniors, the club he plays for. In an American Cup match recently against arch rivals River Plate, Latorre scored twice including the winning goal, two minutes before the final whistle

An economic science student, and an ardent follower of the now infamous Maradona, Latorre plans to hit the Italian circuit this summer. His other interests include tennis and watching movies (Tom Cruise and Kim Bassinger are his idols). But his sights are set on the World Cup '94 in the US of A.

JAMMING WILANDER

MATS WILANDER looks like he should just stick to his tennis, not that he is doing too well at that. The latest thing about Mats is that he is the main attraction, the lead guitarist, of a six member rock group called (you guessed right) Wilander.

The 17 stop Swedish tour has not been accepted too well by the Press. Expression, Sweden's largest selling newspaper in a front page story urged him to cancel the tour. The newspaper claimed that, "All people have the right to enjoy a hobby, but there is a limit. Like charging 80 Kroner ($ 15) for a show like this." Even the fans were not too impressed with the guitar totting Wilander. A hard core fan who had seen Mats in a practice session,said "I'd rather see



Mats on the tennis court."

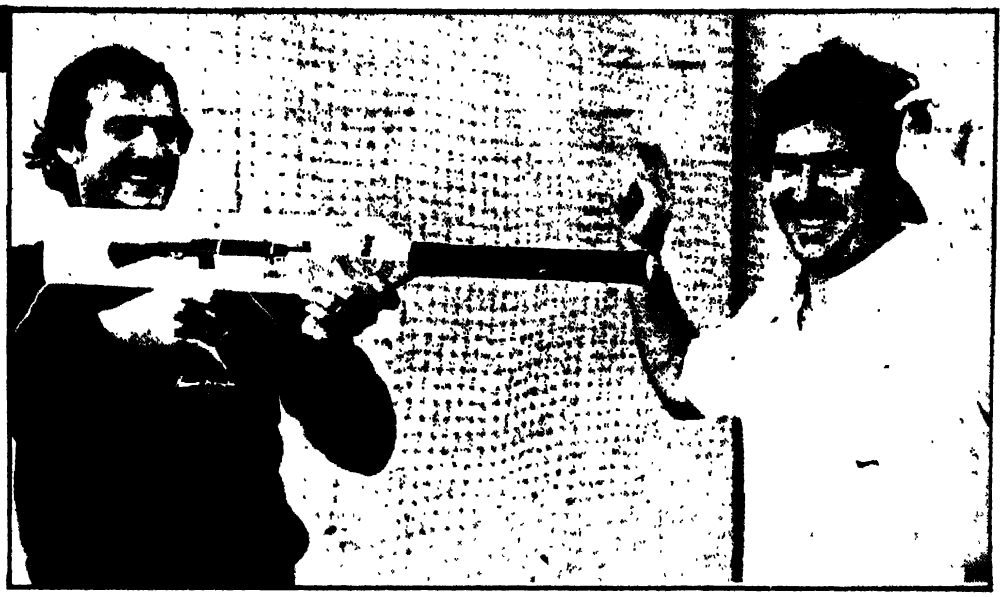
But then Wilander is determined to make the tour happen. Said Wilander, "I'm not actually a musician. I'm doing this because it's so much fun. Bad Press shouldn't stop you from doing something that you enjoy."

Wilander who has jammed with the likes of Keith Richards of Rolling Stones and Sting, has so far learnt nothing of the art of jamming, that's for sure.

TWO FACED BAT

FIRST we had Dennis Lillee with his aluminium bat in the '79-'80 series against England. And now we have an English company, Classic Bat, coming up with what they call a 'revolutionary concept'. The 'concept' they've developed is a two faced bat. The main facet they are marketing is apparently the durability of the bat. The makers of the bat claim that the contraption would last twice as long as the traditional bat, and claim that the bat will soon be a regular feature in cricket.

The self imposed guardians of the rules of the game, the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC), is at a loss about this new problem, because there are no rules in the book that forbid the using of a two faced bat. As the secretary of the MCC, Lt. Colonel John Stephenson put it, "It does not break the laws, but it does attack the spirit of the game itself."



Perhaps this is the *cliche* in the rules that the manufacturer wants to exploit.

But the MCC is sure going to apply the brakes very soon. Stephenson added, "I'm sure we will see players turning up for the first class matches with this bat, this year. It's a shame, but it looks like we are going to have to tighten up the laws to stop this sort of thing from happening."

But the question is, will they succeed? As Sunil Gavaskar voiced his opinion, "The MCC is a private club and it cannot decide on international cricketing matters. It is about time the world was told that, it is the ICC that runs cricket, and not MCC.

IT'S TIME HICK

LAST month (March 31st to be precise) the Zimbabwean—born Graeme Hick apparently finished the qualification time set by the TCCB to qualify for the English national team. The English selectors are very keen to play him this summer against the touring Caribbeans. The question that arises here is whether Hick has actually finished the stipulated time period set by the TCCB, for a non-English player to qualify for the national team.

First we had Lillee with his aluminium bat. Now we have a two faced bat

The rule states that a player, once he commences the period of residence, should not play first class cricket in any other country. In Hick's case he started the qualification period in March '84. Since then he spent two winters in Zimbabwe, where he took part in some first-class games The six matches that he played for Zimbabwe in '84-'85 were also first class matches. The rule states that if a player violates the 'residence' rule then he should apply for a new residence period.

When an uproar was created following this infringement of the rules, the TCCB replied by saying that at the time the matches were played their status was unknown.

Another rule that has been violated by Hick is the one that demands a player to reside for a minimum of 210 days in the British Isles to qualify for playing in the English team. Well, without examining Hick's passport it would be difficult to calculate the exact number of days he was in the confines of the British Isles.

Even by a conservative estimate, Hick seemed to have stayed in the British Isles only for 172 days--that is 38 days less than the required period When this case was put forward to the TCCB they proffered no reasons whatsoever The fact remains that the TCCB is not keen to wait till the year 1993, till Hick actually qualifies for England

The catch in the whole episode is that the introductory remarks in the beginning of the complicated rules state that the regulations are, "subject to the overriding discretion of the TCCB "

Well, what is the use of having rules if they can so arrogantly and willfully be broken or misinterpreted, and that too by the framers of the rules themselves? ●

Superb

PRADEEP PAUL's article on the batsmen who look formidable enough to eclipse Gavaskar's record was analytical and superb. However, I feel Gower and Richards do not really pose any threat to the Little Master's record since they are in the twilight of their careers Miandad is the batsman who's got the age and form, but still has a long way to go Border on the other hand has several advantages First he is the leader of the pack in terms of aggregate. And Australia when compared to other cricketing nations play a lot of Test matches. With a little bit of luck Border might accomplish it in 12 to 15 Tests But then Gavaskar will always remain the first
S. SURESH,
Madurai.

Brilliant

THANKS for the issue that dealt with the surpassing of Sunil Gavaskar's 10,122 runs record In fact we had not given it much importance because that was almost considered an unsurpassable mark for the four batsmen Yes, you are right Though remote, there are chances, of beating the record, by Border, Miandad, Gower and Viv

But Kudos to Ravikant Srivastava for his brilliant statistical job He had covered all the possible angles It was only after going through them, that I realised how tough it is to beat Sunny But was I happy!

Excellent photographs (photo feature) 'Life ain't no spectator sport', but the name of the man who captured them in frames, should also have been mentioned
ARTA MISHRA,
Cuttack



All the best

THANK you for the exciting cover story on the 'He-man of Indian Cricket' Kapil Dev Nikhanj (27 March 2 April, '91)

Kapil Dev is really a winner both on and off the field His image of cricketer, businessman and human being will help the development of sports in India

Kapil will surely continue to enthral cricket fans throughout the world for some time to come and here's wishing him all the best
INDRANIL DUTTA,
Rourkela

A Suggestion

QUOTIENT by Raju Mukherjee (13-19 March, '91) is surely an improvised formula to decide the winner of an incomplete tie. But he has not taken into consideration the slowing down tactics that could be engaged by either side when they are in a disadvantageous position.

To eliminate this, I have another suggestion. The quotient should be taken, taking into account four parameters, two each for batting and bowling. For batting, (A) runs scored per ball (B) runs scored per minute and for bowling, (C) wickets taken per run (D) balls bowled per minute The team scoring the most points adding the four quotients should be the winner This totally avoids the infinite factor, but gives minimum weightage to the wickets taken.
JAGADISH C. PATRA,
Matkambeda.

Thanks

THANKS to William Rhodes for the story on Maradona's issue dated (20-26 March, '91) and the cover story on West Indies stars Viv Richards and Logie The poster of Paul Gascoigne was good. *Sportsworld* should always bring new stars on screen.
VIKRAM DUTTA,
Delhi

Fantastic

IN the 27 March-2 April issue of *Sportsworld*, the cover story of Kapil Dev by Robin Chatterjee was superb. It gives us immense delight to read about the success of Kapil in the field of business.

Chris Evert Lloyd's article in Guest column was a superbly written anecdote, she is not only an all time great; but maybe the greatest woman tennis player the world has ever seen.
S. HUSSAIN.
Dibrugarh.

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. "Playing the first tie-breaker hole....." Guess the game?
2. What is the full name of Alekhine, the chess legend?
3. What is "Giuoco Piano"?
4. What is 'Crosschecking' in ice hockey?
5. What is common to the Olympic Games (Summer) of 1968, 1972, 1976 and 1980?
6. What is common to the Olympic gold medallist women sprinters 'Fanny' Blankers-Koen, Wilma Rudolph and Renate Stecher?
7. Who is the 'odd man out' of the famous chess prodigies Botvinnik, Tal and Karpov?
8. Who is the person who told Billie Jean King, "You'll be good because you're ugly"?
9. Cyclist Daniel Morelon won Olympic gold, silver and bronze medals in the 1,000m sprint event in the Sixties and the Seventies " To which country does he belong?
10. With what sport is the expression "flying mare" associated?



ANSWERS

1. Golf
2. Alexander Alekhine
3. An opening in chess
4. A check delivered with both hands on the stick and no part of the stick on the ice.
5. All the venues start with the letter 'M'.
6. All of them made the 100m/200m double.
7. Karpov, whose first name is Anatoly (while that of the other two is Mikhail).
8. Frank Brennan.
9. France.
10. Wrestling.

CHESS

Tony Miles is a specialist at unusual opening variations. He works out systems which are good for half a dozen games and then stops playing them when they become trendy. This sort of ingenuity "staying ahead of the Joneses" as it were has fetched him a lot of scalps.

White: Miles Vs Black: Kosten, World Cup Qualifier '89

1 g3 c5 2 Bg2 Nc6 c4 g6 4 Nc3 Bg7 5 Nf3 e6 6 d4!? cd4 A lot of thought has gone into an apparently random move order and now white makes a positional pawn sacrifice. Accepting it by 6 ... Nxd4 cd4 7 Nxd4 8 Nb5 qb6 9 a4 a6 also gives good play as in Chernin - Wolff New York '89.

7 Nb5 d5. Black could try 7 ... qb6 when white plays 8 c3 looking for quick development rather than 8 Nd6 Ke7 and black is Ok.

8 cd5 Qa5 9 Qd2 Qb5 10 dc6 Qxc6 11 0-0 qb6. White already has a large lead in development and 11 ... Ne7 was essential.

12 b3 Ne7 13 Ba3 Nd5. The variation 13 ... d3 14 Rac1 de2 15 Qxe2 does not solve any of black's problems.

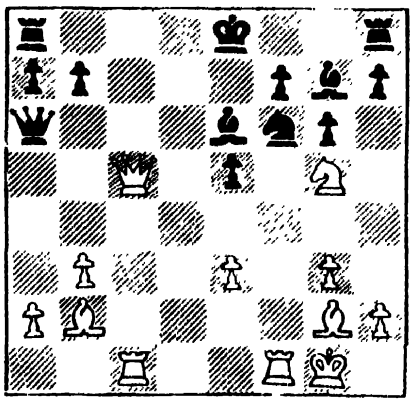
14 Rac1 Nc3! 15 e3: de3 16 fe3 Qa6 17 Bb2 Ne4 18 Qc2 Nf6 19 Ng5 e5 20 Qc5 20 Qc5 Be6 (See Diagram) **21 Rxf6!** A logical way to convert white's pressure into a direct attack.

21---Bxf6 22 Bf1 Rc8. If Black plays 22 ... Qb6 23 Bb5 Bd7 Bxd7 Kxd7 24 Qd5 wins.

...3423 Bb5 Rc6 24 Bc7 25 Qxe5 f6 26 Rxc6 fe5 27 Rxa6 Kf7 28 Rxa7 Bd5 29 Bc4 (1-0)

Typical of 'Big Tony' at his best.

Devangshu Dutta



BRIDGE

The Far East Bridge Federation has always invited the two countries from down under to its championships. At the last one in Singapore, the members of the FEBF played perfect hosts, allowing New Zealand to win the Open Teams for the first time and conceding the Women's and Youth titles to Australia. This was the very first deal of the Championship.-

NORTH(dummy)
♠ Q 10 3
A K J 9
6 3
♣ J 10 7 4

WEST
♠ J 5 2
4
K 7 4
♣ A Q 9 8 2

EAST
♠ 8 6
10 3 2
10 9 8 5 2
♣ 6 5 3

SOUTH
♠ A K 9 7 4
Q 8 6 5
A Q J
♣ K

Playing in six hearts, both Souths for New Zealand (Open & Women's) received a trump lead. Most players would try a diamond finesse at some stage and go down but internationals always look for something better than the even money chance offered by a simple finesse. Both declarers, placing West with some side values for the trump lead, pursued a more elegant line. They drew trumps in three rounds, then ran the spade suit to reach -

NORTH(dummy)
♠
K
♣ J 10 7 4

WEST
♠
K J
♣ A Q 9

EAST
♠
10 9 8
♣ 6 5

SOUTH
♠
8
A Q J
♣ K

At this stage it would have been a good play to take a ruffing finesse in diamonds, going with the earlier assumption. However, the two Souths did even better. Since West was likely to hold the club ace or neither club honour, or else he might have led a club from the queen, both declarers now exited with the club king, and West was *kaput*!

Santanu Ghose



Shimla lad Bhagat Singh Thakur: winner of the light welterweight bout

The Rise Of The Light Brigade

HELD at the historic Ridge in Shimla the Ambuja Cement 37th Senior National Boxing Championships was won by the Services. But their 34th record title came after some heavy blows from a few non-entity boxers. In fact, this Nationals saw the rapid rise of the young and talented brigade.

As expected, Services kept their title intact with 62 points, while the Railways, again as expected, played second fiddle with 25 points. But what seemed imminent is that the Services' days of



Satish Kumar of the CISF in agony after being hit under the belt by M. Killekar in the middleweight final

glory are numbered. None of their boxers impressed or aroused new hopes in spite of the fact that they won six out of the 12 gold medals that were up for grabs.

Seventeen-year-old Delhiite Jaidev Bisht of Central Industrial Security Force was the brightest star on view. His stint in boxing barely dating back for about five years, he demolished his bantamweight opponents with ease. Even the clinical punching of Services' Narinder Singh in the final didn't stop him and went on to clinch the title with a 3-2 verdict. Not surprisingly, he was



also adjudged 'best boxer' of the meet.

Rain played spoilsport at these championships. Held under the sky, rain forced the organisers to shift to an indoor venue 3 km away. The inconvenience nearly forcing the sponsors to withdraw, causing a postponement of the event. But the unpredictable climate (especially in the hilly regions) came to the rescue when bright sunshine allowed the boxers back into the outdoor ring.

If the sun played hide and seek, the Indian international brigade also failed to shine in all their glory. Only six of the eight ventured to Shimla—Manoj Pingale, B. Dhanasanjayan, Dharmendra Yadav, Gopal Dewang, Mukund Killekar and Raj Kumar Sangwan. Conspicuously absent were India's lone Bombay World Cup medallist Zoram Thanga —whose absence robbed some of the charm at the initial stages—and Haryana's Sarvjeet Singh, another international super heavyweight supremo.

As for those internationals who were present, only Gopal Dewang and Mukund Killekar managed to win their titles, against two civilian boxers. Sanjay Kumar of Haryana fought his heart out against Gopal Dewang in the first round light middleweight bout. Dewang won but not before catching some heavy punches from Kumar.

Even though Kumar confessed on the following day that his whole body was aching after the close contest, the son of former international Hawa Singh, had won the hearts of all the boxing fans assembled here.



A bout in progress

Manoj Pingale of Maharashtra lost to Narinder Singh of the Services in the bantamweight pre-quarter final. Overconfidence and perhaps complacency forced Pingale to make errors, something he paid for dearly. Another international fell from grace when Railways' S. Dhanasanjayan lost to a Hissar under-graduate Rajeshwar Singh. Fighting for a semi-final berth he was felled by a left—right combination from Singh in the second round.

To make matters worse, Dharmendra Singh Yadav, semifinalist at the last World Cup, was disqualified because of excess weight. And this surprised all and sundry since he had put on two excess kilos in one night!

In the super heavyweight category Raj Kumar Sangwan of Steel Plants lost 4-1 to Kishan Singh of the Services in the finals. An overall performance from our international boxers that was appalling—really unexpected

Railways too disappointed. Their boxers seemed to have stagnated. Or is it that they get paranoid when they face Services? In fact, debutants CISF came fourth with 17 points behind Andhra Pradesh (19 points). CISF, whose challenge centred around Jaidev Bisht, Shyam Sunder Sharma and Dharmender Singh Yadav, could be a big threat to the Services in the future. Watch out for the light brigade!

Harun Riaz, Shimla

PHOTOGRAPHS PHOTO TIMES

R. Sangwan of Steel Plant is distressed after losing to Kishan Singh of Services in the super heavyweight final



GUWAHATI

Senior Division Cricket

THE N F Railway team were the winners of the Nuruddin Ahmed Trophy for the Inter-District cricket championships. In the final, they defeated Jorhat by nine wickets.

Jorhat won the toss and decided to bat. But they managed only a paltry 147 runs In reply, useful contributions from Utpal Das (79) and Bijay Tiwari (65) allowed N.F. Railway to reach 256, a first innings lead of 109 runs.

In the second innings, the Jorhat team again could not score highly, managing to reach only 153. N.F. Railway had no trouble in knocking off the 45 runs needed for the loss of one wicket.

Earlier, in the semi finals, Jorhat defeated Silchar while Railways defeated Nagaon.

Pabitra Kr. Deka

The N.F. Railway team were the winners of the Inter-District cricket championships

RANCHI

Inter-District Cricket

THE Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDI) won the Ranchi district Cricket Association senior division league championships. In the final, they defeated Mecon by virtue of a first innings lead of 129 runs.

Batting first, the CMPDI batsmen reached 307 for nine in 60 overs. Adil Husain scored 123 runs with 12 boundaries and a six. He was ably supported by Subroto Banerjee (44) and Sanjay Sharma (34) For Mecon, Anwar Mustafa took two wickets for 43 runs.

In reply, Mecon floundered and managed to score only 178 for nine wickets in 60 overs

In the second innings, which was reduced to 16 overs a side for want of time, CMPDI managed to score only 81 for the loss of eight wickets This left Mecon a victory target of 210 in 16 overs, at a run rate of 13 per over. But rain ensured that the match could not be resumed and hence, the tie was decided on what happened in the first innings Thus, CMPDI won the match



ARUN KUMAR THAKUR

Adil Husain of CMPDI was the man of the match in the senior division cricket final

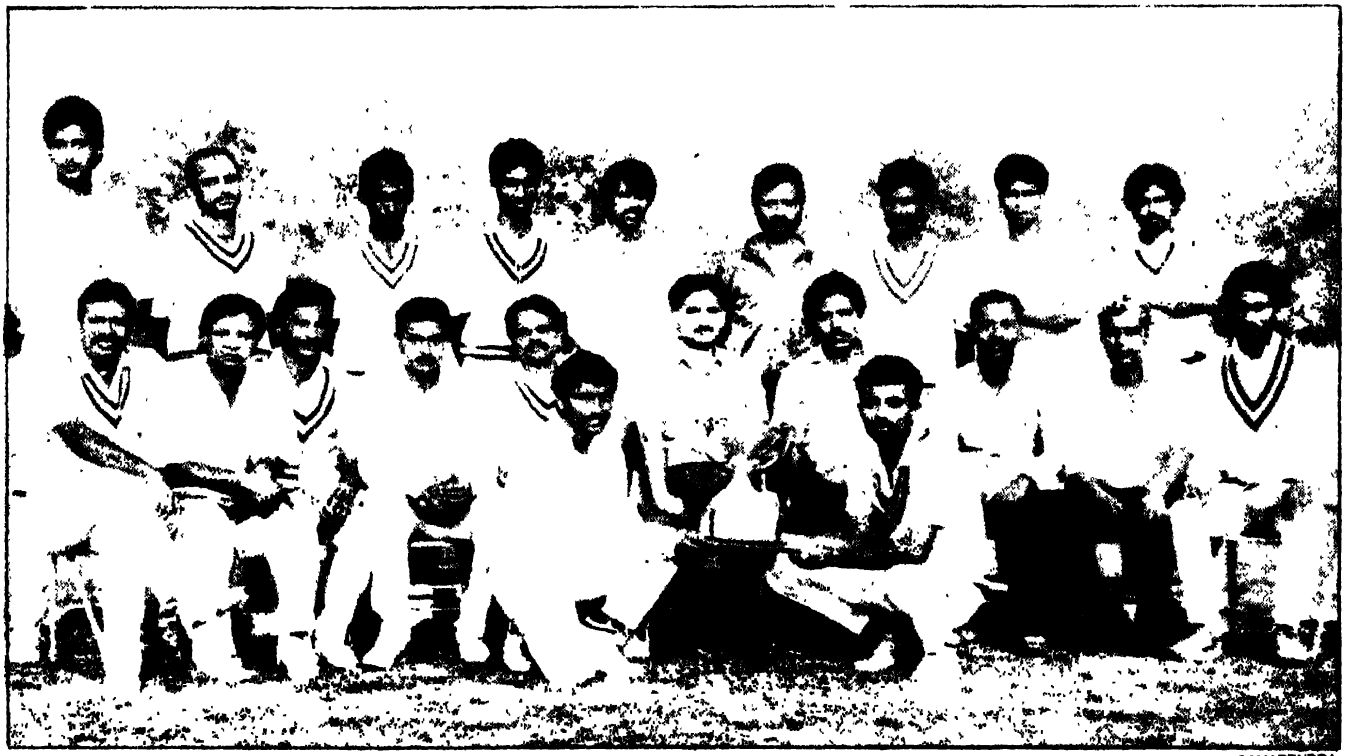
Adil Hussain of CMPDI won the Man of the Match award

Arun Kumar Thakur

MEERUT

Modi Open Golf

CALCUTTA based Ali Sher, became the pro-champion in the Modi Open All-India Golf



SAMARENDRA

Championships Local boy Digvijay Singh was the winner in the Amateur Group.

Runners-up Rohtas Singh of Delhi failed to impress although he returned the best score of 68 on the last day. In the end, he came sixth.

The tournament offered a prize money of Rs 90,000. Maj. Gen. N.S. Malik gave away the prizes on the final day

V. Srivastava

KANPUR

Seven-A-Side Cricket

SONET CLUB beat Sports Hostel to win the Rajendra Saidas Mehta Memorial Seven a-side State Level Cricket tournament held at Kanpur

In the final, Sports Hostel batted first and scored 51 runs for the loss of two wickets in six overs. In reply, Sonet Club reached the target with the loss of three wickets

Kailash Agrawal

RANCHI

Amarpreet Trophy Cricket

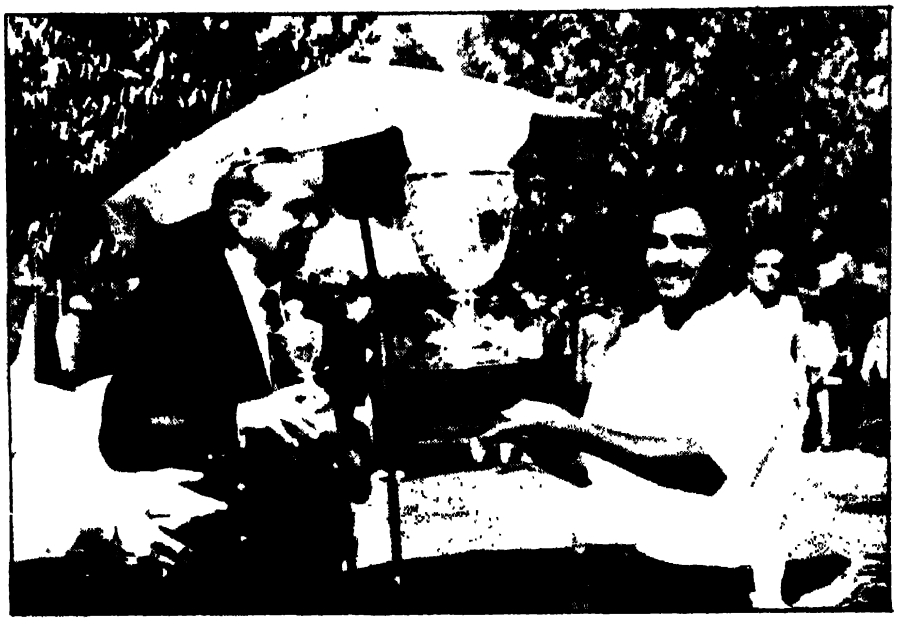
B. D. SINGH Sports Cricket Club won the Amarpreet Trophy 'B' division cricket tournament when they defeated Indira Memorial Cricket Club by 64 runs here recently.

In the final played at the Ranchi College ground, B.D. Sports School scored 180 runs for eight wickets off 40 overs. In reply, Indira Memorial managed only 116 runs in 29.1 overs.

Earlier, in the semi finals, B. D. Sports School defeated Orphius Club by a margin of 79 runs while Indira Memorial Club beat Manthan Cricket Club by six wickets.

B.D. Sports School were the winners of the Amarpreet Trophy cricket tournament

DEEPAK LAL NATH SHAHDEO



Ali Sher (right) was the winner of the Modi Open Golf tournament

Livens Badminton

SAFAQ NAWAB claimed the men's singles title when he defeated Memhas Ekka 15-8, 15-10 in the Father Livens Memorial Badminton tournament held here recently

In the women's singles final Reena Ekka beat her college mate Poonam Ekka, 13-11, 11-4 to clinch the title. The men's doubles title went to Nemhas Ekka and Prabal Roy. In the toughly contested final Nemhas and Prabal beat former Ranchi University badminton champions Sanjay Kathpalia and Sabbir Hussain, 15-13, 2-15, 15-9.

Altogether 50 players participated in this tournament organised by the Ranchi District Badminton Association and the St. Joseph's Club Mr Balbir Dutta, president, Institute of Journalists, Ranchi gave away the prizes.

Anil Kumar Singh



$PORTING $ALARIES

Their money's worth

WHO's worth it? Who's not? That was the gist of a book recently released in America. The book strictly dealt with sport, and was entitled *1991 $ports $alaries* (yes, the dollar is for 'S' as in the book). The magazine has compiled careful data for the sports crazy American public. The statistical update extends to how many runs/goals/points a sporting hero is supplying per dollar earned. Or, how many dollars per goal/run/point.

Jose Canseco of the Oakland A's, we read, currently earns $ 54,324 per home run, judging by his last season's performance. Mike Tyson on the same assessment earns $ 1,514,667 per round of boxing. That's quite a fistful of dollars. American footballer Joe Montana of the 49ers, manages around $ 12,461 per completed pass and Wayne Gretzky, the icehockey idol increases his frozen assets by $ 43,000 each time he scores a goal.

After you've finished wiping the dollar signs from your face, read on...



UP FOR ADOPTION

A matter of choice

AND we thought that the sports coffers of our country were empty. There's hope for Indian sport yet. This involves the British Handball Association, and to say that they're out of funds would be an understatement.

The BHA has put its players up for adoption because they want to send teams, both boys and girls to the Commonwealth Youth championships which takes place--ironically--in New Delhi, in August. The players, all aged under 18, are a bit short on funds Keeping this in mind, individual sponsors for them are the best bet.

The sponsors will adopt a player by paying his/her air fare, which costs £ 460. "Although," said a spokesman, "If there is someone out there who could sponsor a whole team we would not say no."

BRITAIN'S BEST BOXER

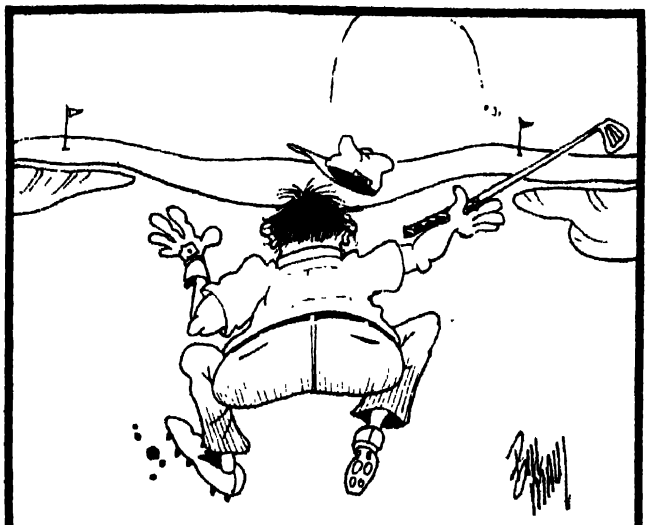
Can't face the music

BRITAIN's best---media created—boxer this century, Frank Bruno is not so hot at, playing the Tuba, a musical instrument. Bruno, who got the OBE for lasting four bloody rounds with Tyson tried his hand at the instrument and didn't achieve such good results.

And if there's one guy who can't stand someone playing a musical instrument badly, it's superstar Phil Collins. He's not very impressed by Bruno's ministrations with the Tuba. The Tuba actually belongs to 14-year-old Mathew Fell from Merseyside who was awarded £ 700 towards its cost by the Prince's Trust which celebrates its 15th anniversary.

But we feel here that if there's anyone who needs money from a Trust, it's Bruno. He don't make such good music, anymore. In the ring or out of it.

SPORTS HALL OF SHAME — BY NASH & ZULLO



LEE TREVINO MADE HIS BIGGEST BLUNDER AT THE 1970 BRITISH OPEN. ON THE 5th HOLE, AN UNUSUAL DOUBLE GREEN THAT HAD TWO CUPS FOR TWO SEPARATE HOLES, LEE SENT HIS BALL STRAIGHT FOR THE FLAG - THE WRONG FLAG! AN EMBARRASSED TREVINO THEN THREE-PUTTED FROM 80 FEET FOR A BOGEY.



IN A 1978 BOUT WITH RANDY SHIELDS, **SUGAR RAY LEONARD** LAUNCHED A WICKED HOOK THAT MISSED SHIELDS BUT HIT REF TOM KELLY, SPLITTING HIS EYE AND TURNING HIS LEGS TO JELLY.

KELLY WAS REPLACED AS RAY WON BY A DECISION OVER SHIELDS AND BY AN UNOFFICIAL TKO OVER KELLY!

MILESTONES

CONFERRED: The Padma Bhusan on Prof Deodhar Lala Amarnath and Kapil Dev.

APPOINTED: Mihir Bose as the coach of the IFA sub-junior team

APPOINTED: Soviet Grandmaster, Mikhail Guryvich as the second to Viswanathan Anand, for his match against Karpov in August.

WON: By Steffi Graf, her first title of the year, the US Women's Hardcourt Tennis, defeating Monica Seles, 6-4, 6-3.



BANNED: AC Milan for a year, by the UEFA, following the violent incident against Marseille.

RETAINED: The world men's cross country title, by Khalid Skah of Morocco, in Antwerp

WON: By Ayrton Senna, the Brazilian Grand Prix, defeating Patrese by 3 seconds.



INDICTED: Diego Maradona of doping. Traces of cocaine were found in his urine after a Napoli-Bari match.

BEIGHTON CUP HOCKEY

LIFE IN THE DULL LANE



Declining spectator interest, poor quality of hockey and lack of commercial sponsorship characterised this year's and every year's tournament

THE Beighton Cup is the oldest hockey tournament in the world. But year after year, the tournament has been going into a steady and irreversible decline. A poor quality of hockey; a declining spectator attendance and a lack of sponsorship

Hockey in Bengal is in such a pathetic state, so what can you expect of a tournament held in the State? It was the lack of spectators that was the most telling indication of the lack of interest in the game. Just 300 or so half interested onlookers with the wooden benches right around lying empty and desolate.

The final between Army Services Corps (ASC) of Jalandhar and Electrical Mechanical Engineers (EME) did not rise



SANTOSH GHOSH

Action from the final between ASC and EME. ASC won the match 1-0



The jubilant ASC team with the Belghton trophy are awash with the cheapest substitute to champagne: a shower from soft drink bottles

SANTOSH GHOSH

to any great heights. There were very few concentrated moves. Shots from the flanks went abegging. There was no moves that smacked of well planned strategy. Players moving off on their own steam and then hoping to give a pass to a fellow player.

ASC, unlike in previous encounters between the two, was the superior side. They settled into an attacking game from the very beginning and they made a series of attacks on the EME goal although once again, that Indian trait, poor finishing skills, was much in abundance.

Despite ASC's domination, in first half, there was a sudden counter-attack by EME in the 23rd minute which almost resulted in a goal. This was when EME's John Kindo's deflection off a Ramesh Shinde free hit just missed the goal by a few inches, with the ASC goalkeeper out of position

Finally, ASC struck blood eight minutes into the second half It was a sort of freak goal. First ASC's Christopher Lakra took a stinging shot at the goal, which the EME goalkeeper Lakhbir Singh just managed to deflect away, but unfortunately not out of harm's way A lurking Bhusan pounced upon the loose ball and banged it home. One nil

But that turned out to be the only goal of the match even though in the second half, EME's game had fallen into total disarray. They had no proper defence most of the time and players seemed rooted in their positions. Time and time again, it was only their goalkeeper Lakhbir Singh who saved EME from further humiliation

Lakhbir Singh played a marvellous match. Time and time again, he intercepted stinging shots, cross passes and had an uncanny sense of positional play Perhaps in the whole match, his was the most enlightening play One hopes that Lakhbir Singh continues with his good performances in the future.

And so the match drifted to a close and once again, this lacklustre tournament failed to spark any excitement But every year, we hear the same talk; about how they are planning to bring back this tournament to its former glory But as Zafar Iqbal, who was present in Calcutta to play an exhibition tie said, 'Hockey will have to be reborn here. Perhaps only then will we match the superb run of the Fifties and the Sixties. And what can a coach do, if the talent is simply not there?'

No talent means no good level of hockey means declining spectator interest means no sponsorship or money But we are told that things will change in the future.

Stay tuned: maybe there will be a difference next year. Of course, that depends on whether you believe in miracles or not.

A Correspondent

Hockey in Bengal is in such a pathetic state, so what can you expect of a tournament held in the State? It was the lack of spectators that was the most telling indication of the lack of interest in the game. Just 300 or so half-interested onlookers with the wooden benches right around lying empty and desolate

PROT
PO

THE HEALTH COLUMN

PROTEIN POWER

PROTEIN, protein, protein-the stuff that your muscles are made of. The stuff that you need to put into your body when you are exercising. You must have heard your coach/instructor emphasising this lots of times. Question is how much of protein do you really need?This might perhaps be the aspect that has foxed you, because you will seldom find an authoritative answer on the subject.

Well, to be frank the usage of proteins, is one of the most debated topics in the field of sports medicine Studies are sometimes contradictory, and often confusing. Here we are going to give the basics of the nutrient - how it works, what it does and more important what a shortage could lead to.

Let's first observe the real function of proteins in the body. Exercise, it appears, helps your body retain nitrogen, the active ingredient of protein. It happens this way — when you exercise you create a negative nitrogen balance, that eventually erodes the muscles. But, actually after following an exercise regimen for about 12 days the body automatically adapts to exercise and the negative nitrogen balance disappears.

This adaptation, however, is not enough if you are a serious fitness enthusiast, i e you are pumping weights a lot or if you are into strenuous aerobic exercise. Hence the stress on increased protein and calorie intake – to maintain a positive nitrogen balance. However, the need for protein varies from individual to individual The ability to absorb and use protein depends on the regimen followed by each individual, but the general rule is that, the higher the intensity of the exercise programme, the greater is the protein requirement of the body.

Strength training, that is pumping iron, increases the muscle amino uptake. This enhances muscle protein synthesis. Simply put, the muscles get larger and stronger.

For those who are on a diet, trying to shed off some extra kilos, it is important to note that as the calorie intake goes down, there's a negative nitrogen balance and this leads to a loss of lean tissue. Hence, protein intake should be increased when one is on diet. It is particularly important when you are limiting your carbohydrate intake. When on a low-carb diet -- glycogen (the storage form of carbohydrates) is rapidly depleted from the muscle and liver

Now that you know the utilities of protein, you must be wondering if protein is the nutrient that you must concentrate on, and whether taking protein in large amounts is of any use Well, protein is like any other nutrient, taking it in excess can pose a health hazard. Especially if you have a history of liver/kidney trouble. If these parts of your body are not in top gear, then too much of protein can turn out to be toxic, because the liver/kidney cannot excrete the waste products. As it is, too much of protein waste puts undue stress on the functioning tissues of the liver and kidney

Coming to the question of how much of protein is ideal As already discussed, the quantity you need depends on your lifestyle and your workout patterns. If you are one of those who are thinking of an Arnold type body then you should put in 25% of proteins in your diet. But this is only if you are into a double split exercise routine, day after day. But if you happen to be one of those ordinary mortals who is just interested in good health, then 15% of protein in the diet is a safe bet. ●



Question Time II

HERE are the rest of the queries sent in by you .told you there were more! The first one we'll deal with this week is from Debajit Goswami in Guwahati And he's wanting a few clarifications on some exercises Things like Chins, Rowing, Shoulder Press

Debajit, bet you don't know that Chins is just another name for Pull-ups Now that you do, it must be something you've been doing all along! As for Rowing, you've quite rightly broken it up into the T-bar, Seated Cable and Bent-over varieties They are all exercises where your arms, shoulders and upper body perform the basic movements of rowing a boat You either do it standing upright, bent over from the waist or seated But the all-important aspect is that you work the muscles in a smooth pull-push motion with relatively heavy weights And the Shoulder Press is probably the most basic barbell exercise there is Just hold the barbell up at shoulder level and push it up till your arms are fully straight Then lower back to the starting position

That's all the space we can devote to your queries this week, Debajit. Stay tuned in and we'll tackle your other questions some time soon

Letter No 2 this week is from Angshuman Chakraborty of Siliguri and he's wondering how often he should work out So far, he's been flexing those muscles four days a week Mondays Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and resting on the other three.

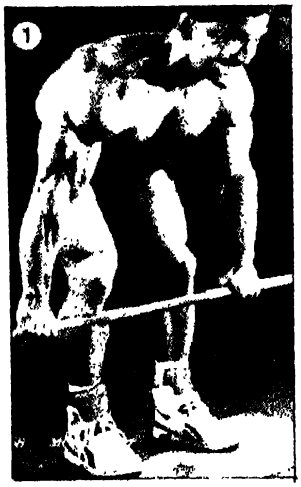
We've said it before, Angshuman, muscles have got to get sufficient rest if you want them to grow If it's heavy-duty weight training that you're into, then a one-day-on, one-day-off routine is best. So what you could do is work the abdominals and legs on Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays while devoting Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays to the arms, shoulders and torso That way you'll be doing a workout every day, as well as be giving the muscles a chance to recuperate

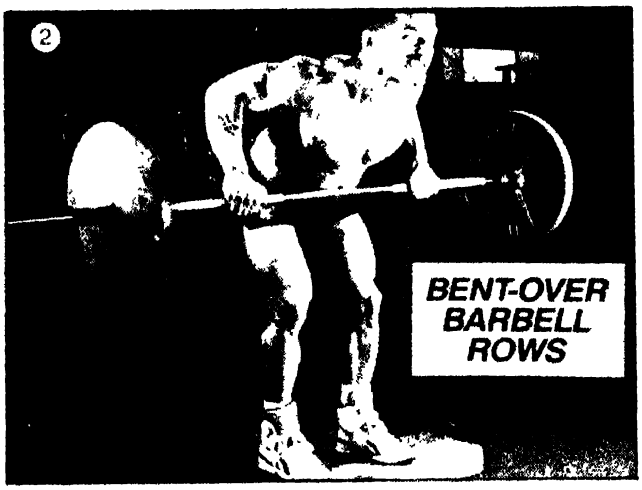
As for your doubts about doing freehand exercises before graduating to weight training, it is recommended to let the muscles attain a certain degree of strength and flexibility before subjecting them to tougher pressures. However, if you feel you are strong enough to handle the barbell, then feel free to dump the freehand stuff.

The next letter is from Partha Sarathi Panda of Imphal. Just 15, he's worried about being too thin at 43kg and 172 cm Well, like we told some of our friends last week, don't get too impatient. You've still got some growing years left in you, and if you stick to a fitness-oriented life there's no reason why you wan't make heads --male and female!--turn when you walk by

In the meantime, here are some freehand exercises that'll bulk up your upper body. Push-ups where you get down on the palms of your hands and touch your nose to the ground - are great for the shoulders and arms. So are Pull-ups We know they tend to get boring and don't give fast results, but they are great foundation builders In fact, if you can stick to them for a few years and top it off with high-intensity weight training once you get to be 19-20, there's no way anyone's going to kick sand in your face. That's when you'll show them what you're really made off. Right on!

And the last letter is from Aleya Dutt of Calcutta An out-and-out fitness enthusiast, she's very keen on trying her hand at weight training; but doesn't want to end up all muscle-bound, she says. Well, Aleya, don't get put off by the thought of bulging muscles --even to the tune of the lady pictured alongside--because it's genetically impossible for you to be like men. The female musculature







is never going to respond to exercise—in this case, pumping iron—like the male.

So go ahead and get to grips with that barbell, maam. Not only will you be getting yourself fantastic muscle tone, you'll also be growing stronger while you're about it. And unless you are planning on spending the whole day at the gym, you're never going to get muscle-bound.

In fact, if you're into fitness so heavily, why don't you try a combination of aerobics and weight training. That way you'll never put on bulk. Do the aerobic workout thrice a week to keep the muscles lean and supple. And on the other days of the week, pump some iron to firm up the muscles.

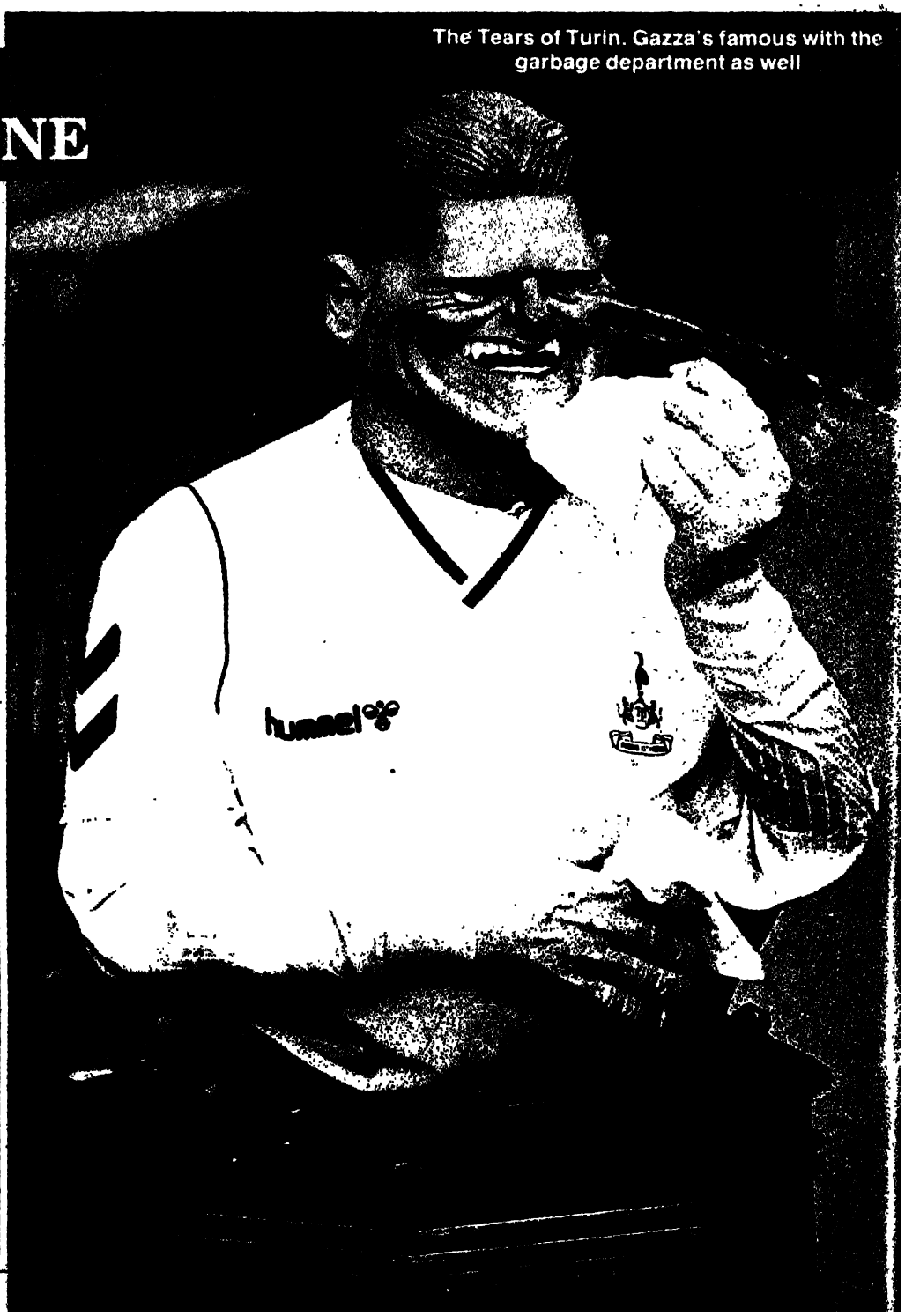
So, c'mon Aleya, go for it. Don't get put off by what your pals say. If you're feeling up to it, grab a handful of iron and work that body.

Readers are invited to send in their fitness queries to this column. All questions will be answered to the best of our abilities. So if you have any doubts about exercises, check with us.

PERSONALITY

WAZZA MATTA

PAUL GASCOIGNE



The Tears of Turin. Gazza's famous with the garbage department as well

THE question above, though funnily framed, is a very pertinent one. It has not been much of a year for Paul Gascoigne. On the first day of 1991 (roughly translated as New Year's day), he was sent off during a league match for calling the referee a 'cheat'. The next day he was told that this incident might jeopardise his international career (not so as we will soon realise). Two days after that, the London police wanted to interview him for allegedly hitting a photographer with a handbag.

There was more to follow. In the *Record Mirror* readers' poll for the year 1990, they voted him less likeable than Saddam Hussein. The same day, *The Sun* devoted four pages to the 'Great Gazza Debate', which included a series of psychiatric diagnoses on the 'boy'.

So again we ask the same question: Wozza Matta with Gazza? Or, what makes Paul Gascoigne tick? The negative feedback in the

WITH GAZZA?



Gazza at Italia '90. The rage started there



It's good to be seen with Gazza

press aside, it is these same people who have helped propel Gazza into the rarified stratosphere of soccer stardom.

How has this happened to a simple foulmouthed lad from Gateshead, who has till so far had his brains in his boots? It actually began during the heady days of Italia '90, when Paul Gascoigne turned in a virtuoso performance for the critics and country.

In the match against the Netherlands, all he did was leave two Dutch defenders leaden footed with a kind of swerve which English footballers (thick headed and fearful as they are) were hitherto unable to do.

Britain purred. Men and women alike, tuned an their TV sets. Then, in the semi-final, when he was booked and ruled out for a possible participation in the Finals, he cried.

'The Tears of Turin' they called it. He was larger than life itself. He was everywhere. He was important. His every word or deed became fodder for the gossip mills. Whether it meant punching up someone or cuddling up to Maggie Thatcher for a picture. England is still stocked with Gazza mementoes.

Every major British tabloid—the people who make or break a personality—shows almost a 50,000 increase in sales when Gazza makes the front page. When they pictured him crying in Turin, the day's edition sold out. The tabloid had to reprint the picture on public demand. And ever since he endorsed for 'Brut', the splash-on reported a 25 per cent increase in sales. Remarkable!

That is Gazza the personality. But what about Gazza the person? Well, to be honest, there is not much depth in him. During conversation he draws inspiration from profanity, and he is not always totally pleasant. He however, does not have too many alternatives. He is a specific example of Britain's working class clan, produced by the British education system and the country's prevalent poor economy.

Paul Gascoigne is not an ambassador of the game, so why should we expect him to be one? His peers, on the contrary, believe that he speaks through his performances. As for his performances, Gazza is a man of extremes. When he plays he is either good or a total non-entity. When he is interested, there is no one more committed. When his soccer goes wrong, he reacts like a lout, a boor...crying and

swearing.

But Gazza is not always like this. Meaning totally thick. He carries about him a kind of street smart wisdom and can make a decent job of handling himself in situations. 'I just try and keep being meself,' he claims.

He has also surrounded himself with a bunch of able advisors. In short, he does not want to go the George Best way. By the time Best was 23—Gascoigne's age—he had won two championships, a European Cup for Manchester United, and voted European footballer of the Year. Best went ahead and blew it just when he seemed to have everything. Gazza has yet to face that situation. He does not even have a guaranteed place in the English team. And that irks him.

If he does want to win a major championship, it is highly improbable he will do it with Tottenham. When he came from Newcastle three years ago, as a major purchase of manager Terry Venable for £3.8 million Gazza thought he was joining a glamour club which was going places. It did...several places down the financial ladder and he has become a commodity.

Tottenham Hotspurs pays Gazza a salary of $300,000 per annum. Whatever else, Gazza is capable of looking after his money, which is more than can be said of Tottenham. In their recent financial crisis, Gazza has become an asset—along with fellow player Gary Lineker—which could bail his club out of financial trouble.

Tottenham became a public company in 1983, but when it came to



USA FEATURES



COLORSPORT

Lineker, the other superstar who's a scapegoat in the Tottenham fiasco



The ultimate claim to fame. Gazza sees himself at Madame Tussauds

business they were a potential disaster. Within a year of being formed the club incurred a debt of £5 million. As the fortunes of Tottenham Hotspur plc. nosedived, their balance in the red went higher. Faced with an all-time high of £25 million in debt, the club began to off-load its assets. The club training ground at Cheshunt went for £4.9 million. And there was nothing else in the treasury. Then suddenly there was Gazza!

Prospective buyers from the world soccer bazaars have already placed their bids on the table for the talented mid-fielder. But no one knows which club will ultimately succeed in roping him in. Apparently there are no dearth of bidders: Lazio, Juventus, Napoli, Olympic Marseille and Roma are all offering attractive pay packets. This has compelled the existing management at Spurs to decide to 'sell' Gazza as well as put out its second best player, namely Gary Lineker, on the stalls.

This move has not met with much approval from Gazza's fans, the same people who love him, or love to hate him. But for Tottenham, choices are running out fast. Like club chairman, Nat Solomon says, "It's like playing Devil's advocate. How hard I try to wish it away, it remains a fact that we will have to resort to some asset stripping. I don't rule that out and I don't rule it in."

These words have a certain element of truth. The selling of Gazza and Lineker will not only wipe off the crippling debts but will also put the club back on the road to financial recovery. The move to place Gazza on the auction block has also met with equal resistance from personalities within the club itself. Like for example, manager Terry Venables and the chairman of club affairs, Irving Scholar. Both are part of a £20 million consortium which is attempting to buy-and subsequently take over-Tottenham. This move will also result in keeping Gazza back. Though they have yet to announce their bid for the club, Venables on being asked the same muttered a cryptic, 'no comment'.

But unless this takeover bid materialises, Solomon won't face any problems if he puts his two prime assets up for sale. Last year, Spurs turned down an attractive offer of £11 million for

Tottenham Hotspurs pays Gazza a salary of $300,000 per annum. Whatever else, Gazza is capable of looking after his money, which is more than can be said of Tottenham





With his teacher. The people who taught him now revere him

Gascoigne and £4.5 million for Lineker. Both these offers came from Italy. Juventus wanted Gazza while Torino pursued Lineker. At one point, Juventus had offered $21 million for Gascoigne alone! The deal, if it had come through might have relegated Saddam's invasion of Kuwait to a small report in the foreign news pages.

However, through this, there are two facts that are quick to suggest themselves. One, more than Lineker it is Gazza whose loss would most affect the club's standing. And two, it is evident that Gazza's popularity has crossed national barriers and spilled into the rest of Europe namely Italy. One sports writer aptly described him as, "Sporting a Vinnie Jones haircut and snorting freezing air from flaring nostrils, he is a raging bull among pussy-footing wimps." The 'wimps' were obviously his teammates in the English side.

Coming back to the transfer proceedings, Napoli too has pitched in. Napoli owner Abertino Bigon says, "If I had to pick one English player, it would be Gascoigne. He has the rare quality of skill and fantasy that we look for in Italian football." He makes no bones of the fact that Gazza is one player who can replace a fast fading Diego Maradona.

But if Napoli want him real bad then they have not reckoned with the efforts of Lazio, a club, which wants him equally and is talking real money. The *Gazzetta dello Sport* of Italy, duly reported a £7 million bid by Lazio for Gazza. This sum—under intense haggling—rose to £8.5 million, and if it comes through could cause nightmares for Gazza's only Italian friend Roberto Baggio as he would no longer be the world's costliest player. Gazza himself is not stunned nor surprised at the amount. He merrily continues to rake in £2.5 million from endorsements and celebrity appearances and has just signed a £2 million deal to promote Vauxhall cars. Other products are also clamouring for his attention.

Gazza however, does not mask his keenness to play in the Italian league. The Italians would love someone like him, for he possesses

In a match against the Netherlands, all he did was leave two Dutch defenders leaden footed with a kind of swerve which English footballers were hitherto unable to do. Britain purred



Gazza endorsing Brut seen with former heavyweight Henry Cooper



Gazza in his younger days

COLORSPORT

their fiery temperamental character. Gascoigne himself claims, "Though I love playing in England, I won't mind a session or two in the Italian league. There is no doubt it's the best and has place only for the cream." Italian coach Azeglio Vicini surmises, "Tactically he is a little bit undisciplined. But as a natural, he is a best of the best."

But playing in Europe-especially Italy—is not easy. Therefore, Lazio's bid if it does materialise, could be a risky one. In Italy there remains much scepticism about the skills of British players in Italian clubs. Gary Lineker himself testifies, "In Europe, you are a paid professional who has to deliver all the time, or you are out."

Lineker continues, "Why do so many British players fail? Because they fail to adapt. To have a successful career overseas, players should be able to speak the language. Those who haven't learnt, haven't done too well. It was like that for me. I didn't like it so I studied hard." Lineker wants Gazza to do the same.

Is Gazza equipped to cope in Italy? Barely able to converse in English, it is highly likely he would manage Italian. That and the fact that he would be terribly homesick. They don't serve a decent pint of lager in Italy, do they? However, recent reports of a Gazza takeover by Lazio may be scotched. As the subject himself was recovering 'ahead of schedule' in hospital following a double hernia operation, Venables confirmed, "It doesn't look like anything is going to happen." But then maybe the Venables consortium is determined to retain Gazza.

And to Gazza's benefit too. For if there is more to him than the eternal thickhead that he is...it has yet to show itself. Perhaps it might after a spell in Italy. But if he fails there, the same journalists who asked why British soccer had not produced anyone of the likes of Gazza before, would queue up to knock him down. They would have their reasons: but sadly, Gazza will not be allowed to have his.

By Robin Chatterjee with reports from Edwin Burgess

Gazza is a man of extremes. When he plays he is either good or a total non-entity. When he is interested, there is no one more committed. When his soccer goes wrong, he reacts like a lout, a boor...crying

PRIVATE EYE

WE LOOK WHERE WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO!

Ha(r)dlee healthy



Are Diego's bags packed?



SKI SLOPPINESS

The Tomba temper

We always thought that skier Alberto Tomba had a touch of Italian clown in him. Recent incidents of his bad behaviour has left us in doubt. And to think that this was the guy who tried to woo Katarina Witt.

In Alberta, to compete for this season's penultimate giant slalom in the Lake Louise, Tomba suffered a rude shock when the organisers didn't give a damn to his superstar status. Tomba was banned from competition after he knocked down a skier in a training run and then, in a moment of frustration, slapped a woman lift attendant.

Stunned at this harsh decision by the organisers Tomba has decided never to compete in another World Cup race again. 'It is the last time for me,' he said in Lake Louise. He was also considering legal action.

The crazy Italian did admit to knocking down a person, but said it was during the priority period when racers were entitled to training runs. John Worrall, manager of the Lake Louise ski resort, said that one of his staff was trying to alternate traffic between racers and recreational skiers when Tomba bulled his way down the line.

"He knocked a gal down the lift line, got on a chair, swiped at a female lift operator with his ski pole and up he went," ranted Worrall.

A mad Tomba, refused to apologise, became abusive and even swore at Worrall. He had to be restrained by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Worrall put Tomba's action into perspective by aptly calling him a "jerk".

Tomba has loads of talent but little decency



TENNIS AND BOLLYWOOD

Double fault



Rajesh Khanna: the man plays on your emotional chords. He used to play good hockey as well

OUR local tennis circuit lads are also getting a little glitzy. There is a rumour doing the rounds that one of our *desi* tennis players is considering a career in films. It's going to be in Bollywood obviously. Partnering him in the lead is going to be none other than our very own King of Romance: Rajesh Khanna.

Khanna plays the tennis pro who fulfils his dreams vis-a-vis a young boy whom he encourages to take up tennis seriously. The young boy here is rumoured to be a tennis pro; investigations revealed that it might be Rohit Rajpal. But then again knowing the to-be producer's friendship with ace Mr Michael Ferreira, the billiards champ's tennis playing son Mark might hit the silver screen. "The role cries for Rajesh Khanna," said the producer Mr Aushim Khetarpal of Radiant fame.

In case you are wondering where Rajesh would fit into this sporty crowd, let us tell you something: Rajesh Khanna has represented Madhya Pradesh in the National hockey championships. So chew on that till next week.

TENNIS TRIVIA

THE best athletes in the world, according to Ivan Lendl: Cyclists.

THE greatest athlete in the world, according to Lendl: Greg LeMond.

QUESTION that 19-year-old Goran Ivanisevic, ranked No. 7 and the 1990 Wimbledon semifinalist, says he is asked most: "How much money do you make?

MESSAGE on home-made T-shirt worn by 15-year-old Bulgarian Magdalena Maleeva at the 1991 Australian Open: "No Communists Save the Planet".

FIRST television commercial that Pete Sampras did: For the Red Cross.

WHAT 11-time champion Martina Navratilova, 34, found strange about the 1991 Virginia Slims of Chicago tournament: "To see Jennifer's (Capriati) mother. She's only a couple of years older than I am.

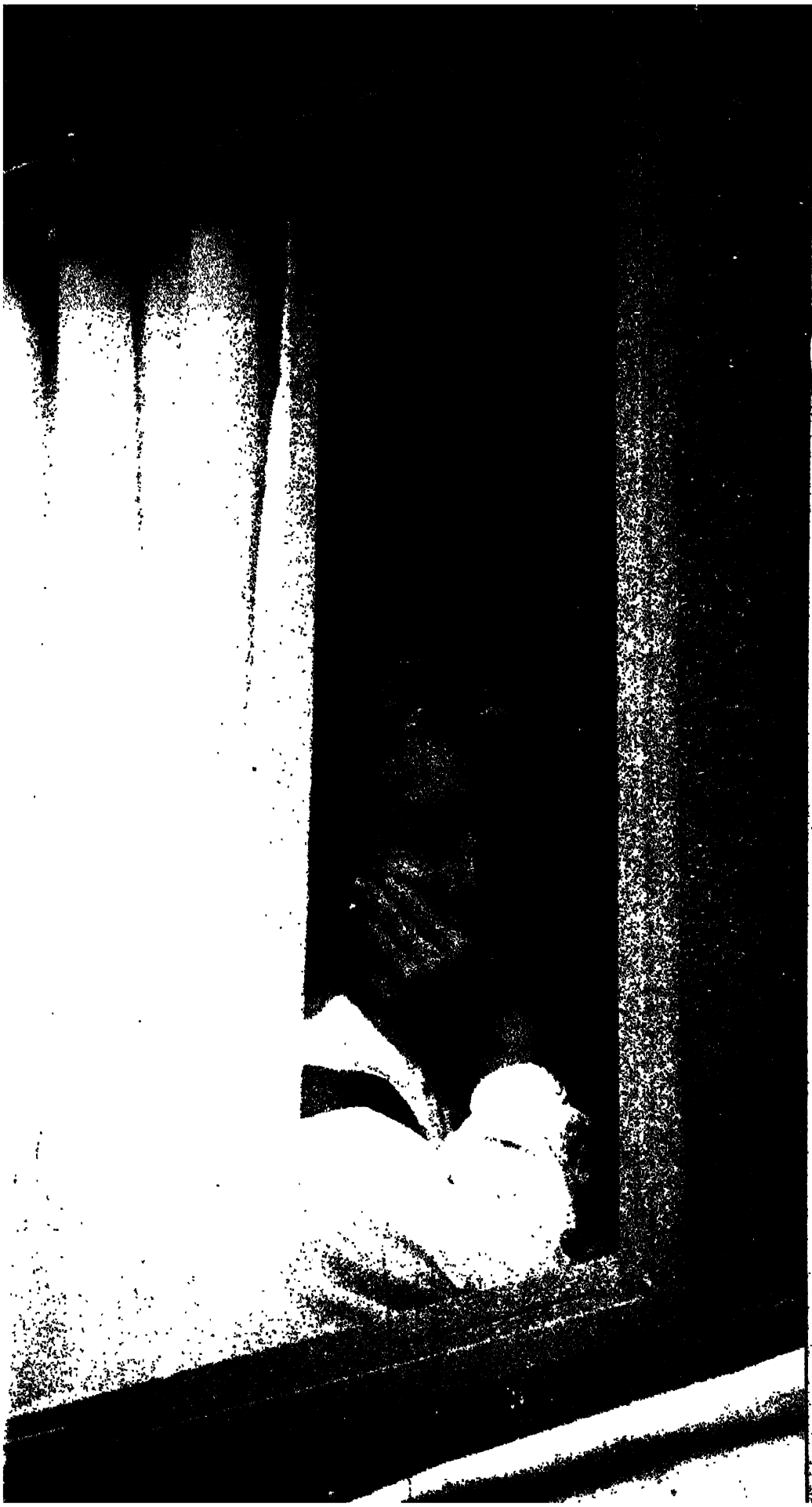
ONLY manufacturer in the world whose tennis balls have been used for all four Grand Slam tournaments: Slazenger.



TENNIS star who took the time and wrote "pen pal" letters to several Operation Desert Storm soldiers during the Persian Gulf War: Jennifer Capriati.

OPEN Era record for reaching the semifinals or better in consecutive tournaments: 64 (Steffi Graf, 1986-90).

NUMBER of world top 10 women players who have a residence in Florida: 6.



QUESTION that Martina Navratilova says she's answered at every interview at every tournament for the past seven or eight years: "How much longer are you going to play?"

THE first question Martina Navratilova would ask Helen Wills Moody, if she met her: "What was it like playing way back then?"

PLAYER whom Zina Garrison predicts will be the rising star of women's tennis: Sabine Applemans, an 18-year-old from Belgium.

TOTAL number of *points* that Pam Shriver won at The Dallas Shootout, an unsanctioned exhibition with a single-elimination, one-tiebreaker format prior to the final, where she "earned" $12,500:2.

TENNIS player who received the most votes in a recent poll—"The sexiest sports personalities of the '80s"—of the 1,058 female members of the California-based U.S. Television Fan Association: Pat Cash.

Compiled by Paul Fein

freewheeling

CALLED up my mum the other day. And my colleagues, being the jokers they are, taped my side of the conversation. Said it was hilarious. I don't particularly agree. Check out for yourself·

"Hi mum. How're things gett..."

"What? But why do you want me to stop covering cricket, ma?"

"Dangerous! Bushfires and whirlybirds and snakes! C'mon mum, you've been watching too many movies "

"Oh that. Hey, I can explain all that, mum. See, firstly Australia are taking on—no, not attacking—West Indies in West Indies. And that's halfway across the world. So there's nothing for you to get worried about."

"The bushfire? It wasn't a bushfire in the first place, mum. The rain had seeped through the covers and wet the pitch—no, no, that's the little bit in the centre where all the action goes on—and they were just trying to dry it out."

"That's how they do it in the West Indies, ma. They set fire to the pitch in the hope that the flames will burn off all the moisture in the soil. And it's all very much in control. Nothing like a bushfire or anything."

"Whirlybird? Oh, you mean helicopter..."

"No, no, no, mum. It wasn't any war or anything. It wasn't even a combat chopper—helicopter, ma, helicopter—in the first place. That's just another method those West Indian guys use to dry the pitch. They hover very close to the ground so that the turbulence created by the blades can help dry the ground."

"You're getting all worked up for nothing, mum. There's nothing dangerous about covering cricket."

"Snakes?". .stop sniggerring, you guys-...what, ma? Sorry, I wasn't speaking to you. I was telling the guys here to shut up. No, mum, I'm not being rude to them. What was that you were saying about snakes? Oh yes, that bit in the papers about Healy—he's an Australian player, mum—resuming his innings after a poisonous snake was killed and removed from the pitch. That's the first ti..."

"Yes, mum."

"No, mum."

"Okay, mum, I'll take extreme caution when covering cricket matches in the future. I promise I'll run at the first sign of bushfires, duck at the sight of whirlybirds hovering close to the ground and tread carefully in case of poisonous snakes."

"Got to hang up now, mum. Bye. Take care. I'll call again, soon."

Click. "Phew! What're you guys laughing at!"

Do you find anything funny?

Pradeep Paul

My mother's version of a bushfire...setting fire to the pitch to dry it is an accepted practice in the West Indies but what about poisonous snakes on the pitch?

PATRICK EAGAR





Hospitalisation expenses, especially after retirement are difficult to bear. That's why I will start providing for them, now!



Never before an insurance scheme like this!

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After retirement, hospitalisation expenses can drain the family of its hard earned savings. That is why you should start preparing now to face any eventuality.

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You pay premium in affordable annual instalments during your working life. And BHAVISHYA AROGYA provides you with hospitalisation/domiciliary hospitalisation expenses upto Rs. 50,000 for the rest of your life, from the retirement age you have selected. The limit per illness, however, is Rs. 20,000.

The retirement age selected by you could be any age between 55 years and 60 years.

You can increase the benefit amount of Rs. 50,000 in multiples of Rs. 10,000 by paying additional proportionate premium.

Premium varies with age at entry and retirement age selected by you. (Please refer premium table)

What's more, there is no need for a medical check-up. Even a statement of health is not required.

In case you wish to withdraw from the scheme, or should the unforeseen happen to you, a substantial portion of the premium paid will be refunded to you/your assignee provided no claim has been made till then.

ANNUAL PREMIUM (in Rs.) per Rs. 50,000 sum insured
INDICATIVE TABLE

Age of Entry (Completed Years)	Retirement Age (Running Age)					
	55	56	57	58	59	60
25	47	44	41	38	35	33
31	88	81	75	69	64	59
44	426	378	338	303	273	247
50	1335	1073	889	753	648	564
55	-	-	-	-	-	1517

One-time lump sum premium payment facility also available

Annual premium upto Rs. 3,000 is exempted from Income Tax under Section 80D. Group schemes with discount are also available for corporate clients.

Some of the other household/personal insurance schemes for you:

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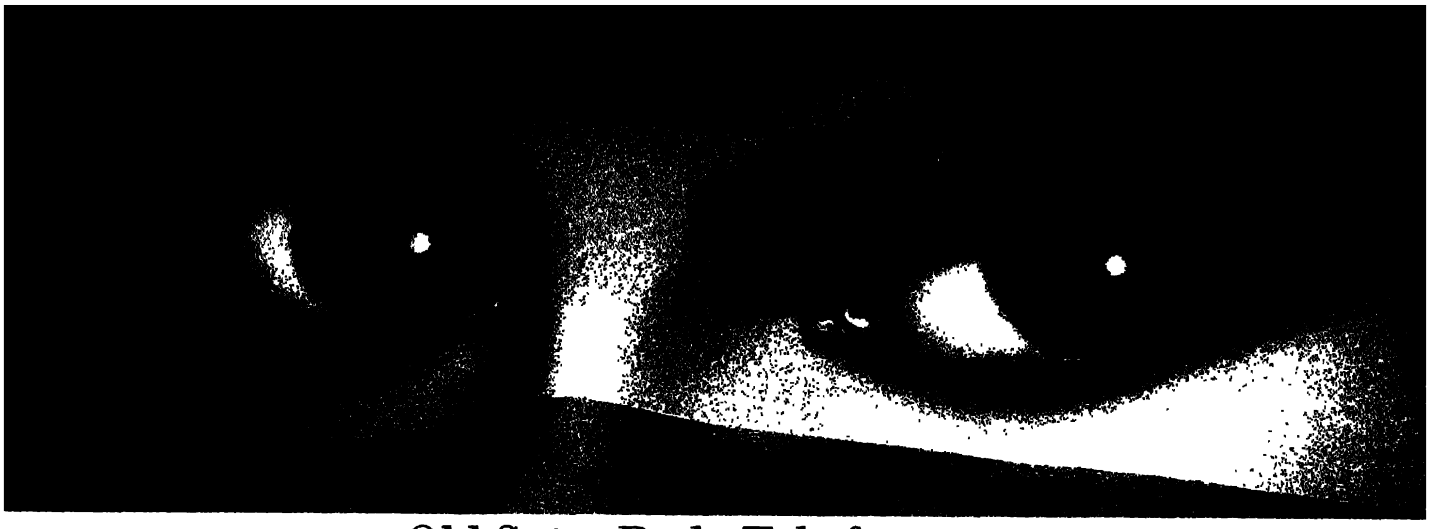
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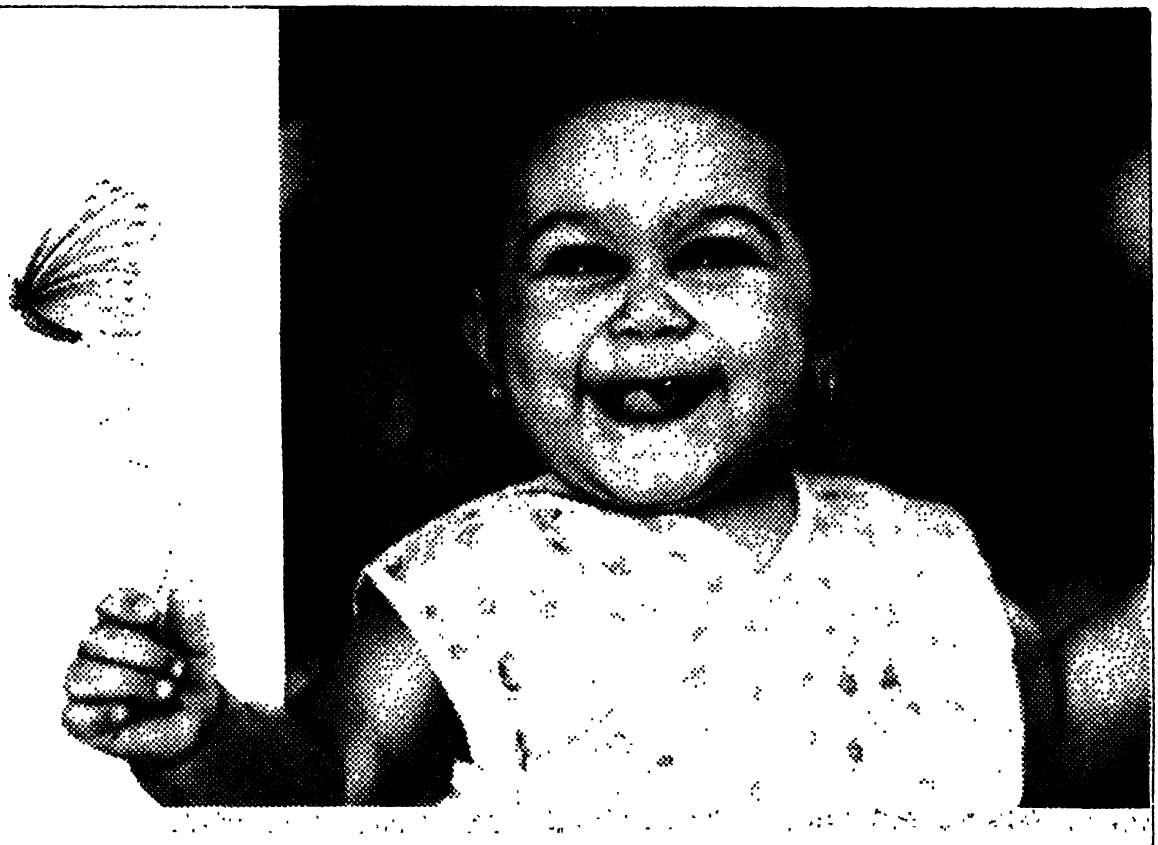
LEANDER PAES

WALKING TALL

HOW GOOD A PLAYER IS HE? TENNIS EXPERTS AROUND THE WORLD PROVIDE SOME REVEALING INFORMATION

SPECIAL PRIZE QUIZ INSIDE

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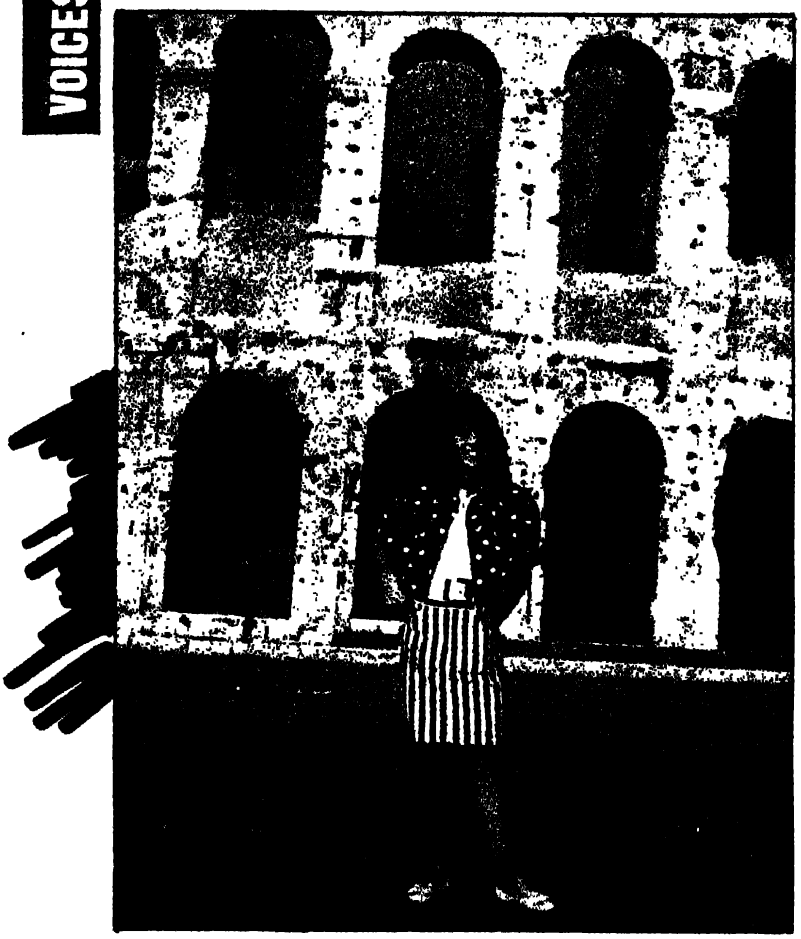
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VOICES

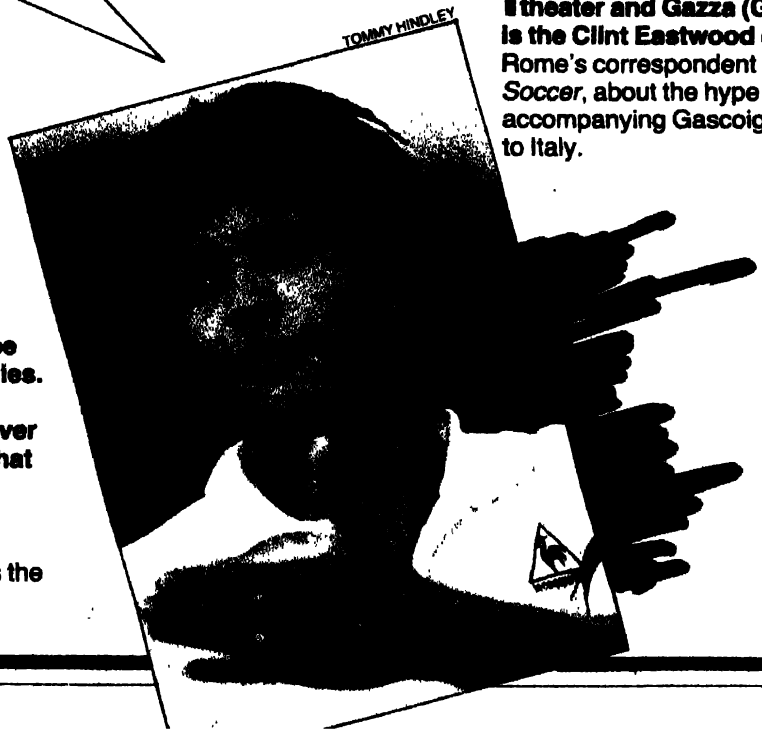


McLAREN exists to win the Formula I. We're here to win, not to come second. When we finish second that is failure.
RON DENNIS, Aryton Senna's team boss makes it clear that he will not stand any complacency in the McLaren workforce.

HE did struggle at first. But he thought it through, worked at what he was doing and made the adjustments. It will have done him good. I can't believe there has ever been a better prepared Test cricketer than Greame is now.
ALLAN BORDER, Greame Hick's colleague at Queensland, is yet another man who feels that Hick is the debutant of the decade.

THIS year my goal is to beat the top players. Forget about coming close. I want to come close and beat them.
JENNIFER CAPRIATI, though some bad loses recently, still has a reservoir of confidence that she intends to tap this year.

IT is difficult not to do anything. You have a lot of energy you can't get rid of. It's easier to be on court. Sometimes I said to myself—hang on. I would have done this, I would have done that. There's a lot of adrenalin that you can't get out.
YANNICK NOAH, (now France's non-playing Davis Cup captain) on his post retirement lifestyle.



ITALY is the most demanding theater and Gazza (Gascoigne) is the Clint Eastwood of football
Rome's correspondent for *World Soccer*, about the hype accompanying Gascoigne's going to Italy.

THE Cricket rules should be ICC rules and not MCC rules. Till we have boot lickers of Lords in our midst, we will never change. Would you believe that even today it is the MCC President who chairs ICC meetings.
SUNIL GAVASKAR, questions the age old belief that MCC is the guardian of the game.

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17—23 April, 1991 Volume 12 Issue 22
An Ananda Bazar Publication Rs. 7.00



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Poster photograph by Tommy Hindley

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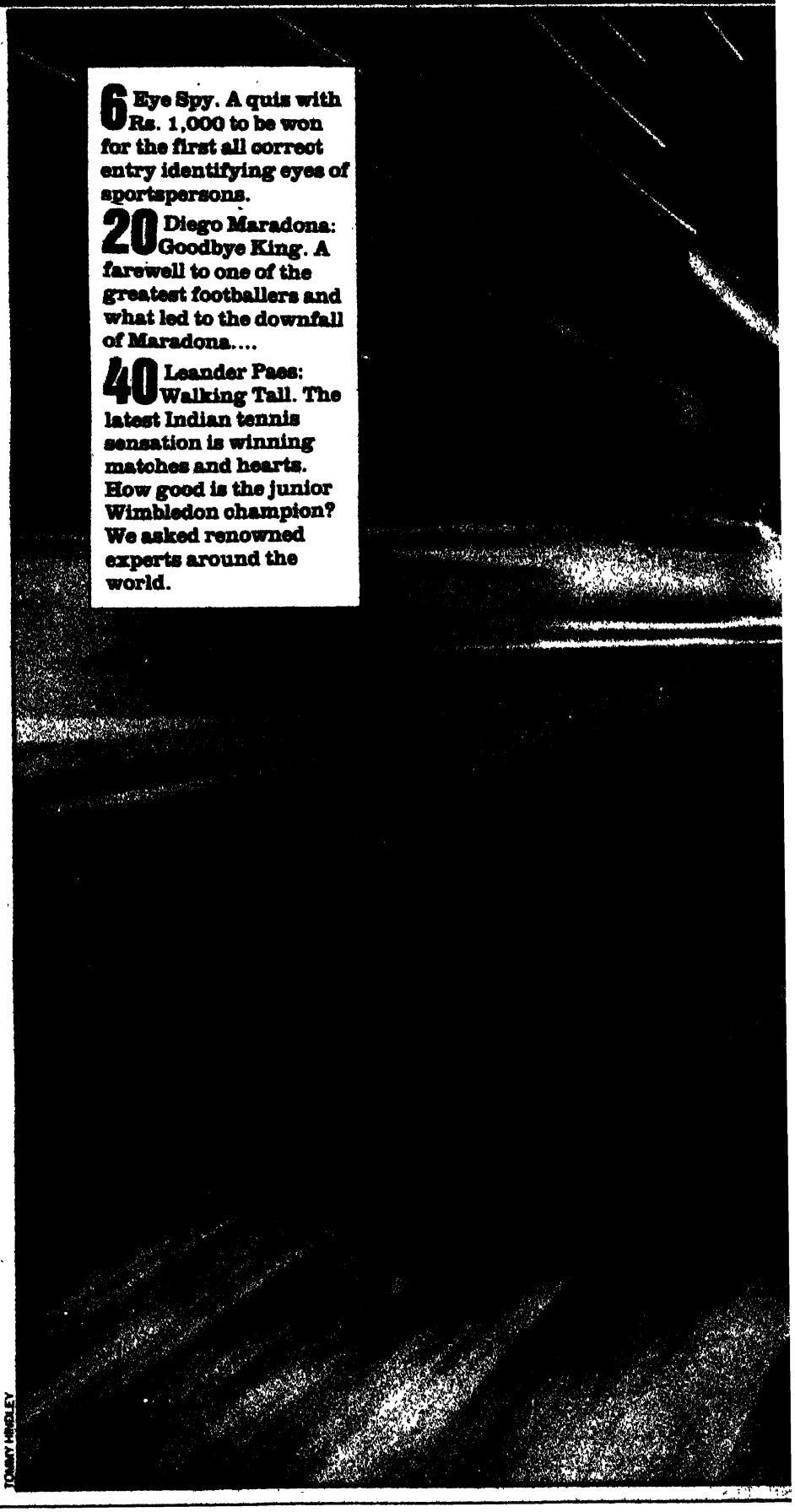
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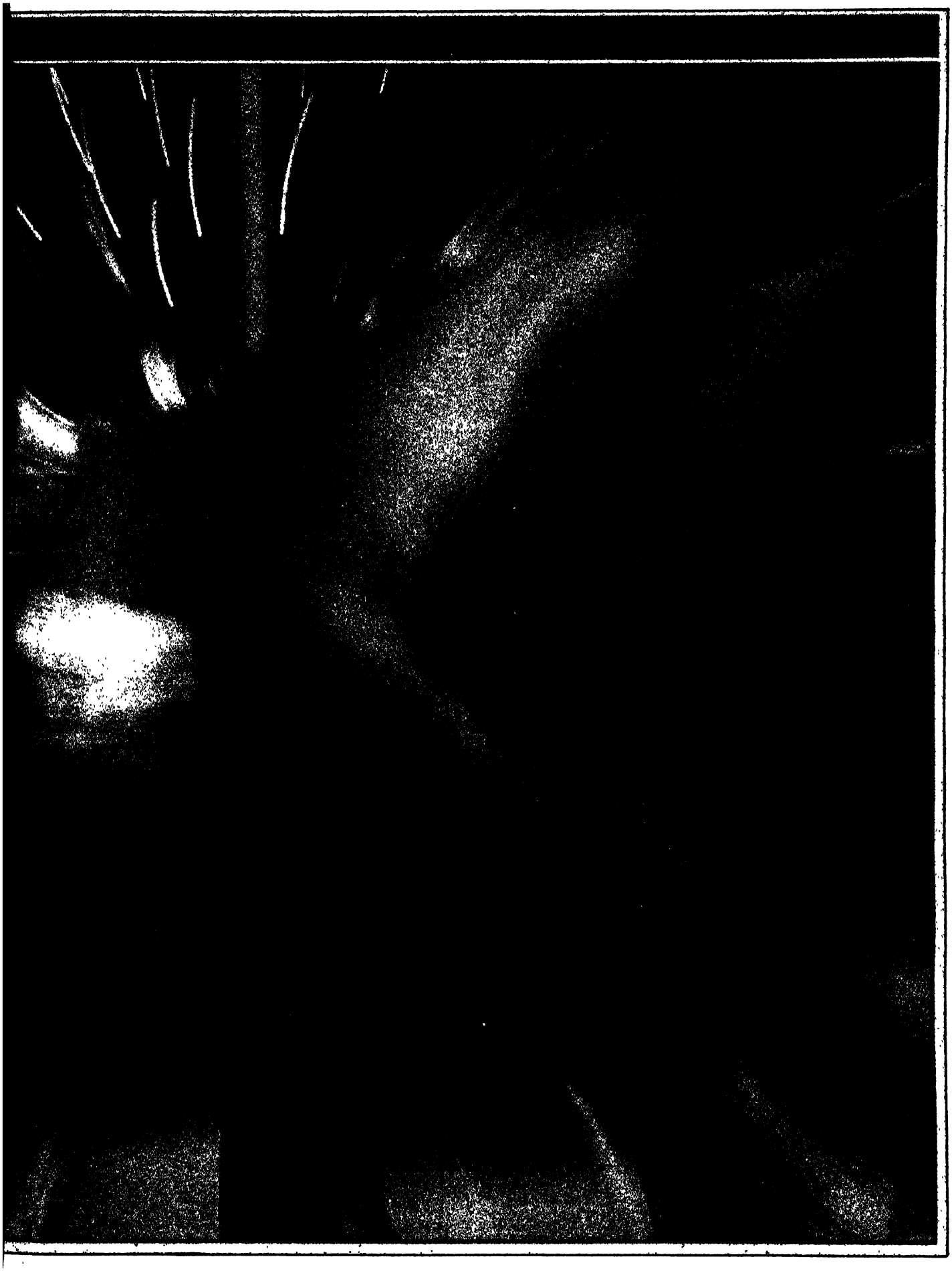
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TOMMY HINDLEY



WIN
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Sportsworld

QUIZ SPECIAL

EYE SPY?

Q **Glamourous eyes that could pass off as belonging to a fashion model**



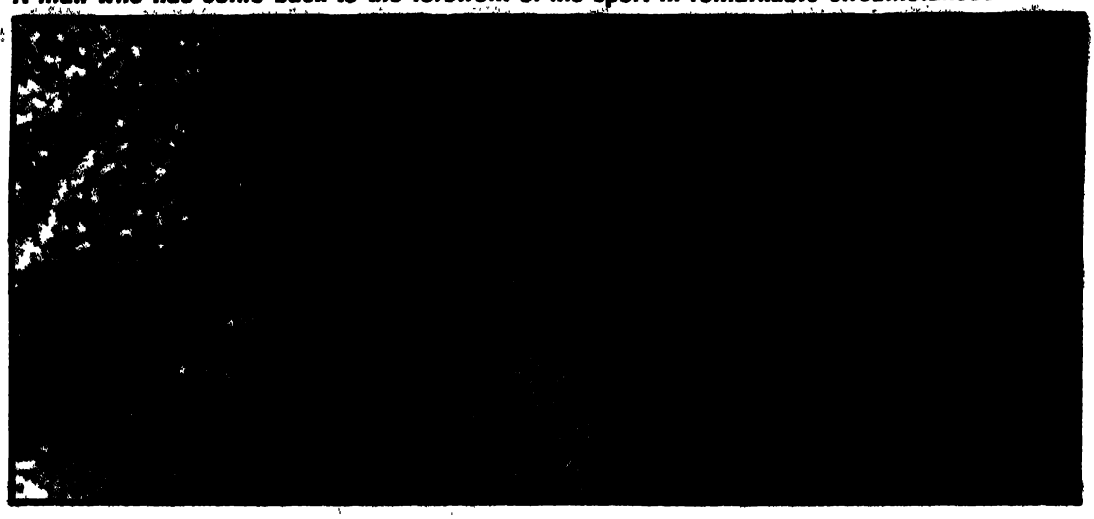
1.

Q **Studious eyes that work best when in the fast lane**



2.

Q 3. A man who has come back to the forefront of his sport in remarkable circumstances



Q 4. Check this one out without glasses



RULES OF THE QUIZ

1. All you have to do is identify the twelve sportspersons from the pictures and the clues given; write the answers on a sheet of paper and mail it to us WITH the coupon alongside.
2. Each entry MUST be accompanied by one coupon. Any entry without a coupon will be considered invalid.
3. Last date of entries May, 6, 1991.
4. The editor's decision is final and no correspondence will be entertained
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Last date of entries: May 6, 1991.

Q

Eyes that could see the ball better than most other flannelled fools



5.

Q

Age is no bar. Upon this 'rock' England built its defence



6.

Q

Almost there, but yet never there, this person recently walked off the tennis court for good



7.

Q

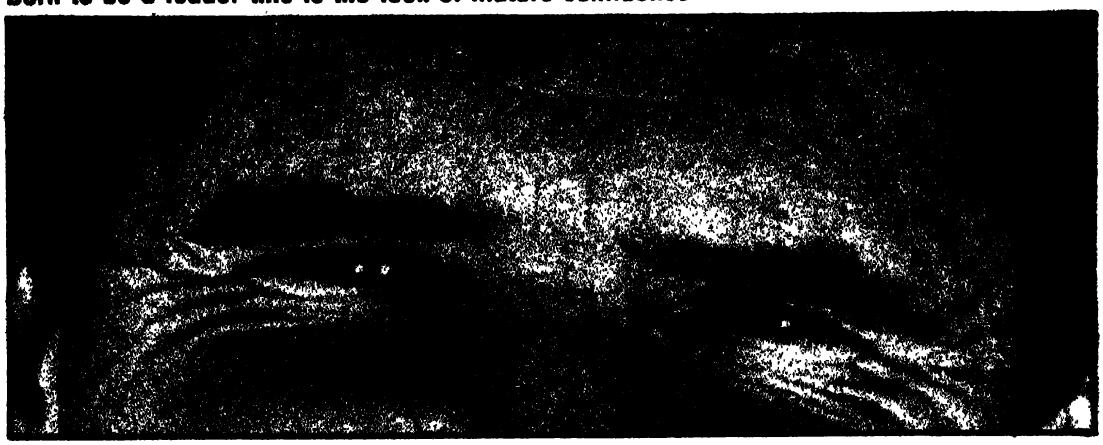
Frankly, this is not from *Spitting Image* but from the soccer field



8.

Q

Born to be a leader this is the look of mature confidence



9.

Q

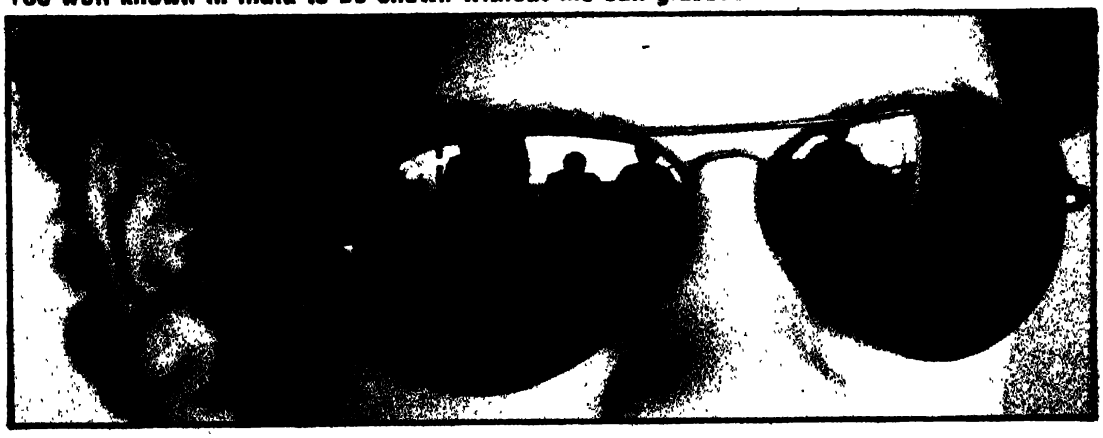
Almost unnatural talent which is now youthful experience. Yes, he does have eyebrows



10.

Q

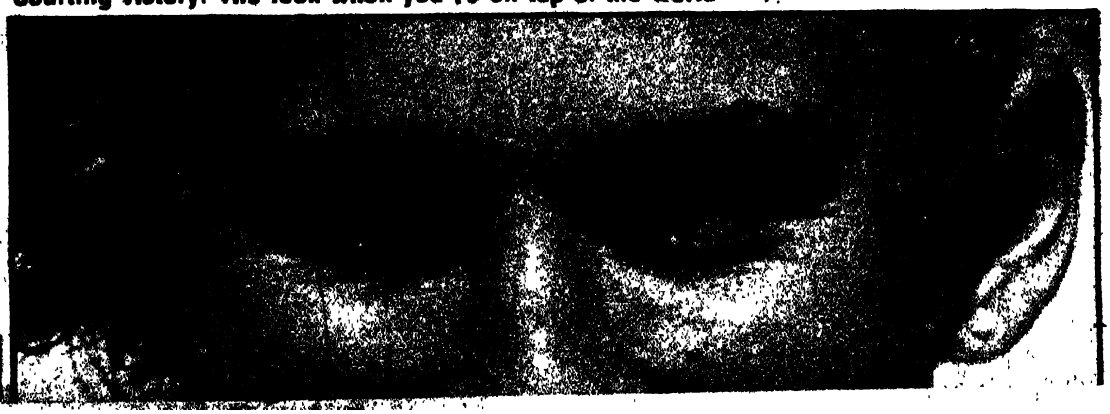
Too well known in India to be shown without the sun glasses



11.

Q

Courting victory: The look when you're on top of the world



12.

SUNIL GAVASKAR

20th Anniversary Special

WEST INDIES 1971



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

By PARTAB RAMCHAND

The Little Master at Bangalore after his last Test for India

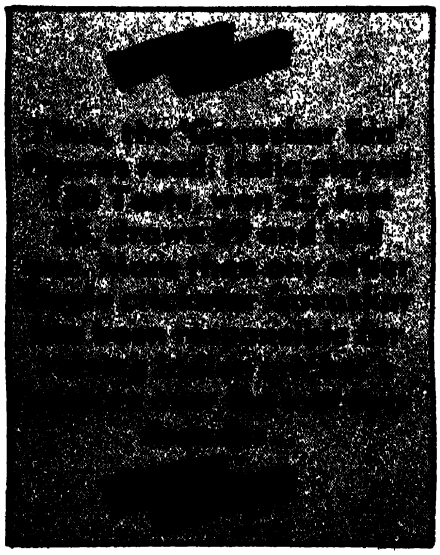


IT is the 'in' thing these days to celebrate anniversaries. It seems almost fashionable nowadays to be nostalgic about the 'good ol days'. But some events are so important that they do deserve to be remembered and celebrated as a major turning point in the sporting fortunes of a country.

What happened on April 19, 1971, marked a turning point in the history of Indian cricket.

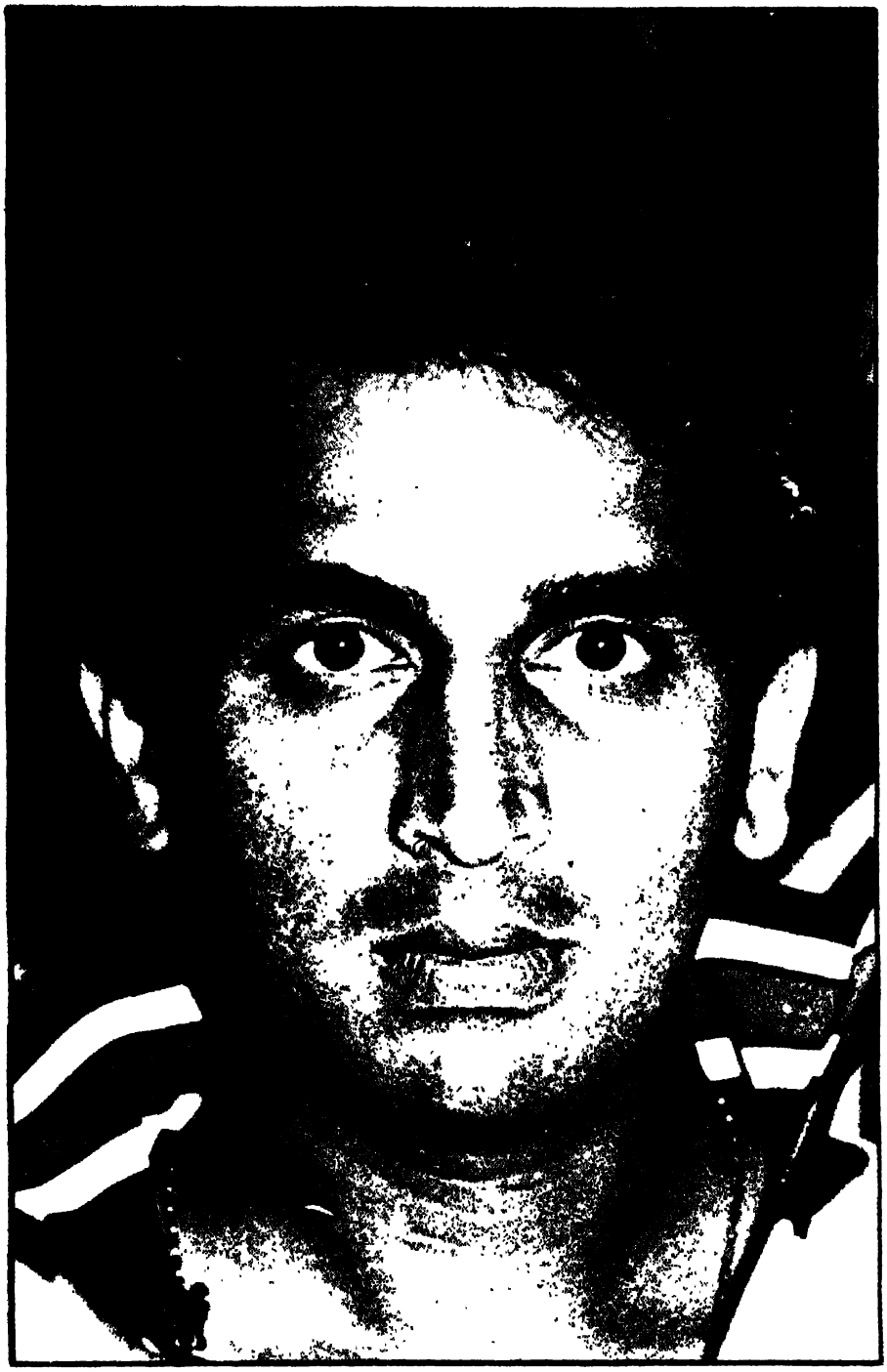
Exactly 20 years ago, India completed a famous series victory in the West Indies The formidable Caribbeans, always too good for the Indians, had won all the five rubbers played before Worse still, in 23 Tests before the 1971 rubber, India never even gained a first innings lead

India had scored wins over England, Australia, Pakistan and New Zealand But it had been a long wait to get the better of the West Indies Now that long wait had come to an end. On March 10, 1971, India defeated West Indies convincingly by seven wickets at Port of Spain in the second Test And on the same Port Of Spain ground India drew the fifth Test against all odds to take the series 1-0.





One of the chief architects of the notable triumph was a 21-year-old Bombay college student in his first series. In the second Test at Port of Spain, on his debut, he scored 65 and 67 not out impressing no less a person than Gary Sobers with his strokes and temperament... This youngster was something different



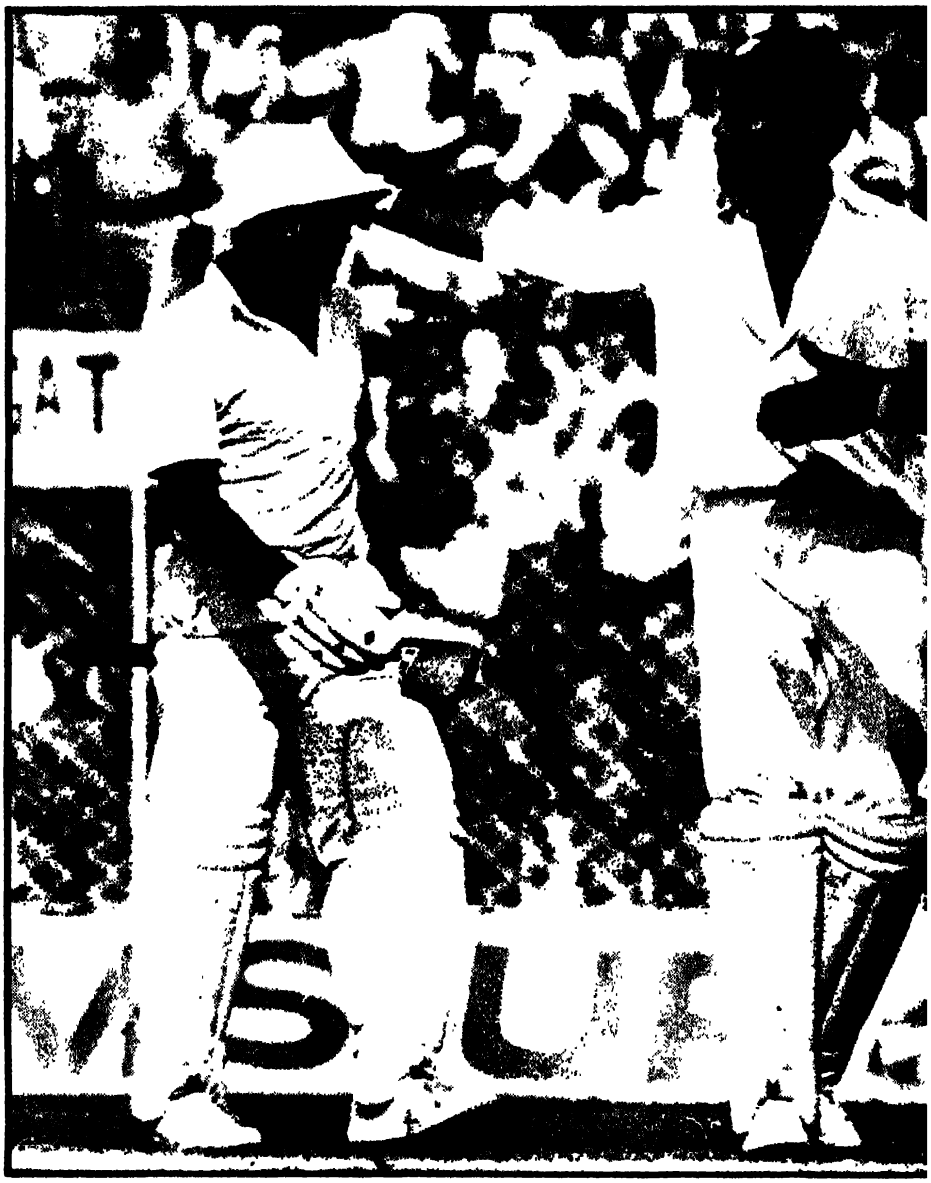
Young Gavaskar before the Caribbean trip

One of the chief architects of that notable triumph was a 21-year-old Bombay college student in his first series. In the second Test at Port Of Spain on his debut, he scored 65 and 67 not out impressing no less a person than Gary Sobers with his strokes and temperament. But then so many Indian youngsters had faded away after an impressive start that we were a bit skeptical

We need not have worried This youngster was something different He scored a century in the next Test match. He got another hundred in the Test following that And in the final Test of the series, he broke all sorts of batting records to make 124 and 220 A tally of 774 runs was the highest ever by a player in his first series and no one had hit

T. BANERJEE

Viv Richards and Jeff Dujon greet Gavaskar after his 29th century



four hundreds in his first rubber.

Sunil Gavaskar had arrived with a bang. And he did not fade away with a whimper. Far from it, he stayed the course for 16 long years, broke one batting record after another, and when he finally called it a day at Bangalore in March 1987, he had amassed the world records of 10,122 runs and 34 hundreds.

Other impressive records too in his name But then Gavaskar's great record is not the only topic for discussion when analysing the momentous events of 20 year ago.

The point to note also is that victory in West Indies marked a watershed in the history of Indian cricket.

Let me illustrate with some tell-tale figures. Before the'71 series against West Indies commenced, India had played 116 Tests, won only 15 lost 49 and drew 52. By the time Gavaskar retired, India had played 246 Tests. As many as, 40 had been won, 84 lost, 121 drawn and one match ended in a tie.

Thus, the 'Gavaskar Era' figures read: India played 130, won 25, lost 35, drawn 69 and tied one. More than any other single cricketer Gavaskar has been responsible for raising Indian cricket's stature over the last two decades.

By his monumental deeds Gavaskar proved to Indian cricketers that nothing was beyond them. Let me point out a few dismal Indian "records". before Gavaskar made his entry. India were all out for 58 and 98 in one match. In another, they were dismissed for 58 and 82 in a single day. On one famous occasion India lost the first four wickets without having scored a run. India lost all five Tests once. One defeat twice, all three Tests once and all four Tests once. One defeat by an innings and 336 runs the second heaviest suffered by any team in Test history

Now to point out some examples of the transformation in the Gavaskar era. India had made six visits to England between 1932 and 1967 without winning a Test. let alone a series.

India duly won a second series in 1986 and needless to say Gavaskar was a member of that team also.

No one had scored 13 centuries against the West Indies. Gavaskar did This included three double centuries, again a feat beyond the reach of any other cricketer A century in each innings is a great feat. Only Gavaskar accomplished the feat three times. And 1000 runs in a calendar year, another noteworthy feat, has not been done by a batsman more than twice Gavaskar did it four times.

With Gavaskar to lead them by example India learnt to chase daunting targets in the fourth innings. On three famous occasions India got to 406 for four, 445 all out and 429 for eight to win, lose and draw the match. Gavaskar got three-figure knocks on two of these occasions—his 221 at the Oval in 1979 being the highest by a batsman in the fourth innings of a Test match. It was ' ow our turn to win matches inside four days, to win by an innings and 100 runs margin and to dismiss opponents for 83 runs when they had to get only 143 for a win.

By his personal deeds Gavaskar inspired his teammates to great feats. And so we had Vishwanath



and Vengsarkar crossing the 6000 run mark. And we had Azharuddin scoring three centuries in his first three Tests—a unique feat

We had two Indian batsmen lasting out an entire day without being separated. And he showed that one could bat for ten and eleven hours. Our ability to play fast bowling improved by leaps and bounds. After all, Gavaskar had shown the way Yes, in the long history of Indian Test cricket, now almost sixty years old, no other single player has done so much for so many.

As the famous ad for a women's cigarette in the USA goes: "You have come a long way, baby". Yes,

Sunil Gavaskar had arrived with a bang. And he did not fade away with a whimper. Far from it, he stayed on course for 16 long years, broke one batting record after another, and when he finally called it a day at Bangalore in March 1987, he had amassed the world records of 10122 runs and 34 hundreds.

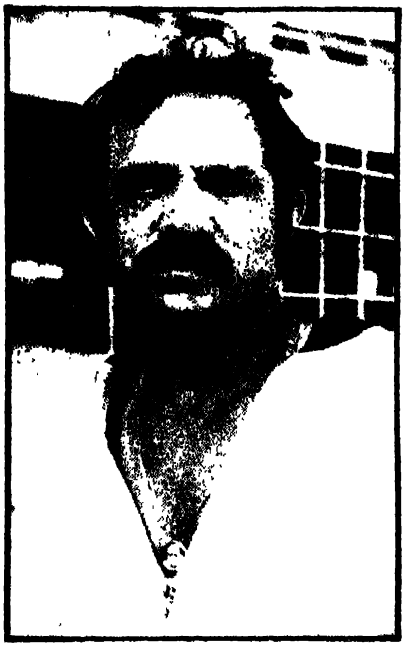




Indian cricket has come a long way since that memorable day at Port Of Spain on April 19, 1971. Let us remember it this week with a glint in the eye, a lump in the throat and with a heart that is light. ●

Memories... Memories.

Some of the protagonists of India's triumphant West Indian campaign remember those unforgettable days of glory and drama...



ASHOK MANKAD

MY memories of that visit are still vivid because of various reasons. The West Indians eat, drink and think cricket and are so warm – hearted that you don't feel you are in a foreign country. The conversation almost always goes on effortlessly and the place has great natural and scenic beauty.

By winning our very first game on the islands we started the tour on a very positive note Victory does a lot, you know, to bring the team members close together and the pressure on our captain and manager was considerably lessened by this win

I can compare the whole trip to a batsman's innings and we immediately settled down. I still remember Alvin Kallicharran's brilliant half century in the first innings of that match. In the second, he was comprehensively beaten by Venky.

Later that evening he was crying like a baby at a party hosted for the two teams. We all consoled him saying you have the talent and the backing of the right people who have taken notice of your abilities without realising, at that stage, that he would one day become the captain of the West Indies team.

Somehow the West Indians have a soft corner for India and they like our style and nature.

When batsmen of the calibre of Dilip Sardesai and Salim Durrani ventured to connect a hook or a sizzling square - cut, they were lustily cheered by the West Indians who enjoyed the sight of their bowlers hanging their heads in shame after being treated harshly by our batsmen.

They also admired Sunil Gavaskar's teachnique. More than the runs and records he created, it was his ability to sway out of the line of the ball hurled at him playing without head gear. was what they admired the most

When Gavaskar time and again frustrated the fast bowlers the crowd however reacted quite unexpectedly. They suddenly became totally silent

Personally, I feel Sardesai was a bigger hero than Gavaskar on that tour. Gavaskar was adept at wearing down the bowlers with his technique and concentration, while Sardesai counter - attacked with gusto.

Time and again Sardi came to India's rescue with bold strokes and I especially remember his brilliant innings of 150 in the first innings of the fourth Test at Bridgetown, Barbados, when India, chasing 501, were 70 for six at one stage. (Sardesai and Eknath Solkar added 186 runs for the seventh wicket and then Sardesai and Bishen Bedi put on 62 runs for the last wicket to help India avoid the follow – on. Bedi, in fact, was dropped first ball by Sobers.)

In my own small way I too helped in India winning the series. After having a very good series at home against

Memories



The Caribbean conquerors: The mighty 1971 Indian team that won in the West Indies

Australia I had established myself and was chosen as an opener for the West Indies tour

One particular incident would be interesting In the fourth Test at Barbados I fractured my finger fending a ball from Uton Dowe in the second innings.

I survived for 75 minutes against the quick bowlers with just one hand as they were bent on pitching the ball shot on the bouncy wicket. Only when Sobers introduced spin (in the form of Insnan Ali did I get out and that innings was my last on that tour.I made 8 in that knock).

EKNATH SOLKAR

I and others, who were my team members, are bound to remember the tour forever. It was a great occasion for Indian cricket as it produced the first ever series win abroad and the first ever victory over the mighty West Indies

It was a very satisfying tour. Sunil Gavaskar, whom I knew



from my schooldays as a determined player who grafted for runs, and Dilip Sardesai played very well. Personally too it was satisfying and I got involved in two vital century partnerships with Sardesai --and in the Trinidad Test, which we won, I took a few (six in fact) good catches and also played a good knock : 1 55.

I can still recall vividly the first innings of the first Test at Kingston. We were 70 for five when I went out to join Sardesai at the crease Already we could hear talk in the pavilion that we looked no better than a club side

My P J. Hindu Gymkhana clubmate Sardesai had heard it too and it made us very determined to show the people what we were capable of. Sardesai told me, "Ekky, put your foot well forward and play The ball is doing nothing and coming on straight."

I heeded his advice on a track which resembled my gymkhana strip, went to the pitch of the ball and played it without hesitation We added 180 - odd runs which helped us substantially to save the follow on which was a big morale – booster for the rest of the tour.

Gavaskar played like a champion on that tour after missing the first Test due to injury. Sardesai, more experienced than Gavaskar, attacked the bowling at will The wickets were good overall and the West Indies did not have bowlers like, Hall and Griffith. Both Shillingford and Dowe were quite nippy but short of experience

DILIP SARDESAI

The Renaissance Man

"The man who led the renaissance of Indian cricket".

No, Vijay Merchant was not hailing Sunil Gavaskar. He was paying the ultimate tribute to Dilip Sardesai. After all, it was Sardesai who laid the foundation for the 1971 Indian victory in the West Indies. Gavaskar only added some gloss to it.

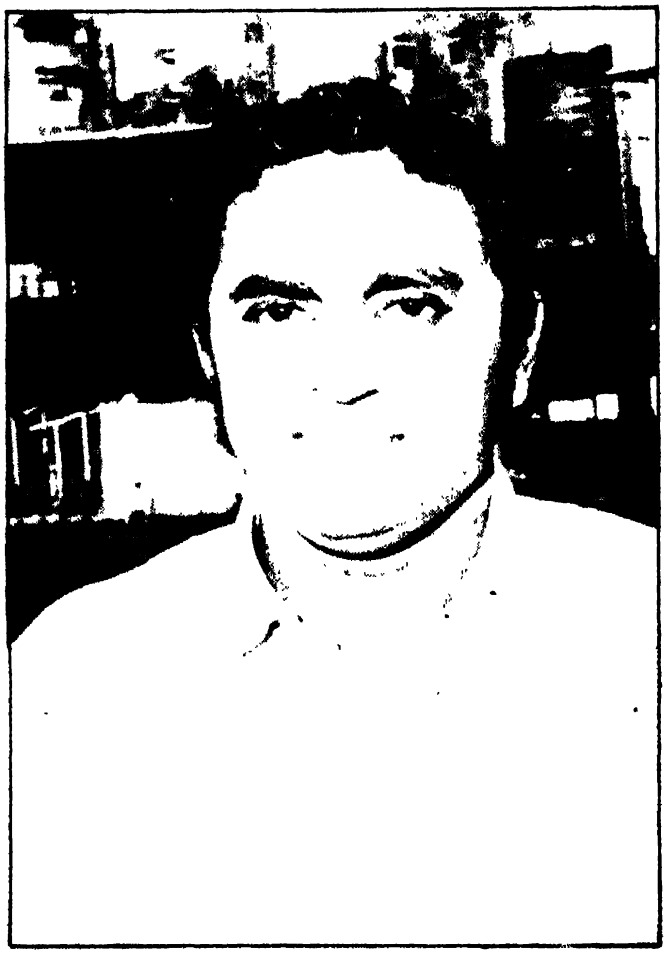
And yet the man who got the trail—blazing 212 in the first Test, who got three hundreds in all when they mattered the most, who showed his teammates the West Indian attack held no terrors of old, just about made it into the 16 – member team that was to tour the Caribbean islands.

Sardesai, after being a regular in the Indian team until the mid sixties fell from favour as the decade drew to a close, thanks to a series of low scores. In fact, before the 1971 rubber he had played in only one of the preceding 14 Tests and his career at 30 seemed to be prematurely over. The combination of Wadekar (Captain) and Merchant (chairman, Selection Committee) however, made sure that he was in the team. His selection was about the only one criticised.

Sardesai knew that he was being taken as a reserve bat, as far as the team's think tank went. With Viswanath, Wadekar, Jaisimha and Durrani in the middle order, his very presence seemed redundant.

Dame Luck, however, smiled on him. With Viswanath injured, Sardesai played in the opening first-class game of the tour, scored 97 and staked his claim for a Test place. Finally, Sardesai was included in the team for the first Test. And the rest is history.

In scoring 212, Sardesai not only made micemeat of the West Indian attack, he also instill confidence in the others. From 75 five, India recovered to 387 and from then on the tourists were a transformed lot. In the second Test Sardesai got 112, in the third, 45 and in the fourth a great 150, rescuing the Indians from the hapless position of seventy for six in the face of Windies 501 for five declared.



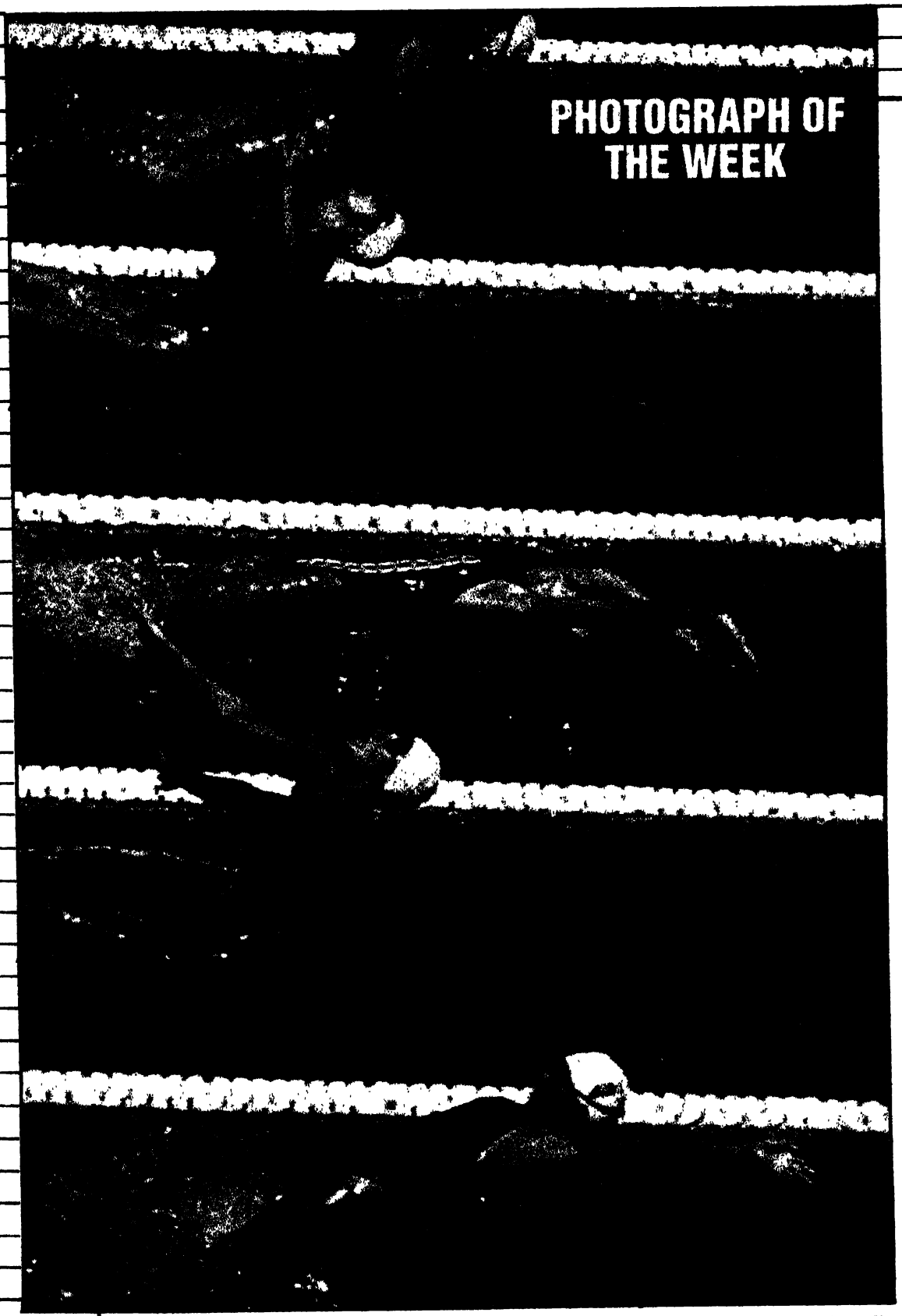
He rounded off the remarkable rubber by getting 75 and 21 in the final Test, but by now the focus had shifted from him to Gavaskar. For a youngster who came up with a monumental feat of 124 and 220, Sardesai was momentarily forgotten. But Gavaskar himself paid rich tributes to his senior Bombay colleague when on his return he admitted that "He had shown us the way".

Sardesai ended the rubber with 642 runs (average 80.25). Very briefly he held the record for the highest aggregate by an Indian batsman in a Test series. He then played a leading role in the triumph in England later that year, played one Test against Tony Lewis' English side at home in 1972—73 and called it a day. But Sardesai's name will forever be linked with Gavaskar's whenever the West Indies tour is discussed.

Partab Ramchand

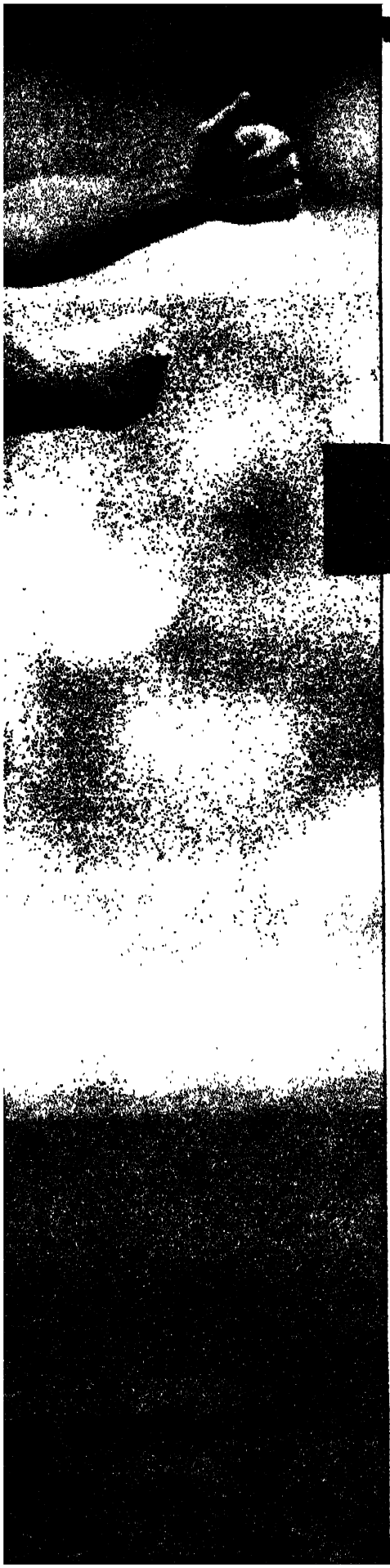
It was Dilip Sardesai who laid the foundation for the 1971 Indian victory in the West Indies. Gavaskar only added some gloss to it...

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK



The advantage of a good start. The girl in the centre lane is off to a "flyer" in a backstroke event at the World Championships


10
King!



A positive cocaine test endangers Diego Maradona's spectacular career. Tragic victim of his own success, we may not see his flamboyant style on a soccer pitch again, writes Matthew Campbell

IT was training time and Diego Maradona, the world's most famous footballer, was bored. While other Naples teammates were going through their paces, the Argentine superstar was walking disconsolately round the track trailed by his two personal physiotherapists. Despite their urgings, he would not do a single stretch.

For a long time the Naples team had been training in the afternoons, unlike other Italian clubs, simply because Maradona seldom got up before noon. The podgy little striker had other things on his mind. His behaviour on that afternoon made this clear: Suddenly, he noticed an attractive Japanese woman journalist trying to take pictures of him through a fence, his eyes, which have melted many female hearts, lit up and, within seconds, he turned into a performing seal.

While Maradona hints darkly at a conspiracy to ruin his career, the testimony of others is harder to dismiss. A Brazilian prostitute described how he paid her £400 for a night during which he invited her to take drugs with him

Juggling footballs with his head and every limb, he went through a routine of physical exertion that would have put any athlete to shame. It was an extraordinary, awe-inspiring performance; this stocky, short little man with legs built like treetrunks, had become as deft and elegant in motion as a ballerina.

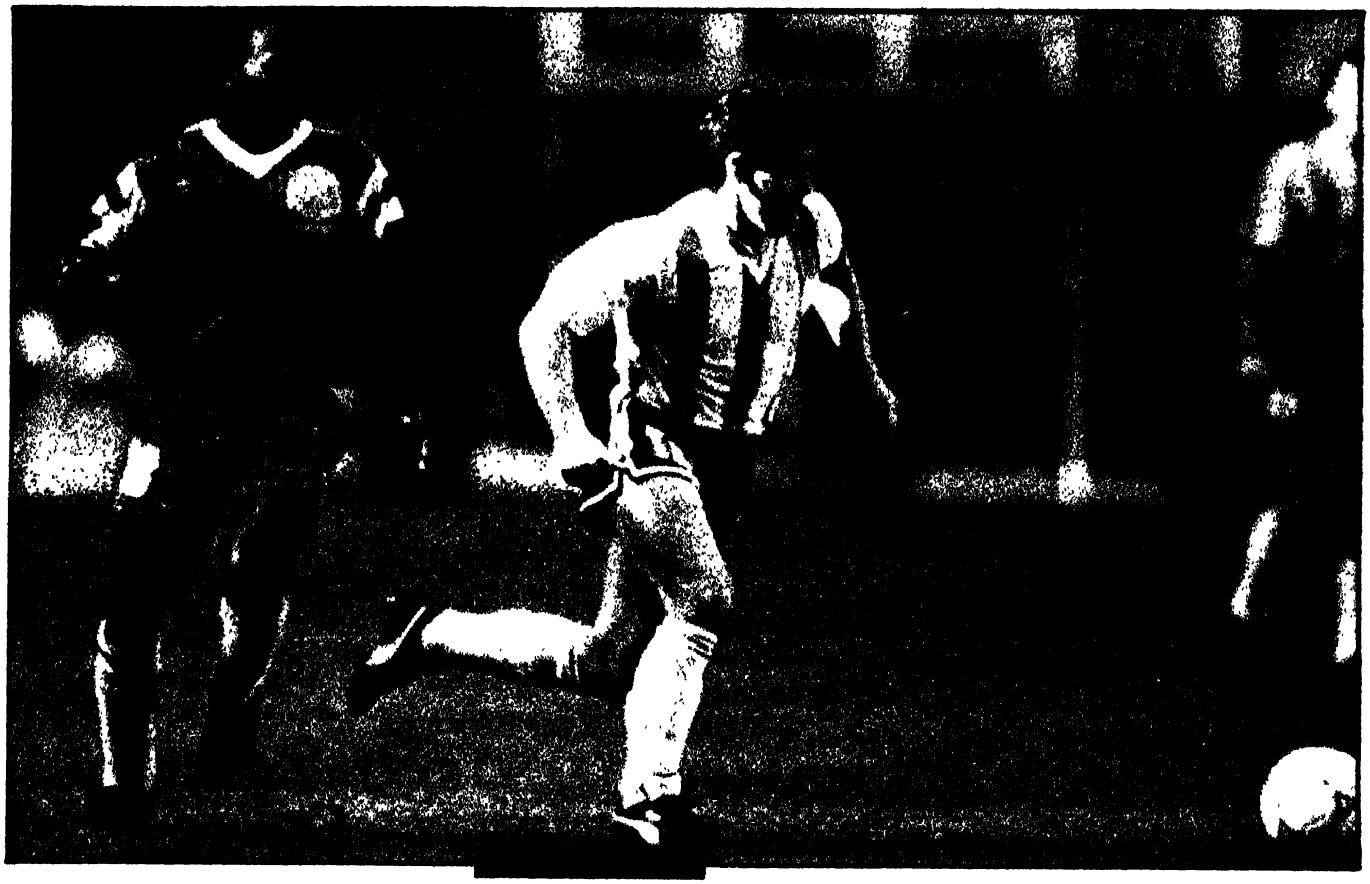
It was the same God-given talent that had produced such breathtaking performances on the field, where he could wriggle past one defender after another with the air of a man enjoying a leisurely stroll. Maradona was a legend who could hope to go down in the history books as the greatest sportsman of the decade.

But last week such thoughts were far from his mind; even the future of his footballing career seemed uncertain as he floundered in the snare of a sex and drugs scandal. His detractors were rubbing their hands together with glee.

Reviled in England for his "hand of God" goal—when he used his hand to guide in a vital goal against England in the World Cup in 1986— Maradona has seldom aroused much sympathy among his opponents; some see him as a man besotted by—but ill equipped to cope with—his fame.

But he is revered by many countrymen as a saint and yesterday they were weeping. Newspaper headlines in Argentina said it all. "From heaven to hell: Maradona fails a drugs test", screamed one anguished headline. "End of a football glory" asked another.

Maradona, whose talent had



thrilled football-loving nations around the world, had been accused of taking cocaine after traces of the drug were found in his much put-upon system in a postmatch urine test. Not only that. Maradona was the subject of an investigation by Italian authorities into allegations that he was involved in a mafia sex and drugs ring; a police informant named him as the recipient and distributior of illegal drugs, and two women testified that they had been offered cocaine while spending the night with Maradona in a hotel.

The Argentine hero denies everything. If found guilty on drug trafficking charges, he could face up to 20 years in jail.

It is easy to see this as a classic example of a man overcome by his own dazzling success for whom, with no summits left to scale, the only course left is down. But it also a case of a man who was the victim of his own talent.

His extraordinary ability brought him many rewards, but it also made extraordinary demands on him. Clubs bid fortunes for players with Maradona's rare talents; but the high stakes have to be recouped, and it is the star players themselves who end up with a huge workload. Maradona suffered physically and mentally under the strain, and did not have the self—discipline to cope

He was always pushed hard by unscrupulous managers determined to get the most from their investment. Discovered at the age of nine while playing for a junior Buenos Aires shanty town team called Las Cebollitas (the little onions) he was soon introduced to steroids, responsible for moulding him into the cube-like shape he is today

He was always pushed hard by unscrupulous managers determined to get the most from their investment. Discovered at the age of 9 while playing for a junior Buenos Aires shanty town team called Las Cebollitas (The little onions) he was introduced to steroids, responsible for moulding him into the cube—like shape he is today. If Maradona had continued to perform well for Napoli, all might have been well. But the slump in his fortunes seemed best symbolised in the World Cup, when he ended up crying like a baby. Soon he was being blamed for a slump in Napoli's fortunes as well. But Maradona is used to being blamed. "It is very easy to speak about Maradona," he said of himself last week. "But I don't want to hear people talking about the dark side of Maradona."

He has known every accolade. A practising Catholic, he has received more blessings from the Pope than Mother Teresa; his

The game is up for Maradona

NOW that cocaine has been found in Diego Maradona's much-put-upon system, perhaps the only refuge left for him will be Japan.

That is presuming and provided that the Japanese, who have been dangling huge sums of money in front of him to play in what would amount to exhibition games, remain interested, after his latest fall from grace.

That he is clearly finished in Italy will not trouble Maradona. Though his contract with Napoli still has a couple of years to run, the romance has been dead for some time, and he had already announced his determination to leave, perhaps for Argentina, at the end of the season.

Yet what a romance it has been! Thanks to Maradona and his genius for scoring and creating goals, Napoli have twice won a championship which, until he arrived in 1984 for a king's ransom, was no more than a mirage.

The second championship, won last season, was in fact something of a two-edged sword. It brought about Napoli's participation in the European Cup, and one of the strangest, most significant, episodes in the little Argentine's troubled career.

Having arrived back outrageously late for pre-season training, having time and again ducked training in Naples, Maradona was left out of the team to play Spartak in Moscow.

What did he do but turn up in his own private plane, show his wife round Moscow in the small hours and manage to talk his way into the team, to the fury of the directors.

We probably demand too much of our stars. The John McEnroe syndrome is highly relevant. McEnroe has time and again been forgiven for his outbursts and escapades. By and large, however, we seem to expect our sporting heroes to set us standards off the field and on it.

When they come from a background such as Maradona's, the expectation seems unreal. Born nearly 31 years ago in the slums of Buenos Aires, one of eight children, he has always been essentially the Buenos Aires urchin.

Pele, you might say, would never have punched the goal which Maradona so controversially scored against England in the Aztec Stadium in the 1986 World Cup. Still less would he have attributed it to the hand of God.

But Maradona's behaviour is all of a piece. Before the 1990 World Cup final, when the Argentine team was training on Rome's grounds at Trigoria, he was involved in a violent brawl with security guards after his brother had driven his Ferrari out of the gates, to be turned back by the police. When another brother was being jeered by louts on the terraces, while playing for his club in Buenos Aires, Maradona and his friends simply steamed into them.

Yet there is another, boyish, almost innocent, side to him. Perhaps, had he not been subject to such a dreadful catalogue of injuries, his latest disaster would not have befallen him. The back, the knee, the ankle. You name it, Maradona has suffered it.

Cortisone has been a dubious friend. He limped his way through most of the World Cup finals in Italy, yet still, with a burst of brilliance, made the goal for Caniggia which took Argentina to the final. This whole season he has played virtually standing still, but none the less made and scored goals of remarkable quality.

Beginning almost as a child with Argentinos Juniors, Maradona came under the aegis of a curious figure called Crysterpiller, an overweight, crippled young man who hobbled along, always beside Maradona, a kind of combination of agent, mentor and grey eminence. In due course, he would disappear.

When Argentina were drawn against Italy in the world Cup semi-final, Maradona was lured into an expensive false move. Trying to exploit the prejudice of the Italian north against the south, he publicly exalted the Neopolitan crowd to cheer Argentina rather than Italy, since Italy as a whole had sold them short.

The cocaine "habit" so depressingly common some years ago in the American gridiron game, is scarcely known in professional football, and may be taken as the mark of Maradona's despair.

Yet when all is said and done, he has been far and away the outstanding footballer of his generation and one of the greatest of all time, an astounding compound, at his best, of skill, speed, courage and a lightning intelligence. Some may feel he has exploited the game. Others may see him, however rich, as some kind of a victim.

Brian Glanville



country's president appeared sycophantic in the way he courted Maradona's approval, appointing him as a special "roving ambassador" for Argentina; even Cuba's Fidel Castro was an admirer and had called him by the familiar "tu" during one meeting.

Maradona married a glamourous blonde, had millions in his bank account, several luxurious homes and a fleet of sports cars. He had achieved his one simple aim: of ranking with Brazil's Pele in fame. But *Dieguito*, as he had come to be known in the Buenos Aires slums from which he had risen, was not happy. The reverence of millions around the world was no longer enough for the footballing god of 30.

He had been speaking of retiring, a prospect now increasingly likely, or of going to Japan for a more leisurely footballing career. At times he suggested he would return to his native Buenos Aires to play demonstration matches for Juniors, the team in which he first caught the attention of football's gurus

Elsewhere Maradona was reviled as a proven cheat, whose scandalous antics on the pitch, such as pretending to be scythed down when in the penalty box, could only bring shame on the game.

Plagued by a bad back, which had needed ample dosings of cortisone, the painkiller, before each match, he was beginning to feel the physical toll of the years of international football With three pins in his left ankle, which was shattered by a particularly vicious kick during a match in Spain, Maradona had taken more knocks than most.

He began to skip training. He seemed to be spending more time in Buenos Aires visiting his parents than in Naples; and soon, inevitably, he became embroiled in a row with the club management which fined him more than once for jeopardising the team's performance in key matches.

All this seemed like ingratitude to Maradona. The Napoli football club had paid a record $13m for him in 1984. But the gamble soon paid off and his magic produced soaring ticket sales. With Maradona at the core of their team, Napoli, which had won the Italian Cup only twice before his arrival, began routing its opponents with monotonous regularity. To thousands of Neapolitans, Maradona became as much of a god—figure as he was to millions of Argentines back home.

Perhaps Maradona felt he deserved to be able to take things easy. Whatever the case, he had taken to finding his fun, according to Italian reports, in the seedy back streets of Naples.

HAVING grown up in the slums of Buenos Aires, Maradona was as streetwise as footballers come. But fame had changed his life; he had become used to the adoring attention of his fans and had little experience of betrayal.

Recently, an article called "sex, drugs and goals" in Milan's weekly *Epoca*, linked Maradona to Carmela Cinquegrana, a 47-year-old Naples brothel madam. She was detained with eight others on suspicion of involvement in a cocaine smuggling network in the French cities of Marseilles, Lyons and Nice. Maradona was forced to spend three hours with an investigating magistrate, explaining his position.

To some of his Naples fans it smelt of a frame-up. During the World Cup in Italy last year, Maradona had outraged the Milanese, who see their city as the capital of northern Italy, with a call on Naples to root for Argentina in its match with Italy. He was hoping to capitalise on traditional antagonisms between the Italian north and south.

While Maradona hints darkly at a conspiracy to ruin his career, the testimony of others is harder to dismiss. A Brazilian prostitute described how he paid her £400 for a night during which he invited her to take drugs wth him.

The local media had a field day, digging up stories about his supposedly wild sex life. A total of seven girls were reported to have gone to the police with stories of nights spent with Maradona.

His passion for womanising was no secret. On one occasion, he flagged down a passing bus of journalists after spotting a particularly shapely Mexican lady aboard. His penchant for performing in training sessions while under the lens of a pretty photographer was also legendary; and he never denied stories of exploits with expensive call girls, known in Italy as "Diego's Ladies".

In a way this was expected of a macho Latin footballer. But the accusations of drug-taking were more serious.

With an air of bewildered innocence, the man who once beat five English defenders in one run, shrugs off any accusations of wrongdoing, while not denying that he has unspecified "vices". "But they are the same as any businessman or anyone else might have. I would never take drugs," he told Italian journalists last week. "I am incapable of bringing so much shame on my children."

Maradona accepts a shirt from Sampdoria chief Numez before signing for the club



He also laughs off suggestions that he is involved with the mafia. As a local celebrity, it would have been difficult for Maradona to escape rubbing shoulders with the *camorra*, as organised crime is known in Naples. In 1986, he was photographed smiling at a party given by the infamous Carmine Giuliano, boss of the city's Forcella quarter, where massive drugs, sex and smuggling rackets are based. It was then that police started to build up a dossier on him.

By the time of the World Cup in 1986, the magic in Maradona's relationship with his adoptive city was fading fast. Cristina Sinagra, an 18-year-old shop girl, claimed Maradona was the father of her baby, whom she had named Diego She had met Maradona, she claimed, at a Christmas party and had been dumped shortly afterwards.

Half of Naples stood up for Sinagra when she took Maradona to court to sue for child support Others branded her as a scheming gold-digger. Maradona refused to take a paternity test.

Before long, Maradona was married to Claudia Villafane, a childhood sweetheart from the slums of Buenos Aires. Their wedding cost $2 million .Jumbo jets were chartered to fly guests over from Italy to Argentina.

To most Argentines this seemed the epitome of success. The footballer also seemed a model of filial devotion, having moved his parents from their shack in the slums into a sumptuous villa in the middle class Devoto district.

Elsewhere Maradona was reviled as a proven cheat, whose scandalous antics on the pitch, such as pretending to be scythed down when in the penalty box, could only bring shame on the game. But few could doubt he was an extraordinarily gifted footballer, perhaps the greatest talent to emerge since Brazil's Pele.

"I use to love that boy," said a disconsolate waiter in Buenos Aires, sadly clearing away coffee cups. "Now he is lost; he had thrown it all away. He will never recover again." ●

BILL PONSFORD

ANOTHER TIME, ANOTHER PLACE

He was born in North Fitzroy, Melbourne in 1900. Christened William Harold Ponsford. Known in later life by team-mates as "Puddin."



HE was eight-years old when Donald George Bradman was born at Cootamundra. Three and a half decades later, the world's best bowlers agreed unanimously that, given a choice of whom to bowl to, they would choose Bradman, not Ponsford. Bradman, they reckoned, gave them some chance, Ponsford none at all.

Ponsford went to Alfred Crescent School and began playing first grade cricket for the Melbourne Club, St. Kilda, at 16. An introvert, his shyness was sometimes mistaken for a suspicious nature. Even in later life, he was always very reserved. Teammates would say it took the duration of an overseas tour, with its long sea voyages, to get to know him.

Photographers assigned to cricket grounds would wait to capture his facial expressions, but the wily Ponsford would tackle them in his own style. Making his way to the wicket, he developed the method of pulling his cap low down over his eyes to thwart them. The peak of his cap never seemed to hamper him once he took block at the start of an innings As his innings progessed, he would simply tug on the cap so that the peak went, by degrees, further round in the general direction of his left ear

Cricket writer Ray Robinson noted this with amusement. He reckoned one need not look at the scoreboard to see how far Ponsford had progressed in an innings "If you saw the peak at a rakish angle behind his left ear, you knew he was heading for a second hundred '

The only batsman to score more than 400 in an innings on two occasions, he had to break the world record for a first class knock to win a spot in Victoria's Sheffield Shield side. When Victoria played New South Wales in 1926, he had scored 352 when he muttered, "Cripes, I'm unlucky," when his bails were finally dislodged Victoria scored 1107, but Ponsford was disappointed that he had not been able to better Archie Maclaren's record individual score of 424, made in 1985

Actually Ponsford had scored 429 against Tasmania four years earlier, in 1922. The Australian Board recognised that as a first class game, but Lord's did not. Then, while Bradman was making his maiden first class century in Adelaide in 1927, Ponsford scored 437 against Queensland in Melbourne. From England, Maclaren was the first to cable his congratulations

His bat was a mighty weapon, a two pound ten ounce lump of timber that was nicknamed 'Big Bertha' by admiring teammates and despairing opponents. Rivals used to joke that his bat was wider than the laws of cricket permitted

Ponsford scored 13.819 runs in first class matches for an average of 65.18 and 2122 runs in 29 Tests at an average of 48.22. His bat was a mighty weapon, a two pound ten ounce lump of timber that was nicknamed, 'Big Bertha' by admiring teammates and despairing opponents. Rivals used to joke that his bat was wider than the laws of cricket permitted.

Then one day a Sydney umpire measured his bat and found that Ponsford had hit his drives in the meat of the bat so often that the edges, with the pressure, had actually spread further than the legal width. There was scarcely a red mark of the ball on the edge of the bat, but to the accompaniment of raucous dressing room laughter, the edges were scraped back to the permitted width, using bottle tops

Ponsford was not normally associated with controversy, but in 1928, writing for a now defunct '*Herald*' newspaper in Melbourne, he said of Harold Larwood that he was 'not as fast as may be thought.'

Two years later, when Ponsford was suffering from gastric trouble before the Leeds Test, a Yorkshire newspaper tactlessly suggested that he was dodging Larwood. The barb stung him. When he encountered the English fast bowler, during the Oval Test, Ponsford took two boundaries off his opening over, scored 110 of Australia's first 159 and reached his hundred in only 135 minutes.

Douglas Jardine once made the mistake of calling him slowfooted, but in 48 Test innings, he was only stumped once. He was never out lbw He was to retire at the age of 34, but in his last two Tests against England in 1934, he and Bradman scored 839 in two consecutive partnerships. At Leeds, they came together after the fall of the third wicket and raked the English bowling for 338. Their second wicket partnership at the Oval then added 451 and their average scoring rate during those two Tests was 80 runs per hour.

They tell an amazing story about Ponsford volunteering for the Royal Australian Air Force during the second World War. Doctors, amazed at the discovery that he was colour-blind, asked him how he had managed for so many years to score runs against the best bowling attacks in the world.

To which Ponsford replied simply, "I never noticed the colour of the ball, only its size."

David McMahon, Melbourne

Interesting snippets from the world media that we normally don't get to hear about....

CHESS & CRICKET?

IMAGINEtwo chess teams contesting a cricket final! Strange but true, for at the Indian Gymkhana, Bombay the senior and junior teams of the Maharashtriya Chess Association of the Blind played in the final of the cricket tournament. And the organisers? Maharashtriya Chess Association of the Blind again!

Chess and cricket may appear worlds apart, but the celebral element is present in cricket, and the physical in chess though it is not obvious. Top Grandmasters take to rigorous outdoor sports such as tennis, swimming and even soccer to stay mentally fit. Congratulations to Maharashtriya Chess Association of the Blind for driving home this point.

MESSY BUSINESS

IRVING BROWN, an English multi-millionaire who is based in the United States, is interested in buying Tottenham Hotspurs, the debt striken English first-division team. He has emerged as the potential saviour of Spurs who have plunged more than £13 million into debt after off-field business ventures proved to be failures.

Brown, a 51-year-old businessman, owned 17 per cent of Spurs, shares during the '80s and now wants to take over the club. He said, "I have sufficient funds to go into the bid myself. Tottenham are in hell of a mess and it is a disgrace that such a great club has fallen to such depths."

Squash has a chance of being included in the 1996 Olympics at Atlanta



PLAY BALL, BUSH

LAST WEEK the 116th season of baseball started with eight games being played on the first day. US President George Bush, tossed out the first ball in Arlington, Texas, when the Milwaukees Brewers played the Texas Ranges, co-owned by Bush's son George.

FAST FACTS

HERE are some crazy statistics for all you marathoners:

The highest prize money for marathon winners in the USA: *Boston $55,000; New York $26,385 plus a car.*



SPORTING TRIVIA

Largest US marathons: *New York: 23,774; Los Angeles: 14,115 participants.*

Approximate water consumed by a marathoner: *1.8 quarts.*

Approximate water loss by a marathoner: *1 quart.*

Money spent on athletic footwear in the US: $11.7 billion.

Money spent by an individual: *$47.04.*

President George Bush, starts off the 116th baseball season in the US

SPORTING DEFECTIONS

ALBANIAN mid-fielder, Josep Cjercji was injured in a car accident when he defected following an European Championship qualifying match.

The 26-year-old soccer player left his Paris hotel after playing with his national team against France and was heading for Brittany, where he intended to ask for political asylum. Three other members of the 16-man squad defected to Switzerland en route to Paris.

While on the topic of defection there is another: Cuban super heavyweight boxer, Jorge Gonzales defected to Finland during the Gee Bee Tournament for which he was a favourite in his category. The 28-year-old and two time Pan American champion slipped away from his hotel room and did not show up for the semi final bout and in the bargain lost his chance of winning a medal.

Marathoners in the US are into spending big money on footwear, but they are also raking in the dollars

PROMOTING SQUASH

SQUASH has a 50-50 chance of being played in the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, according to Roger Eady, President of the International Squash Players' Association (ISPA).

Eady said, "In Atlanta, there's a very, very strong possibility that squash will become an Olympic sport. Squash fits in perfectly with the requirements for an Olympic sport—it's young, active, vibrant and it's clean. There are no drug problems."

VODKA FOR SALE!

THE SOVIETS are never short of innovative ideas. Take the women's rugby team on tour in Britain. They arrived for the Rugby World Cup with no money for food! So what did they do? Coolly reached into their bags and came up with bottles of vodka, caviar and sports gear—all for sale.





THE FALDO FORMULA

FROM TEE TO GREEN

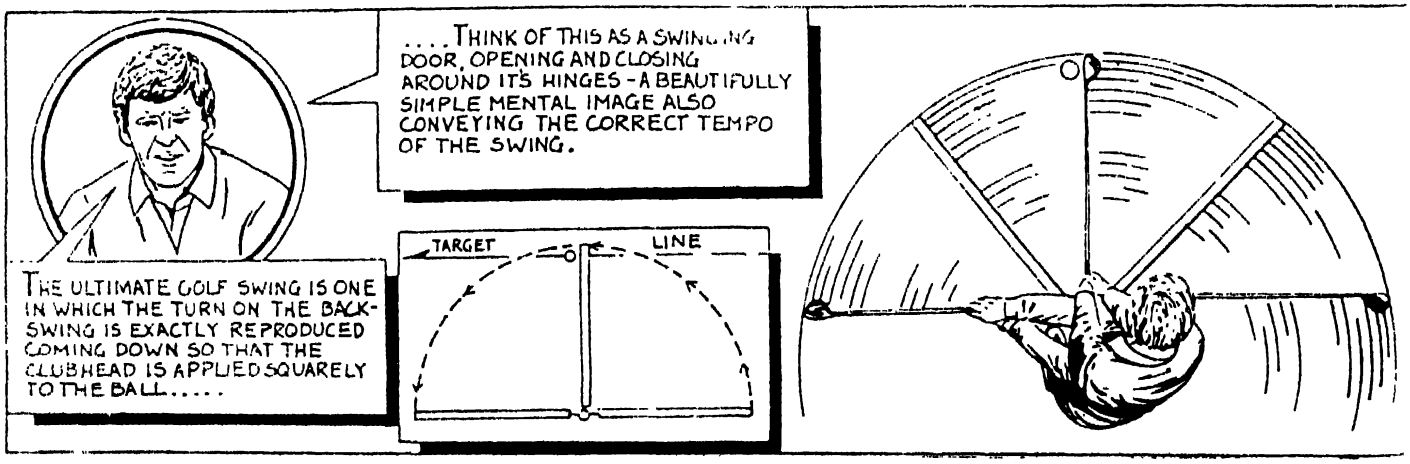
In a Mirror



Watch and Learn



Shut that Door



READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. In Sri Lanka which sport is referred to as "Gudu"?

2. What is common to "The freak of nature", "The deformed one" and "The fool"?

3. Which ex-tennis star's first recorded 'disc' was "Globe Trotter Lover"?

4. Which tennis player said about another, "Everytime I see her, her shoulders are still about three inches wider! I was growing too at her age, but enough's enough".

5. Name the venue where a complete day of Test cricket has been lost the most number of times

6. Who was the first Indian chess International Master?

7. What is special about the following sports personalities: W.G. Grace; Rick Charlesworth; Vece Paes; Socrates and Roger Bannister.

8. Where are the headquarters of the International Olympic Committee?

9. Name the athlete who has the distinction of competing in five Olympics.

10. Name the most popular indoor game of the world.

11. Who is the co—author of the book "Vijay Amritraj-An Autobiography"?

12. Whose book on tennis co--authored by Gene Scott was entitled' My Life and Game?'

13. One of Vijay Amritraj's coaches won 28 Grand Slam titles .It was a record win. Who was he?

14. Whose autobiography is titled "One More Over"?

15. Which famous sprinter has a nickname as Marvellous Mama?

★ WIN RS 300!

If your quiz is selected
(1) All entries must be neatly typed.
(2) The maximum number of questions is 50.
(3) Quizzes on specific sporting topics will be given preference, that is, each quiz should deal with one particular aspect of sport.
(4) Questions which have already appeared in the column will be discounted immediately.
(5) Send in your entries with full name and address to:
Sportsworld Readers' Quiz
6, Prafulla Sarkar Street,
Calcutta—700 001
(6) As we can only publish 52 quizzes annually, the best will be chosen.
The Editor's choice is final.

ANSWERS

1. Kabaddi.
2. All are nicknames of Brazilian football star, Garrincha.
3. Illie Nastase.
4. Pam Shriver about Gabriela Sabatini.
5. Old Trafford, Manchester.
6. Manuel Aaron (1960).
7. All Doctors.
8. Lausanne, Switzerland.
9. Pietro Mennea of Italy.
10. Monopoly.
11. Richard Evans.
12. Bjorn Borg.
13. Roy Emerson of Australia.
14. E.A. S. Prasanna
15. Fanny Blankers Koen.

THIS QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY:
RAJIB BARMAN
33/XXII, A.K. AZAD ROAD,
REHABARI, GUWAHATI, ASSAM 781 008

All answers sent in by the contributor

THE REAL MASTER

VIEWPOINT

MUDAR PATHERYA

As a tiny eight-year-old in 1971, this writer made the first independent transaction of his life when he deployed his monthly pocket money of Rs. 2 to purchase the four *Sportsweeks* that described how a certain Sunil Gavaskar was totting up 774 runs in his first Test series. Five years later, the written word was not enough; the latest opium was the ball-by-ball commentary and the national fix was S.M. Gavaskar getting yet another hundred at Port-of-Spain. In 1989, SMG sat 20 feet away from me in the press box at POS and scribbled his daily despatch for a breakfast readership waiting to be told how things just weren't what they used to be in his day.

Oh, but back to the salad *Sportsweek* days of 1971. Two black-and-white pictures still stick out in memory; a smiling Gavaskar returning to the pavilion flanked by Sobers and Abid Ali, and hooking the fiery Uton Dowe for six.

His ability was evident even before the tour. The chairman of selectors Vijay Merchant had exhorted the senior batsmen in the side (read Jaisimha, Durrani, Wadekar and Sardesai) to follow Gavaskar's example of going for the second hundred after getting the first. SMG was yet to play a Test!

It was a series of some interesting reels of drama. Gavaskar almost lost a finger through a gangrene infection before the tour started; was written off by the West Indians because he was a teetotaller; was the subject of a boast made by Dilip Sardesai to a West Indian fast bowler that Gavaskar would take two hundreds off their bowling during the series; got his first run in Test cricket after the ball had hit his pad and the umpire failed to notice; was dropped



by Sobers early on; was encouraged by Kanhai from slip who whispered 'Well played, son' after Gavaskar got to his maiden 50.

Sobers' collaboration came in even more handy in the third Test. Gavaskar was only 6 when he cut Shilligford to Sobers, who dropped it. Later at 94 he survived, by his own confession, 'the simplest of catches'. Gavaskar stretched forward to smother the spin on Noriega's off-break, the ball hit his glove and bobbed up. Sobers, standing close to the bat, had anticipated Gavaskar's forward lunge and had moved ahead to pick the catch. The impact on the glove caught Sobers off-balance and the ball rolled behind for a single. "Maan, why are you after me?" he demanded of Gavaskar at the end of the over. "Can't you find some other fielder?"

The high noon was at Port-of Spain, Trinidad. On the eve of the Test, as Gavaskar describes it, he emptied a jug-ful of iced water after a sweaty day at the nets. A particle of ice worked its way into a tooth cavity and Gavaskar spent the next week in pain. Worse, he couldn't go in for painkillers as the manager reasoned that these would only make him drowsy while he batted. Worse, he couldn't get sleep at night. A wag in the dressing room suggested that Gavaskar better go to sleep on the wicket!

Which is what Gavaskar did. He scored 124 and 220 in the Test whilst in constant pain and was elated on the last day, not because the tour was ending but because he could now pop in a tablet to relieve the pain. Gavaskar's 774 (average 154.80) was the highest ever by a batsman playing his first series. Lord Relator complained: 'But Gavaskar ... the Real Master ... just like a wall ... we couldn't out Gavaskar at all ... Not at all ... You know, the West Indies couldn't out Gavaksar at all!'

And it is not as if the West Indies didn't have a clue of how to get him out. Clive Lloyd's autobiography claims that Lance Gibbs was convinced he had a plan that would send Gavaskar to the pavilion. "Bowl a full toss on his body and put a man at square leg," The suggestion was laughed off.

My favourite Gavaskar story of that champagne tour is how a spectator at Port-of-Spain bet him that Foster, on 99, wouldn't score a 100. The terms: the spectator would give Gavaskar $100 if Foster got the century. If he didn't, Gavaskar would have to shell out $1. The next delivery, Abid Ali clean bowled Foster for 99. ●



Gavaskar almost lost a finger through a gangrene infection before the tour started; was written off by the West Indians because he was a teetotalier; got his first run in Test cricket after the ball hit his pads



KEN NORTON

'I took a lot for granted'

Nearly paralysed by a car accident, Ken Norton who broke Muhammad Ali's jaw, is slowly picking up the pieces of his life

Tell us about your relationship with Ali, Foreman, and the other great champions.

The thing was that even though we were very competitive, we were still very good friends. We just made a video called "Champions Forever". It was Ali, Frazier, Foreman, Holmes and myself. You would have to say that everyone got along well. When we would fight, it was like two lawyers in court. When you get in the courtroom, you battle You go for each other's throats You're trying to win. When the bell rings, the fight's over You come out. You're friends.

Did you go out socially with any of the fighters?

Yes With Joe Frazier And, in fact, I just came back from a thing in Seattle, Washington, where Ali was voted fighter of the decade

Since your retirement, you've been involved heavily with exercise and body-building. Tell us how you got involved and what your current diet and exercise routine consists of regularly.

At first, I started a company called the Ken Norton Novelty Company. I then went into sports management. I then got hurt in a car accident After 2-1/2 years and not being mobile, when I became mobile again, I decided to open a health club because I thought it would help me to get back to what I wanted to be Right now I have Ken Norton's Gold's Gym It's more of a health club. My oldest person here is a lady who is eighty-three or eighty-four. And she's very active She's here everyday And since I got hurt, I'm more into the body.

What are your plans for the future?

As I told you, I was in that car accident; I walk okay but not very well yet. I can't run yet. My next thing is to get back where I can run again.

What exactly is wrong with your legs?

I don't know exactly because I lost my memory from 3 months before the accident to 2 years after the accident. They say I was going on the freeway in L.A Someone saw me go over the embankment which is like a 35 degree angle to the bottom and I hit a tree at the bottom. I was paralyzed for a year and a half to two years Broke my jaw I had a skull fracture Broke my leg.

Was it through surgical techniques that they were able to get you back in shape?

Yes For the head they operated on the skull from the side and filled the holes in. They wired my jaw back up. My leg was in a cast for a long time. I was in bed for like a year and a half when I was paralyzed. Time and God helped me.

Did you work with a physical therapist?

Yes, but I quit I didn't have any mind lying there after 2 years. If I knew you and you came, I would



Champions All: (From Left): Muhammad Ali, Joe Frazier, Ken Norton and Larry Holmes

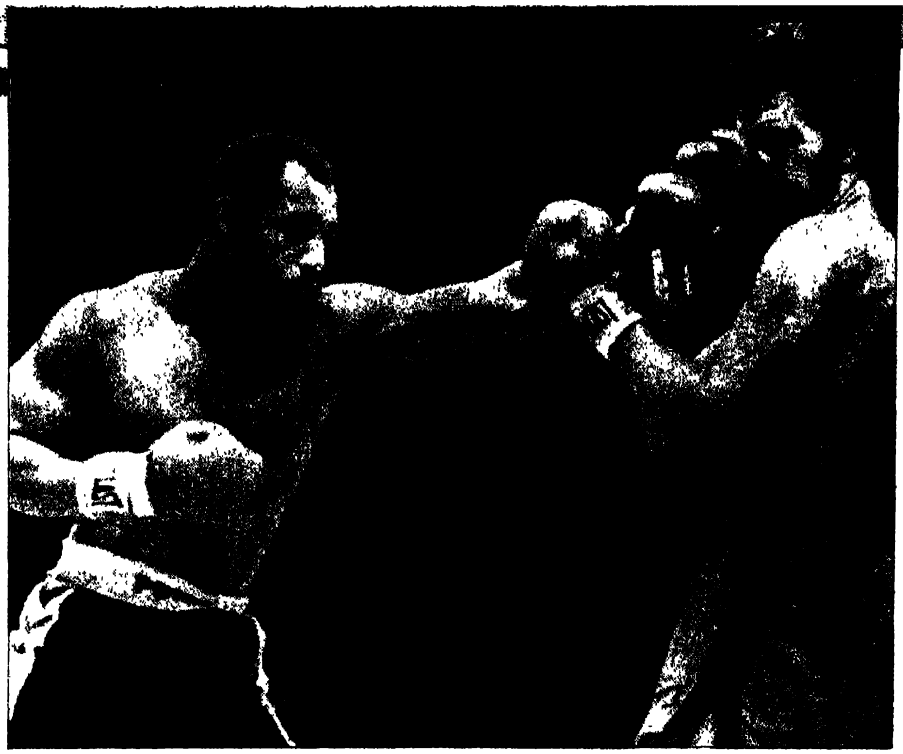
recognize you. I would speak and after five sentences I would forget. So the thing was that I didn't want to go to therapy. Otherwise I did it all myself. I went to therapy, maybe 3 months, or less than that, and the rest I did all by myself.

Looking back on your career, do you have any regrets?

My main regret looking back at my career is that I really didn't apply myself as much as I should have. I took a lot for granted. By being an individual that things kind of came easy to, physically, I never took advantage of it. I took it for granted. I felt I could have done a lot better if I had worked harder I felt I hadn't sacrificed enough. But the thing that's good is now I can tell my son, Ken Norton Jr, about sacrificing. He saw, as it was explained to him, what I did and what I didn't do or what you have to do or what you don't have to do. It's making him a lot better athlete now. He plays for the Dallas Cowboys

What did you do mentally and physically in your training that made you one of the few men to beat Ali when Ali was in his prime?

I read a book called "Think and Grow Rich." I became a firm believer in Napolean Hill. And by reading the book, I got to the point where I felt no man could beat me. And that I was as good as any man. When I fought Ali the first time, everyone expected me to lose. To me, it was an honor to be in the ring with a man of that caliber Putting me in the ring with that caliber meant that they thought more of me than people seemed to realize. That lifted me up



Ken Norton (left) during his younger days lands a punch on Randy Cobb, a fight that he won by a split decision

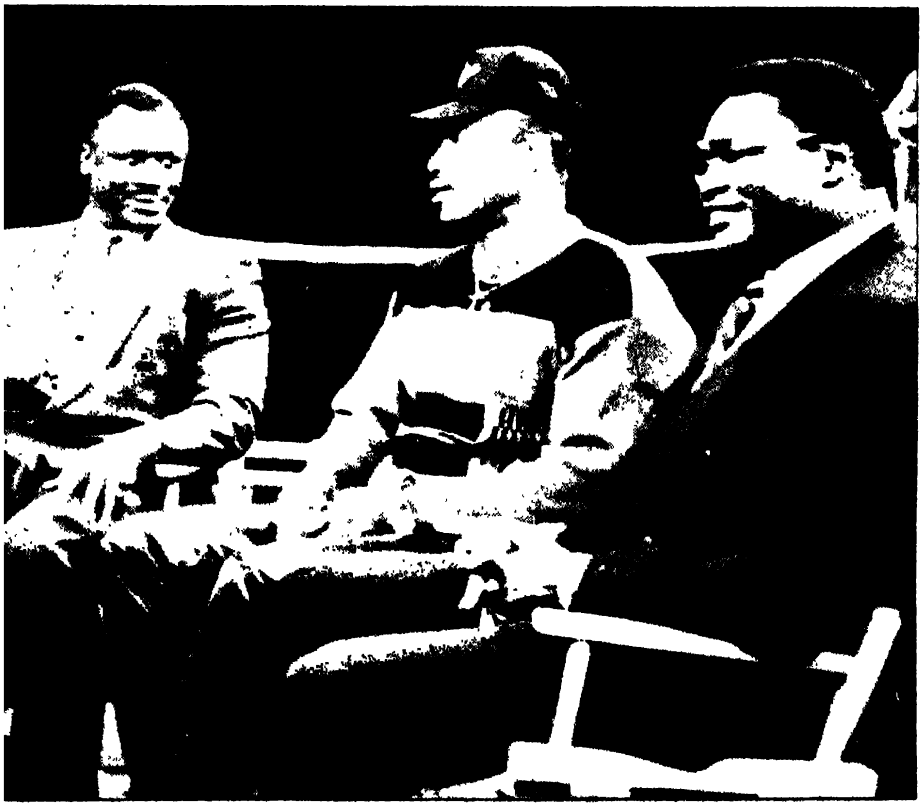
What do you think about Foreman's comeback?

I think he's legitimate. He's even more powerful now than he was then. He lifts weights. He's bigger, stronger, slower. But the point is, you have to come in to hit him On the way in, you almost certainly will get hit

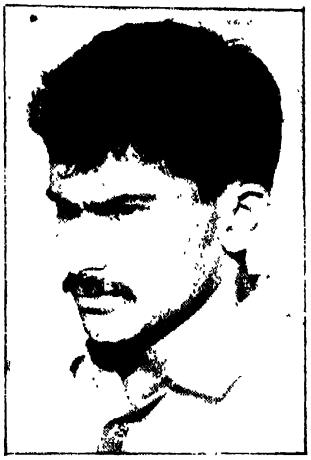
Tell us about the feelings you get when you are in the ring? Are they exhilarating? Do you even feel fearful and do these feelings contribute or act as a deterrent to your overall feeling?

There really is no place for fear going into the ring. But by being afraid a little bit, it helps. When a dog or a cat is afraid, he fights like heck when he's cornered. But when he's out, he can move around. He's not afraid. Same thing with a man. When you're cornered, you're in that squared jungle, the fear acts as a stimulus. It makes you quicker. It makes you faster. It makes you stronger. Hopefully, it makes you think better.

Mitchell Yass



IHF: Nothing Changes!



Sanjay Bisht: Inconsistent in the centre-half position

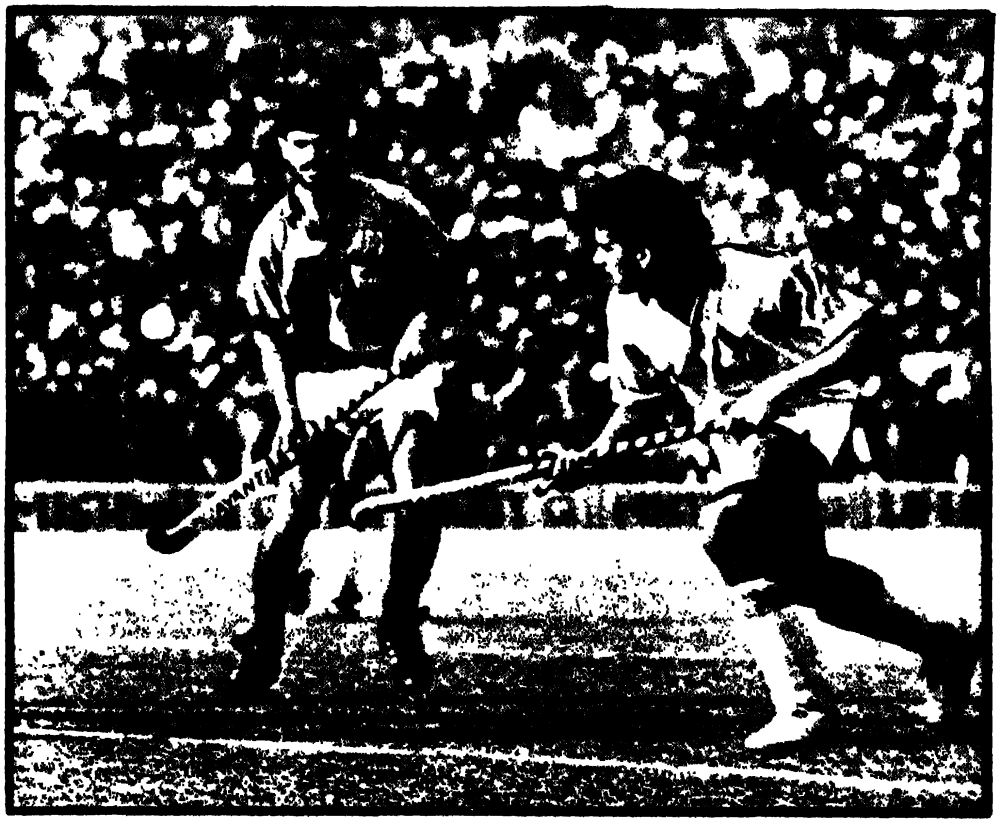
THE Indian Hockey Federation (IHF) is the proverbial 'old wine in new bottles', nothing changes. When Balkishan Singh took over as national coach earlier this year, it was hoped the IHF had turned a new leaf 1991 is the year of destiny for Indian hockey It is imperative that India qualify for the Olympics from the pre-Olympic tournament at Auckland in Oct. '91. Otherwise it will not only be the end of an era for the eight times gold medallists but could also be the death knell for the game at home.

Sadly the selection of 21 probables for the forthcoming European tour, after the four-week coaching camp (March 4—April 4) revealed the inevitable nepotism, arbitrary behaviour and double standards of the IHF. The list of probables was branded as India's team of the 1990s. The IHF president, R. Prasad said: "The IHF is looking at the whole selection process from the long term perspective, we are also looking at the qualifying round, followed by the Barcelona Olympics." A very contradictory statement.

India's first priority is to qualify for the 1992 Olympics, the future can come later. Dropping stalwarts R.P. Singh and Vivek Singh, is like putting the cart before the horse. Pakistan could afford the luxury of omitting four stalwarts, including Qazi Mohib and Farhat Khan, in their preparations for the 1992 Olympics, as they have already qualified. They can nurture talent during their European tour later this year.

Can India take such risks? After all R.P. and Vivek were regulars in the playing eleven till just two months ago. Is such rapid deterioration probable that these two players now cannot even

Pre-Olympic camp discard Vivek Singh (left) in action during the Railway-Airlines match in the Delhi Nationals



be accommodated in the list of 21 probables?

Who is, the replacement for Vivek Singh? Since the days of the astute Ajitpal Singh, India have rarely had a commanding centre-half, except briefly when Hardeep Singh was at his best. Vivek, though not brilliant is still the best in India. He gave a hard working display in the recent 5th Indira Gandhi tournament. If his replacement were highly talented players, the gamble was justified. However the two centre halves chosen are Sanjay Bisht (IA), tentative and inconsistent in his international debut in the Indira Gandhi tournament earlier this year, and Harpreet Singh (Combined Universities) a converted inside forward

Former international Ajitpal Singh spotted Harpreet playing as inside-forward for the Combined Universities in the Nationals. Ajitpal Singh felt that Harpreet had the style and potential to play as centre-half. So young Harpreet played as centre-half for the first time in the national camp. How he will fare in international matches is yet to be seen.

If both do not click what are Balkishan's alternatives? He can try Shakeel Ahmed (IA) as centre-half. The IA coach, Ashok Kumar, has been using Shakeel regularly as a centre-half since the last Nehru hockey tournament. Nirmal Singh of Railways also plays as centre-half for Northern Railway. However either Shakeel or Nirmal would be experimental centre-halves. So what was the harm at keeping Vivek in the camp? This is especially so, as Balkishan said: "The first camp was only for fitness and practise of basic and tactical skills. I have not yet thought of the formation for the team. We may try out new formations. The players need to learn how to cope with the game at high pace. So far Indian players are only suitable for 35 minutes of international hockey. At this camp, I would say improvement is only about 25 per cent."

The selection policy was inconsistent. For the vital centre-half position, the IHF were willing to try either newcomers or experiment. However for right-half, at the insistence of one of the eight selectors, ex-Olympian Balbir Singh (Services) only regulars were considered. Angelus Belung (BSF & Punjab), recalled after his maiden international appearance in the BMW tournament at Holland last year, and Nirmal Singh (Railways) are the regular right-halves chosen. The experiment of Arif as makeshift right-half was rejected as he was found ineffective in that role.

R.P. was dropped as he was considered injury prone and over the hill. Both allegations are not entirely correct. R.P. missed a few days of practise as he got struck near the eyebrows and required six stitches. Earlier in the 1990 Lahore World Cup, he also received stitches for a facial injury.

However Gundeep Kumar, Ashish Ballal and Darryl D'Souza were given another chance to prove their worth at the Lucknow Federation Cup, as they were injured at the Delhi camp. So why the double standards against R.P ? Is it because he spoke out against the Nationals being held on grass?

Also to consider R.P. old at 24-years-old is absurd. If youth was the criteria for selection, then both Jude Felix and Subodh Khandekar who have staged comebacks to the national squad, are older.

Novy Kapadia

Is Balkishan Jinxed?

BALKISHAN SINGH is undoubtedly India's most knowledgeable and experienced hockey coach. He has coached the Indian hockey team in three previous Olympics, at Mexico in 1968, at Moscow in 1980 and Los Angeles in 1984—an unprecedented feat. If Balkishan can get India through to the 1992 Barcelona Olympics it will be his fourth Olympics as coach.

So his expertise as a coach is never in doubt. The problem is about his ability to resist the sharp manipulations and manouvreing of the Indian Hockey Federation. A member of the selection committee narrated Balkishan's jinx in previous Olympics.

"In the 1968 Mexico Olympics, India for the first time failed to reach the final of the Olympic hockey tournament. Balkishan could not control the factionalism in the Indian team. In 1984, India for the second time failed to reach the semis at the Olympics (previous occasion being in 1976). The team was talented but dis-agreements between coach Balkishan and manager Cdr. Nandy Singh about selection, caused the setback."

It must be admitted that Balkishan's 1980 gold winning team, played excellent hockey, even though victory is devalued as only six teams participated.

There is a superstition in IHF circles that maybe Balkishan is jinxed. It is feared that due to his previous misfortunes the Indian hockey team may for the first time this year not qualify for the Olympics. His detractors are spreading this unlucky canard about the coach. However, whilst the coaching jinx is just an attitude of the mind, what is a cause for worry is the national coach's mental toughness to resist the IHF pressure on team selection. The needless dropping of RP Singh and Vivek Singh does not augur well for the future.

FALL GUY!

RAM Prakash Singh has become the Mohinder Amarnath of Indian hockey, frequently in and out of the national team. For some strange reason, the Indian Hockey Federation (IHF) authorities find him a rebellious iconoclast. To friend and foes alike he is simply, RP the mis-understood maverick, whose rebellious exterior conceals lasting virtues. Ironically, RP is not the long-haired rebel, portrayed by the IHF, but the good boy, hockey's "Mr. Clean". His "Achilles heel" is his big mouth

RP is the ultimate good boy. He does not drink or smoke, shuns consumerist culture and surprisingly for one so successful is shy of female adulation. During the fifth Indira Gandhi tournament earlier this year, the Railways women's hockey squad training at Delhi, repeatedly cheered RP but he showed no response.

So why was RP dropped? A first choice till a month ago, cannot be so out of form that he cannot find a place amongst twentyone probables. IHF circles say that RP was victimised because of his candid remarks against staging the 1990 Jammu Nationals on grass. The federation big boss R. Prasad took umbrage and dropped the player from the national squad at the first opportunity. Sadly such indifferent treatment is a regular feature in RP's career.

As a teenager he made his mark with the Indian junior team and then with the disaster-beset team to the 1986 Seoul Asiad and London World Cup. He seemed a potential star when he represented India in the inaugural Indira Gandhi tournament at Delhi in 1987. However, the authorities callous treatment started a year later. For the 1988 Seoul Olympics, he was sidelined and centre forwards, Gundeep Kumar and Jagbir Singh played as makeshift right-wingers

During coach Ganesh's regime, RP was sidelined as Mukesh Kumar became the favourite. But superlative performances by RP in the 1989 Nationals and a massive media outcry, forced the IHF to re-instate him. Yet he was not played in the Asia Cup. The absurd reason: he had shoulder length hair and refused to cut it. Ram Prakash kept on fighting and was the first choice for the 1990 World Cup. Since then he was a first-team regular. Of the eight selectors at Delhi, at least four felt RP should play a key role, in Indian hockey's hour of reckoning at the pre-Olympics in New Zealand.

Yet RP like Balbir Singh (Railways), Inam-ur-Rehman, Ashok Kumar and recently Mohammed Shahid is a victim of the arbitrary wrath of the IHF president and a few disgruntled officials.

What is RP's future now? He has the will power to stage yet another phoenix-like fightback His fans hope that he can prove his detractors wrong by a superlative performance in the inaugural Federation Cup at Lucknow, from April 20-27. However RP has suddenly got a strange ally. The Prime Minister's Office (PMO) is exerting pressure that RP be re-instated.

RP also hails from eastern Uttar Pradesh, very close to Ballai, the PM's constituency. A PMO official has taken the initiative by asking the IHF president and national coach Balkishan Singh that justice must be done and RP re-instated. Will Chandra Shekhar give a parting gift to India's sporting fraternity?

Novy Kapadia

During coach Ganesh's regime, Ram Prakash was sidelined as Mukesh Kumar became the favourite. But superlative performances by RP in the 1989 Nationals and a massive media outcry, forced the IHF to re-instate him. Yet he was not played in the Asia Cup. The absurd reason: he had shoulder length hair and refused to cut it





LEANDER PAES

WALKING TALL

HOW GOOD A PLAYER IS HE? TENNIS EXPERTS AROUND THE WORLD PROVIDE SOME REVEALING INFORMATION





"I'm a different person when I'm on court, no doubt about it. The way I play, my style, the things I do, the way I try for every ball and fly through the air and stuff, I'm an animal. I give everything I've got everytime I go out on the court, and I'm proud of it".

Who said that?

Leander Paes, right?

Wrong, Jimmy Connors.

But hell, it was hard to tell.

Yet isn't this crazy, over the top? I mean talking about a 38-year-old, 109 title legend and a 17 year old manchild in the same breath.

There are some who may think so, believing that while Paes is the most impressive young tennis player we have, he is also, in typically gushy Indian style, being overrated.

To get an accurate assessment of Leander Paes ability, SPORTSWORLD spoke to a range of professionals in America, from management groups to coaches, and the response was overwhelming.

In March this year, Leander, accompanied by his father/advisor Dr. Vece Paes flew to America in what was to be the most significant three weeks of their lives The purpose of their visit was clear. America housed some of the best coaches, sports psychologists and physical trainers the tennis world has to offer. And it was here that both father and son would get a true appraisal of whether Leander actually had what it takes to be a top-class player

Yet, even before America got a first look at Leander, it was abundantly clear that they regarded him as an exciting future talent. This was evidenced by the sustained interest shown by the International Management Group(IMG), ProServ and Advantage International (the three largest sports management groups) in securing Leander as a client.

"We are talking about a player who has the potential to go to the top 10,that's why we're so interested in signing Leander up"

Gavin Forbes of IMG (with whom the Paes' have eventually decided to sign up) explains.

Not in the past ten years has an Indian player generated such interest, and as John Mayotte of ProServ put it, "The tennis world thinks a lot of Leander's potential. We have Sampras, Chang and Patrick McEnroe among others, and we see Leander as being one of the best players in the world in the upcoming years. We do not recruit hundreds of

juniors and then hope one of them will make it. We only sign those who have the potential to be the best players in the world in 5—10 years".

As convinced was Bruce Schilling of Advantage International who wrote to Dr. Paes saying, "...I have researched his (Leander's) game and I believe he has the potential to be a top five player in the world".

Management groups may be accused of being effusive, but it is worth remembering that it is their clients' ability that pay their salaries. Talent is their business, and as Gavin Forbes of IMG (with whom the Paes' have eventually decided to sign with) explained, "We're talking about a player who has the potential to go to the top 10, that's why we're so interested in signing him up".

"I have researched Leander's game and I believe he has the potential to be a top 5 player in the world"

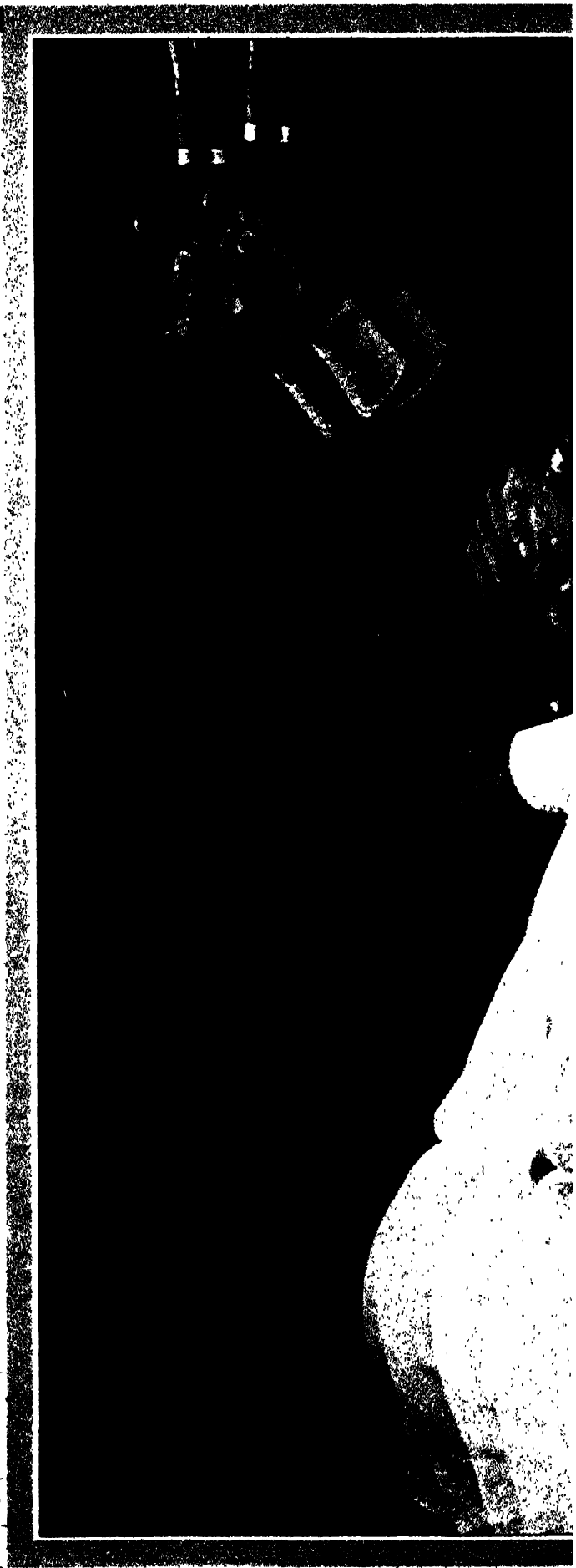
As convinced was Bruce Schilling of Advantage International who wrote to Dr. Paes

Topmost on Leander's agenda in America was a week's intensive coaching under Gene Mayer, from whom *Sportsworld* got the most exhaustive and complete assessment of Leander's talent. Mayer, a former world No. 4 (in 1980 he was ranked behind Borg, McEnroe and Connors) and winner of 14 tour titles, was a marvellously gifted shotmaker and now a highly rated coach. In all probability, Mayer will play the part of Leander's expert coach under whose instructions a touring coach will function.

"There is no doubt in my mind", said Mayer emphatically, "that Leander could be a player at the highest level of the game. Leander has as much talent as any professional tennis player and I would even put in the McEnroe genius and the Nastase genius, in terms of his ability to hit every shot that there is".

"The main thing that you look for, that I look for, is firstly; a good competitive spirit, and he is certainly intense and serious. Secondly, he has very good footspeed, which is necessary to be a top player, whatever game you play. And thirdly, his ability, which is the most outstanding part because he can do everything in the game," said Mayer.

Obviously impressed with Leander's raw talent, Mayer explains, "that the task ahead for Leander and me, is how can he harness all this genius. He has very big shots, but how can he consistently produce a high level of tennis every day. If you want to be a Bjorn Borg, the way you become the best is by trying/playing hard and hitting a lot of balls. Leander is exactly the opposite, he will win his matches by causing damage. Like a Becker does, like a McEnroe. With Leander it is not a question of not having the shots and trying to get more in his game, like Lendl tried to add more. For Leander, his





GENE MAYER'S LETTER

TWO HANDED ENTERPRISES, INC.
115 South Street Oyster Bay N.Y. 11771
Office 516 624 9018
Fax - 516 624 6894

To Whom It May Concern:

After my initial training session with Leander Paes, it is my desire to convey my general observations. Leander and his father are fine gentlemen, that make my task highly enjoyable. I greatly look forward to this ongoing relationship.

Leander truly exhibits all the weapons in his tennis arsenal to take him to the highest level of the game. By way of comparison the most similar prodigy of recent times is Gabriella Sabatini In more specific, there are a number of assets that clearly demonstrate themselves:

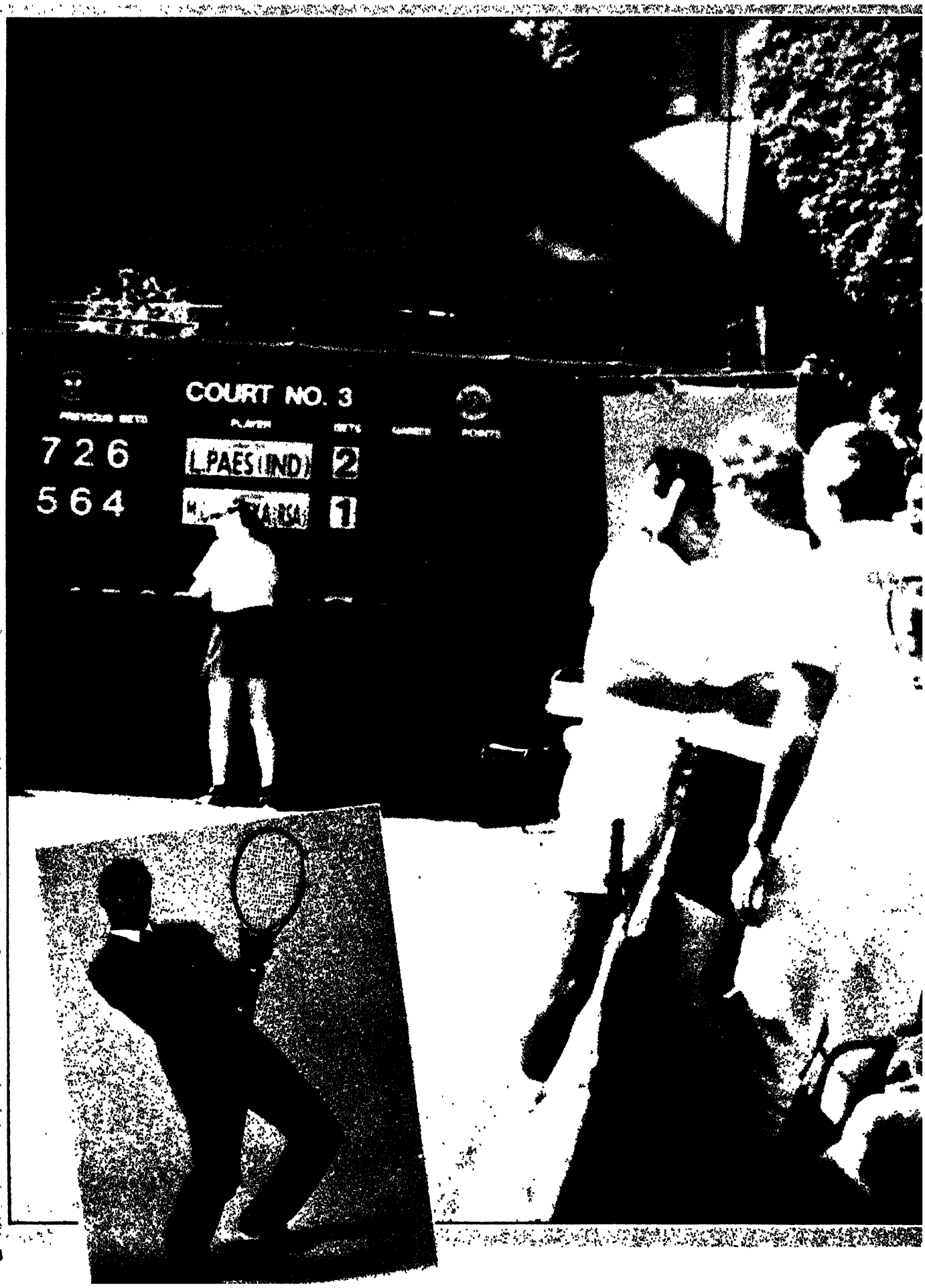
1. Terrific footspeed that is a necessary prerequisite for tennis success.
2. A competitive fire in Leander's eyes that appears to bring out his best in pressure situations.
3. Enormous firepower in his load groundstroke, the forehand, that will be a source of fear in his opponents.
4. Damage causing potential in Leander's serve that have greatly contributed to the rise of Becker, Edberg and Sampras.
5. Great versatility and comfort of transition from groundstroking to volleying games. There is no reason to think Leander can not be a champion on both clay courts and faster surfaces.
6. Keenness and enthusiastic workout habits that greatly profit his ascending game.

In summary, I believe that Leander is one of the great talents I have personally seen. This represents competitive contact with champions from Rosewall to Becker and numerous coaching involvements with the latest crop of juniors. Leander's task is not to develop a game to win, but rather to harness his God given talents.

I delight in the prospects of being parts of Leander Paes's development.

Sincerely,

Gene Mayer


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726
L.PAES (IND)
2
564
1



question is going to be, can he simplify and make things very consistent and regular. With all the special things he can do, can he do the basic fundamental things consistently and well, all the time".

To draw a parallel, Mayer compares Leander to Sabatini in terms of ability to hit the ball and do things, but adds, "as you've seen in Sabatini's career it took a while for her to learn to use her genius well—that's our project".

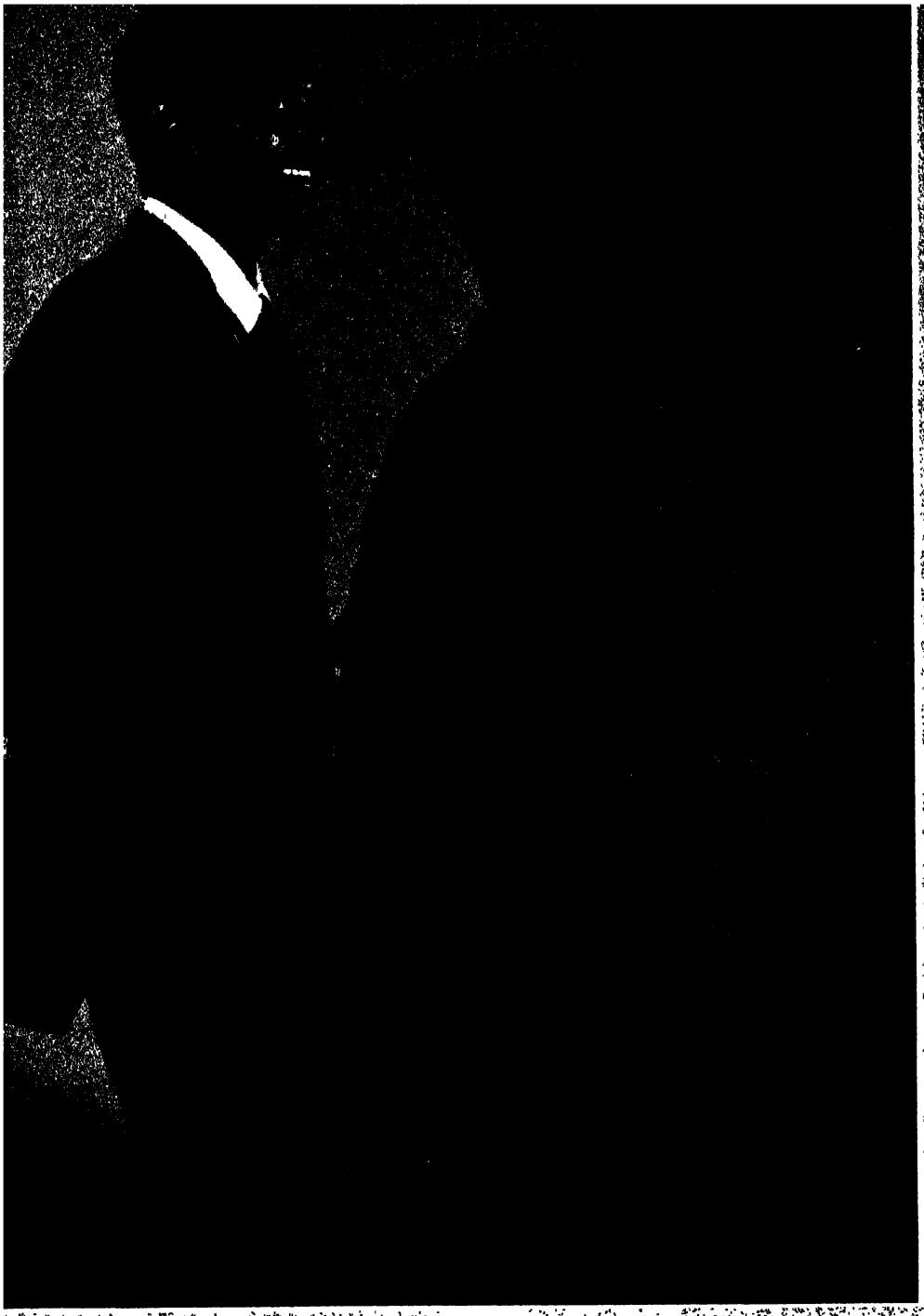
While appreciating Leander's strengths, "he has amazing natural footspeed, an impeccable backhand volley, beautiful backhand and big first serve", Mayer is not dismissive of Leander's weaknesses, whether it be technical problems on the forehand "his big weapon but a little complicated" or his footwork, "because he's so fast instead of walking there early he waits and makes it so that he has to sprint incredibly in the end". Yet there are two areas which he has identified which he believes are vital. The first, funnily enough, is too much ability. "When you're a McEnroe or a player like I was who could do a lot of different things, when you don't play well you tend to confuse yourself. When you play well, you tend to confuse your opponent. The whole thing with Leander is that he has so many opportunities and so many different shots he can hit, that the question of picking the right one is not always easy. Where for a Borg or Lendl it is easy because there are very few shots they can choose from"

The second area that requires work is consistency, points out Mayer, believing that Leander often tries to do too much. "As it is," he says, "when he does a little it's already more than almost every player who plays the game. There is so much in him in terms of talent, there are so many different ways he can hurt you with his game, that if he could just harness those and simplify it and get it to a level where he feels he can do it all the time. You should never try to do that much more unless you're forced into it Leander, almost because of his talent, would look for opportunities to do the extra".

> "There is no doubt in my mind, that Leander could be a player at the highest level of the game. ...and I would even put in the McEnroe genius and the Nastase genius, in terms of his ability to hit every shot that there is. It would almost be a shame if a Leander did not make it big".
>
> Gene Mayer

Mayer also knows that while Leander's intensity gives a glimpse of his purpose, it also has to be channelised well. While comparing him "as closer in intensity to the way McEnroe or Connors plays, but

This is the only picture (taken by a friend) of Leander's Wimbledon junior triumph last year.



Leander is a gentleman and they were not" he explains that "Leander has to funnel that competitive energy and stay calm and in control".

Everyone, naturally, wants to know when Leander will be ready. Yet Mayer, aware that Leander must develop both physically and

> "The tennis world thinks a lot of Leander's potential. We have Sampras, Chang and Patrick McEnroe, and we see Leander as being one of the best players in the world. We do not recruit 100's of juniors and then hope one of them will make it. "
>
> John Mayotte, brother of Tim Mayotte and executive of ProServ, one the three firms which tried to sign Leander on

game-wise cannot give an exact time-span. "We're looking at the next 2 years to get him, not to the height of the game, which we think he has the potential to do, but to the top 50. Then we make the next jump. Yet I think there is the potential of that happening a lot faster, but we must set realistic goals".

LEANDER'S PHYSICAL RATINGS

	Your Score	Optimal Score	Per cent Optimal	Your Data	Norm Data	Rating
Trunk Flexion	24	50	48	15	15.5	AVERAGE
Resting Head Rate	20	50	40	75	70.5	BELOW AVERAGE
Systolic Blood Pressure	43	50	86	115	127	EXCELLENT
Diastolic Blood Pressure	50	50	100	50	79.5	EXCELLENT
Sit Ups (60 seconds)	32	50	64	44	36.5	ABOVE AVERAGE
Height/Weight Ratio	120	150	80	147	165	ABOVE AVERAGE
Per cent Body Fat	200	200	100	2	17	EXCELLENT
3 Minute Step Test	245	400	61	90	96	ABOVE AVERAGE
TOTAL	734	1000		ABOVE AVERAGE		

This Profile was specially prepared for Paes by the world famous Sadlebrook Resort of Harry Hopman

LEANDER'S PSYCHOLOGICAL SKILLS INVENTORY

NAME: LEANDER ADRIAN PAES DATE: 3/13/91

ANXIETY	CONCENTRATION	CONFIDENCE	MENTAL PREPARATION	MOTIVATION	TEAM EMPHASIS
6+ 0	2- 1	4+ 4	3- 1	1+ 4	5- 3
11+ 4	8 2	14+ 4	7+ 0	9- 4	10+ 4
15+ 2	16 4	18- 4	13+ 4	12+ 3	19- 0
20- 4	17- 3	23- 4	33- 0	22- 2	27+ 4
25- 1	21- 4	28- 4	35+ 4	24+ 4	31+ 4
29- 4	26- 4	30- 4	45- 4	39+ 2	37+ 2
32- 4		34- 4		42+ 3	43+ 4
[illegible] 0		36- 4			
40+ 4		44+ 4			
41+ 2					
Σ 25	Σ 18	Σ 36	Σ 13	Σ 22	Σ 21
÷ 40	÷ 24	÷ 36	÷ 24	÷ 28	÷ 28
62.5%	75%	100%	54.2%	78.6%	75%

COMMENTS:
VIA
DR. JACK

* This chart was prepared by Dr. Jack Groppel, Director of Player Development at the Harry Hopman—Saddlebrook International Tennis Academy. Dr Groppel is also the sports science consultant to the United States Tennis Association

Portrait of a potential champion at age 7 and 17





It will not be easy. It will not be quick. Leander is going to lose some matches and he is going to win some matches. He will not beat Boris Becker tomorrow. Or the day after. But three years hence don't bet against it.

Yet, however long it takes, Mayer is unshakeable in his belief that Leander will make it. "He legitimately, certainly has the ability to get into the top 10. There is no doubt that it is there, it would almost be a shame if a Leander did not make it big".

Mayer admits it is not easy for as he points out, "There are a lot of people on the circuit who are very talented and hit the ball great and who are still ranked No. 400 in the world. The big question is, Leander has the elements of a champion, he has the talent, now how is he going to use it?"

It will not be easy. It will not be quick. He is going to lose some matches and he is going to win some matches. He will not beat Boris Becker tomorrow. Or the day after. But three years hence don't bet against it.

Rohit Brijnath

PHOTOGRAPHS: VIVEK DAS

Power Play And Dre

DID player power at Liverpool force out Kenny Dalglish? Has power gone to the head of Marco Van Basten? Did it play a salient part in the changed tactics of the England team during the last World Cup?

The power wielded by players has assumed new importance after it offered us a hint why Dalglish suddenly left Liverpool stranded at the top of the league

This is not to suggest that there was a conspiracy against Kenny. Far from it. But could it have been more than coincidence that he should abruptly give up immediately after Liverpool's surprising 4-4 FA Cup replay draw with Everton?

John Barnes, the mildest and most amiable of men, stated that after the match, in which the Liverpool defence had shipped so much water· "There was a lot of screaming and shouting in the dressing room."

There are stories that Dalglish had strong criticisms of his players and received some equally strong rejoinders.

There is no question about the players running the show; just a manifestation of unrest, of a breach opening between manager and team after some puzzling decisions in selection and tactics by Dalglish over the season.

The word in Liverpool was that Dalglish, throughout his glittering career in the game, had never been used to criticism; neither as a star player with Glasgow Celtic and Liverpool, as a player manager at Anfield, nor finally as simply the manager there. Even when he left, Liverpool were still in the Cup and top of the league—and reigning Champions.

With Dalglish being the determined fellow that he is, there could be no question of his allowing the players to take power though he seemed to bow to their wishes be bringing Peter Beardsley back into the side after



Kenny Dalglish on the Liverpool bench (sixth from left) : did player power force

ssing Room Revolts

By BRIAN GLANVILLE



m out?

mysterious, prolonged exclusion. So perhaps that is why Dalglish left.

Another mystery is the matter of England and player power in the last two World Cups. Each time, England did pretty well, after a miserable start. Each time, the word was—though never wholly confirmed—that a players' revolt had led to a change of tactics.

In the 1986 World Cup, England lost the first game to Portugal and were very lucky to draw the second, against Morocco.

It was said that at half time in the dressing room the players addressed bitter words to coach Don Howe

Radical changes were made after Ray Wilkins was suspended and Bryan Robson injured. Beardsley moved up front with Lineker, Trevor Steven and Peter Reid were brought into the midfield and Poland and Paraguay were beaten.

And was it, as was widely suggested, the players who forced Bobby Robson, always a critic of the sweeper system, suddenly to adopt it in Cagliari last year against Holland?

It may well have been so, for after England had squeezed through against the Cameroons in Naples, Bobby Robson stated: "A flat back four saved us." That change was made late in the game after the sweeper defence had been over-run.

Gifted, strong-minded players do indeed tend to impose their will on some managers, especially when things go wrong. It's a dangerous situation.

The ideal is when a strong player and a good manager can work together; as in the great playing days of Johan Cruyff and Franz Beckenbauer. Both are managers now.

Then there is Van Basten, a former European Footballer of the Year, who missed both legs of the semi-finals of the European Cup

New Stars On The Horizon

LOOK outside England, lots of new stars are emerging. Not least in the Soviet Union, where a host of ardent young players are revolutionising football.

Dynamo Kiev, losing more than half their team, have surged back in no time at all. They may have lost their first leg Cup Winners' Cup match at home to Barcelona, but then they went to the formidable Nou Camp and forced a 1-1 draw.

Everyone envies their 21-year-old striker Youran, who only a few years ago, after a shocking injury, seemed to have ended his career. As for Spartak Moscow, their team of largely unknown youngsters humiliated Real Madrid at the Bernabeu Stadium, where not so long ago Real were virtually unbeatable. Note the lively Radohenko, scorer of two goals.

Nobody, perhaps including himself, knows how old Pele is.

Not the great Brazilian star, scorer of three goals at 17 in a World Cup Final, but the Ghanaian international attacker who this season has kept his place in Marseille's European Cup team while such stars as Eric Cantona, Philippe Vercruysse and the brilliant Yogoslav, Stojkovic, have struggled to keep theirs.

Pele, real name Abedi Ayew, obviously took his nickname from the great man and he actually got permission from the President of Ghana to use it. A Ghanaian international at 17 a regular Anderlecht player at 16—Pele came up the hard way in France

Playing for a spell in Qatar, he then went to France to play down in the Third division for Niort. After that, Mulhouse picked him up to play in the Second. From there, for a bargain £50,000, Marseille acquired him in 1987. Their President, Bernard Tapie, liked the idea of an exotic coloured player in his race-conscious city.

But Pele didn't settle at first. He complained that he could not get on with the star centre-forward, Jean-Pierre Papin—with whom he now seems to have forged an excellent relationship.

And he didn't like being made to play in a left-sided position. He favours the right; and likes to wander. So, he was lent to Lille for a couple of seasons, scoring so many goals that Marseille brought him back again—with a success that he could scarcely have hoped for.

Bayern Munich, now following a policy of buying young players and developing them themselves, have rejuvenated their team this season. It now plays much more open and adventurous football and several of the younger players have been greatly impressive.

Manfred Bender, the 24-year-old right winger turned tireless midfielder, impressed everyone by the superb goal he scored in the second half of the European Cup quarter final tie away to Porto.

He raced more than half the length of the field, beating man after man, before sliding the ball neatly into the bottom far corner of the goal with his left foot.

The 22-year-old blond Stefan Effenberg, who joined from BorussiaMunchengladbach, has also been most impressive with his powerful all round play in midfield.

Jupp Heynckes, the manager of Bayern, says he has now reconciled himself to the fact that they cannot, in the face of Italian offers, keep their players.

After Andreas Brehme and Lothar Matthaeus, now Stefan Reuter, a magnificent all rounder, is off to Italy to join Juventus. So Bayern make do with home grown talent; or, at least, young talent purchased at home. It seems to be working. Watch 19-year-old striker Christian Ziege, too. He also scored against Porto.

The Poles have a new star whom we may soon be seeing in the international team he is the 19-year-old striker Kowalczyk, whose two goals shocked Sampdoria in Genoa and eventually served to put them out of the Cup Winners' Cup which they held.

Over-confidence may have had something to do with their downfall; but so did the brilliant young Kowalczyk, described in the Italian press as "a devil disguised as an attacker".

Only months ago, before Legia Warsaw signed him, Kowalczyk was playing Third Division football. A shy, modest young man, he wanted to swap his jersey for a Sampdoria jersey at the end of the game, but his opponent Ivano Bonetti, would not oblige.

Kowalczyk says it is too early to think about playing in Italy; he has an engineering course to complete at university. But the forward who joined Legia from Polens Warsaw could be another Boniek in due course.

England and Ireland beware!

Brian Glanville



Van Basten hates being left up front as a solitary target, obliged to risk kicking and other kinds of abuse from the defenders able to crowd round him...

for Milan.

He was suspended after elbowing a Belgian opponent in the face in the previous round. He was also excluded, most controversially, from a Milan team which in fact has no other, adequate, centre-forward to replace him.

The trouble has been that Arrigo Sacchi, the lively, efficient and domineering manager of Milan, wants him to play one way, Van Basten prefers to play another.

Under Sacchi, Milan have used zonal defence and "pressing" tactics, moving up very quickly to the halfway line to constrict the space of the opposing team.

Van Basten's role initially was to play and stay up front with a "shoulder" beside him – often in the formidable shape of his Dutch international colleague, Ruud Gullit. But for much of this season, Gullit, with relief, has dropped back into midfield—after missing virtually the whole of last season after knee operations.

Van Basten hates being left up front as a solitary target, obliged to risk kicking and other kinds of abuse from the defenders able to crowd round him.

He has emphatically stated that he prefers to drop off the front line, move back and away from the defenders, and play his part in the creative build-up.

Sacchi will not hear of it and a very disgruntled and unsettled Van Basten has been the result – even to the extent that old rumours have re-surfaced to the effect that he might go back to rejoin his hero and former manager at Ajax Amsterdam, Johan Cruyff, in Barcelona.

The situation has been especially hard for Van Basten to take because he and his leading Dutch colleagues such as Frank Rijkaard and Gullit himself are used to having their own way in Holland much of the time.

They got rid of Thijs Libregts a largely unpopular manager, before he could take them to the World Cup Finals.

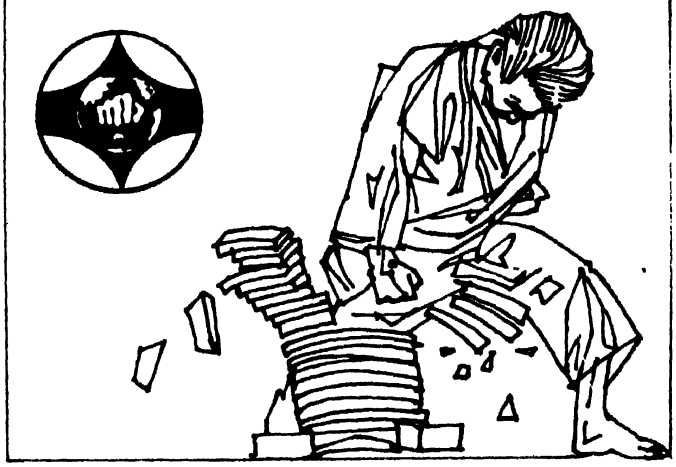
True, Rinus Michels, back yet again in the driver's seat, tends to be a rather different matter.

Shortly before the 1988 European Championship finals, in which Van Basten was destined to play a superbly decisive role, Michels actually left him out of a friendly international, the striker has only just come back from injury.

A furious Van Basten threatened to pack his bags, but fortunately for Holland was prevailed upon to stay ●

KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND





Frontal view of the *jodanmai giri*

CONTINUING with the *kata*, you are ready to go into *zenkutsu—dachi*.

Perform the *zenkutsu—dachi* with your left foot in front with the right hand, enclosed in a fist, sweep the opponent's leg in a clockwise direction. If your opponent has stepped back, kick with your back leg (i.e., the right leg) *jodanmai giri* (front kick to the face). After completing the move bring your right leg back into *zenkutsu—dachi* and execute a *chudan gyaku tsuki* (the reverse middle punch).

By Shivaji Ganguly
Kyokushinkaikan Karate
PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA

People interested in karate can get in touch with Shivaji Ganguly, Kyokushinkaikan Karate, Harish Park, Bhowanipore on Sunday mornings and at Safari Park, Rabindra Sarobar on Saturday and Sunday afternoons.



After completing the *zenkutsu—dachi*, then sweep the opponent's leg with your right hand



Right leg in *jodanmai giri*

ON APRIL 20th

THE FINALS OF THE

SPORTSWORLD ROUND TABLE

QUIZ FOR THE DUNLOP

SPECTRA-WIDE TROPHY

AT THE
DALHOUSIE INSTITUTE, AT 6 PM

QUIZMASTERS :
'TIGER' PATAUDI, NEIL O'BRIEN

ANCHORMAN : BARRY O'BRIEN
NO ENTRANCE FEE OR ADMIT CARDS REQUIRED

ORGANISED BY,
CALCUTTA CENTRAL ROUND TABLE 38



Heartening

GREAT news at last for India in the international arena. Viswanathan Anand has proved once again that the day is not far off when he can play and challenge Gary Kasparov for the world title At Linares, he fired on all cylinders to beat Anatoly Karpov and forcing Gary Kasparov to a tough draw. He will certainly give Kasparov a run for his money in the days to come, possibly in a world title championship.
The Indian Chess Federation should help him bring glory to the country. Now Indians can go and tell the world 'We've got a Viswanathan Anand'. Good luck Anand. You make us proud.
S. SURESH,
Madurai.

Information Please

THOUGH the World Cup Cricket is still a good 11 months away, we the readers of *Sportsworld* would certainly like to have the opinions on the respective teams by the major cricketers, especially the captains of the teams. This will help us readers to keep abreast with the actual happenings in the field of cricket. We would certainly be grateful if this wish of ours was granted.
DEBASIS GOSWAMI.
West Bengal.

A Winner

AN OTHER winner from *Sportsworld*, and thanks a lot for it. The cover story on Kapil Dev (27 Mar—2 April) was simply fabulous. The choice itself was unbeatable and the presentation was as sunny and bright as the smile of the 'Hero' himself. Somehow the poster of Monica Seles did not go with the spirit of the issue. It would have been superb if the picture of Kapil Dev caressing the bat was the poster.
KANISHKA DUTTA,
Calcutta



Thanks!

THANKS for the great article on Bjorn Borg, (20-26 March '91). But it is really hard to believe that he would still be playing with his wooden racquet. If he does manage to win then it will surely rate as one of the best comeback stories ever.

Here's wishing him all the best. *Sportsworld* rates as the best sports magazine in the country. Keep up the good job.
SUJANA PATEL,
Chikhodra.

Revealing!

THE article on Kapil Dev by Robin Chatterjee was revealing. Most of us did not know about the business acumen of his. We always nurtured a 'boy-next-door' image about him. Of course all these revelations have served to increase his respect in our midst. It is amazing as to how he channeled his fame to emerge as a very successful businessman.

Kapil keep up the good work, and continue to lend a helping hand to the other needy sportsmen.
RAHUL MISRA,
Jamshedpur.

End The Bias

THIS has reference to the interview with W.V. Raman (27 March—2 April). Raman is surely one of the best left handed batsman in the country at present. He is surely good enough to get a place in the one-day and the Test squad for the country. Whenever he was included in the team he has proved his worth. Probably one of the only reasons for his being omitted from the team is the regional bias. Maybe being from the south of the country, he could be omitted and no questions are raised regarding this.

One hopes that he will be chosen for the World Cup tour as an opening partner for Ravi Shastri.
C.R. NAGENDRA,
Bangalore.

Pleasing!

IT is often said that V. Anand's performance at Linares was lack lustre. What is pleasing is that Anand has hit the top ten. Though the final outcome is yet to be seen, Anand's case is very promising. In the elite group of the top players everyone has the capability to defeat everyone, and that is perhaps what modern sports is all about. Among the six draws with Ivanchuk, Anand's score reads 3-1 in his favour, and not to forget the memorable match that he played against Karpov. Surely that cannot be dismissed as a fluke. V. Anand is all set to take the world by storm. Let us hope that his genius proves us right.

RAJIB MISHRA,
Sambalpur.

TRUE CONFESSIONS

Of a jaded tennis player

AFTER years of being sick of tennis umpires, crowds and just about everything else that go to make up the world tennis circuit, John McEnroe finally admitted that he was (here it comes!) sick of himself. He has admitted that his own bad behaviour could make him quit-unless the game authorities did it before.



Mac's straightforward admission came after he was one warning short of being defaulted from the Hong Kong Open. He was thrashed anyway by unseeded Todd Witsken.

"I am disappointed with myself in a lot of ways. If I continue to react like this, I feel my days are numbered," the 32-year-old Brat continued.

Is Mac going soft? Or is it just old age and pressure. "If I keep up like this, I will not have to think of stopping. I will probably get thrown out first."

It is sensible to gracefully call it a day rather than put the organisers through such a lot of trouble. But for McEnroe, realisation always comes late.

A SNORT A DAY

Keeps fame away

THIS may sound a bit too hack, but if you guys think that it was only Maradona who snorted coke, think again. We have another great sportsman, that great institution in the welterweight division of world boxing who did the same: Sugar Ray Leonard.

In some ways, he was even worse than Diego Armando. He was an adulterer and a wife beater...as he admitted during a court examination. Excerpts...

Q: Did you ever strike your wife at any time during the marriage with any part of your body: I don't mean your fists necessarily: a shove or a grab or pushing:

A: Yes.

Q: Did you ever hit her on the head, strike her where the ring on your finger caused a cut?

A: Yes.

Q: Did you ever strike her after you had been drinking?

A: Yes, those were the only times.

Q: Would you admit you came home sometimes after you had done some drugs?

A: Yes.

Hey Sugar, what we wanna know is whether you were 'high' when you faced Terry Norris? We suppose not, you just got thoroughly beaten up, that's all.

STATUTORY ARMY RULES

Pack that fat!

HERE's news for all you obese, overnourished fat slobs: keep eating! Being fat does have its advantages. The men in Taiwan provide a case in point. The males are going on binges in order to try and squeeze through a loophole which helps them avoid compulsory military service

Although two years' military service in Taiwan is mandatory, recruits are rejected if they are too fit to fit into their uniforms. Therefore, in an attempt to beat the overweight draftees Taiwan is going to raise the weight limit of a prospective soldier in order to bring more young men into service. There's another way though, maybe the army authorities should subscribe to our weekly health and fitness columns. Money back in case of no results.

CALCUTTA

State Badminton

SEPTUAGENARIAN Manoj Guha saw his record being equalled by 25-year-old Indrajit Mukherjee and the women's final saw a new winner in four years as the 55th State Senior Badminton Championships ended at the Khudiram Anusilan Kendra.

Indrajit, a former junior national champion and once regarded highly by international ace Prakash Padukone, relentlessly rolled to his sixth senior title on the trot (and seventh overall) to touch Guha's feat, set in the Fifties when competition was definitely tougher.

Two players made their maiden entry into the title round of the State championships this time. While Sanjoy Roy tamed Soumen Bhattacharya 18-16, 15-7 in the semi-finals, 18-year-old Mousumi Nandy created the biggest flutter of the championships getting rid of top-seed and defending champion Krishna Das 11-5, 8-11 and 11-8 in the semi-finals.

But Mousumi did not fare as well in the women's final. Twenty-four-year-old Keya Barman, who had last won the State crown in the Durgapur meet in 1986, used all her experience to postpone Mousumi's first major victory. Keya won a rapid women's final 12-10, 11-8.

Sanjoy Roy, on the other hand, played well in the men's final, but it was Indrajit's overall experience which saw him through. Roy banked too much on power play and Indrajit preserved his energies with crafty net play for the kills in the final stages of the match.

Indrajit triumphed 15-7 and 15-11 and it took all of 45 minutes for Indrajit to clinch the men's crown for a record sixth time. Guha, at his best, had won four successive senior titles.

Winners at the State Badmin t on championships: (from left): Ranjit Mukherjee, Indrajit Mukherjee, Keya Barman, Sona Bhattacharya, Ashok Sen

Indrajit capped his individual success by winning the men's doubles also teaming up with elder brother Ranajit. But victory did not come easily as Hrishikesh Kundu, the stocky left-hander with a penchant for sizzling smashes, and Bablu Barua put up a splendid show. The two brothers won the first game 15-3. But in the decider, the Barua and Kundu duo just fell apart as Indrajit played the lead role in bringing up victory without much problem. The third game was won 15-4.

It was the veterans' men's singles which in fact, produced some good badminton. But three-times State champion Baidyanath Nath was hampered by a calf muscle injury midway through the first game and conceded the title to Bimal Poddar early in the second game.

The State championships got off to an inauspicious start this year with the opening day's proceedings being unnecessarily blocked by more than 60 players demanding the release of former State champion Aritra Nandy from police custody. Nandy, who



NIRMALENDU MAJUMDAR

was hauled up by the police for assaulting his wife, was released and the State meet finally got off to a start 24 hours behind schedule.

Central Revenues Hockey

HOT on the heels of the Beighton Cup Hockey Championship, came the All-India Central Revenues Championship which had almost all the Beighton outstation teams.

But some of the best teams in the country, including Beighton champions Army Service Corps (ASC) and EME (both from Jalandhar) failed to produce stuff better than the damp squib which Calcuttans generally get to see.

Army teams generally do not play dazzling hockey and it is their better stamina which finally helps them to prevail over rivals in the hit and run style of game that they indulge in.

Unlike the Beighton Cup, two city sides—Mohun Bagan and hosts Calcutta Customs gained the round of the last four. While Customs send local fans into joy by ousting ASC in the penalty shootout, Mohun Bagan were trounced three goals to nothing by EME,

Customs really played beyond themselves against ASC. Their centre-forward Ram Pal Singh was in excellent form as was Manjinder Singh. The wiry Manjinder put Customs ahead in the 10th minute of the match, but Sukraind, led the ASC fightback. He set up Kishan Pal Singh, who found the equaliser in the 23rd minute.

Manoj Gupta's sizzling drive off a penalty corner gave Customs the lead once again after the breather, but Kishan Pal struck again late in the match. The extra-time was a stalemate and the issue was decided in the shootout. The final scoreline read 7-4 in Calcutta Customs' favour.

EME had it easy against Mohun Bagan in the other semi-final. They broke little sweat as Ramesh Shinde, Raja Kachyap and Saban Horo scored to shut out the city giants

EME finally did not go empty handed from the city. ASC had denied them a straight third win in the Beighton final and Customs had almost done the same in the Revenues meet. But EME came out the odd goal in three winners.

Soumitra Bose

PRADIP SANYAL



EME captain Michael Kindo (right) receives the Central Revenues Trophy from the Principal Collector of Customs, S.C. Bhujangaswamy

M. BALAN



K. Sankar was the winner of the men's title at the All-Kerala tennis tournament

TRIVANDRUM

All-Kerala Tennis

TOP seeded K. Sankar of Kerala State Electricity Board retained the men's title in the 37th edition of the prestigious K.N. Menon Memorial All Kerala tennis tournament.

The intelligent placements and touch game helped Sankar to defeat A. Ajayakumar, 6-4, 6-3 in the men's final encounter. The Sankar-Vijayakumar duo in a stiff battle claimed the doubles title overcoming A. Ajayakumar and Anil Mathew, 7-6, 1-6, 6-2.

Holder Arathi Sasidharan had no difficulty in brushing aside Vidya Mathew 6-0, 6-4 in the ladies final.

Hemanth Santhosh won the boys (U-16) title outplaying G. Sivan 6-1, 6-3 while Hemanth went down to Binu Moni 4-6, 1-6 in Boys (U-18) final.

Gopinath, Vice-President, Trivandrum Tennis Club distributed the prizes.

Sajeev Kumar T.K.

TRIVANDRUM

State Hockey

IN a lacklustre final, five time champions, Kannur district overcame Trissur (3–2) via the tie-breaker to retain the crown in the 37th State Hockey Championship held at the Medical College ground

Kannur who were the better side muffed several chances at the goal In the 25th min, Kannur's Anil Kumar collecting a pass from the skipper Elvis Rolls rushed into the 'd', dodged the oncoming goalkeeper and hit a stinging shot, but the ball hit the right post and went out. Poor anticipation and finishing prevented Kannur from taking the lead

In the second session Kannur's Elvis Rolls, Mohan Peters and Anil Kumar combined well and forced 6 penalty corners, but all of them went abegging· The scoreboard remained blank at the end of the regulation and extra time.

Earlier in the semis, Trissur beat last year's runner-up Trivandrum 4-3 (Tie-breaker) while Kannur defeated Ernakulam by a solitary goal.

Only 8 teams participated in the championship which reflected the sad state of hockey in Kerala.

Sajeev Kumar T. K.

The Kannur district team were the winners of the State Hockey championships

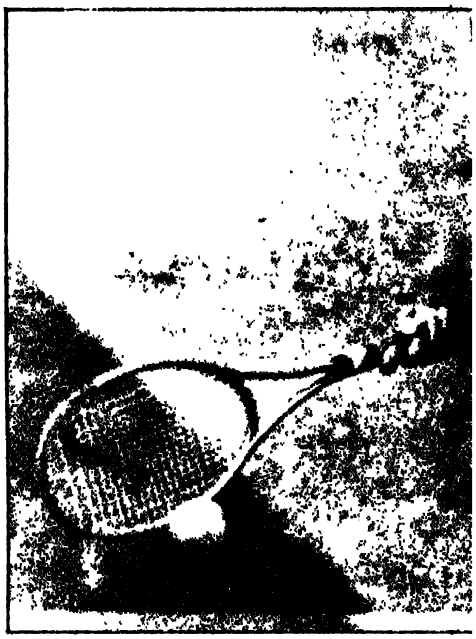
TRICHUR

Gold Cup Tennis

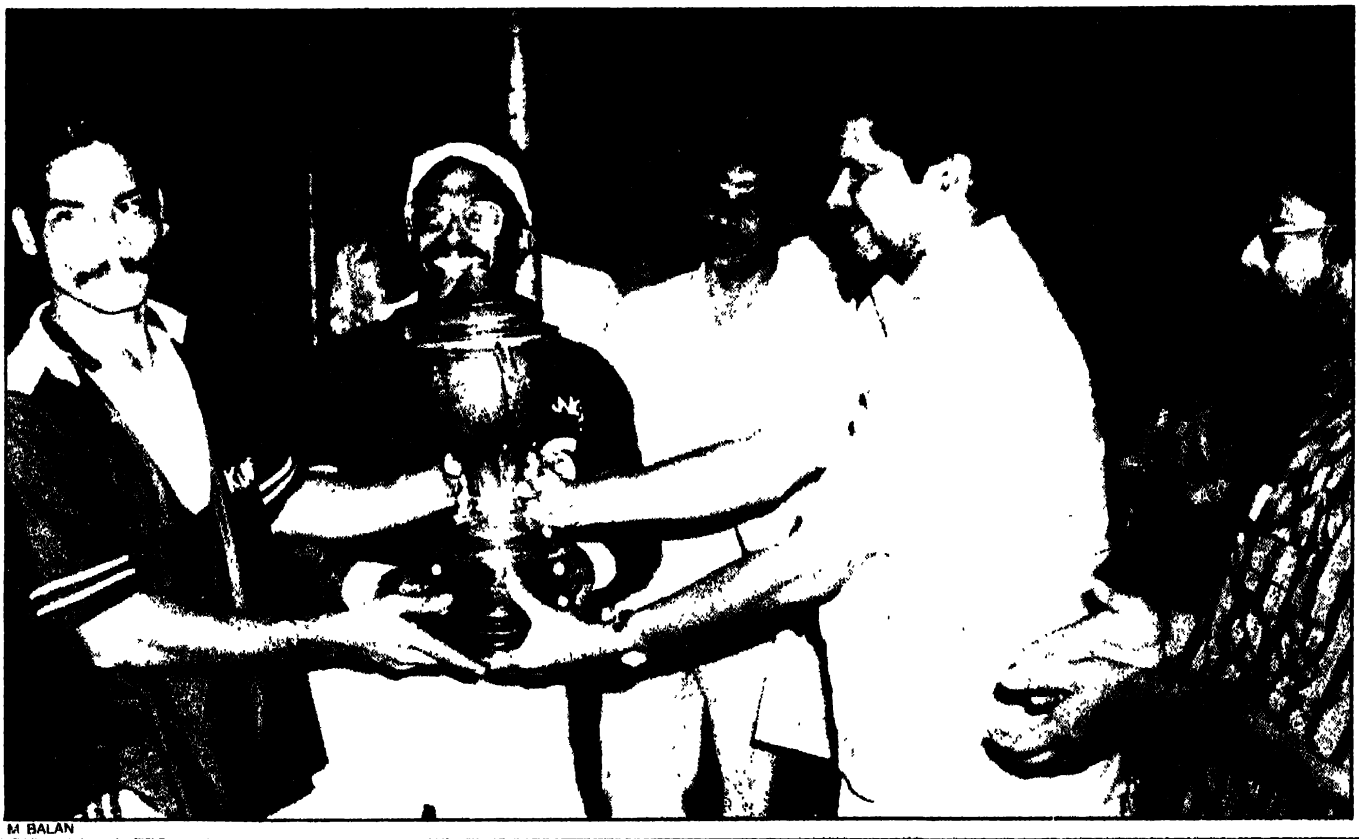
K•G. RAMESH, dashed the hopes of veteran S Narendranath in the final of the 8th All India Invitation Prize Money Tennis tournament for the Kinattingal Gold Cup held at Trichur and thus retained his crown.

The final played in sultry conditions never rose to dizzy heights. Narendranath was unable to hold his own against the terror unleashed by Ramesh's powerful forehand shots Ramesh won the match and title with the score of 6-2; 6 3

Ramesh, carved out a 6–4, 6 2, victory over the fourth seeded Balachander in the semi - final. Ramesh, who faced



K. G. Ramesh: the men's singles winner of the Gold Cup tennis tournament



M BALAN



an initial resistance from Balachander soon shifted gears, displayed his full repertoire and settled the issue.

In the other semi final Narendranath displayed exemplary enterprise to overcome the threat posed by third seed P Manojkumar, who took the first set 6-1. But Narendranath who had survived so many odds like that came into the match, playing some delightful forehand angled shots. Nath took the next two sets with identical scores off 6-2; 6-2.

In the doubles finals Ramesh in the company of Narendranath beat Balachander and P. Manojkumar, 6-2, 6-3.

C.K. John

SURAT

Benefit Match

ALTHOUGH he played some explosive strokes, Ravi Shastri failed to stop the occasional "Shastri hai hai" chants. This was the only sad side of an otherwise highly enjoyable one-day charity match for Maharaja Fatehsinhrao Gaekwad Sports Foundation.

There was entertainment galore for the paying public at Udhna, Surat. The star Indian cricketers were in a pretty jovial mood. They did not disappoint anyone. They obliged the thrill-loving aficionados as well as the autograph-hunters. So much so that Shastri lost his cap in one such kind move. It was restored to him only after some coercion by a policeman and the repeated requests by Shastri himself.

Batting first, Himson XI made 245 for 7 in 40 overs. Pyrotechnics by Kapil Dev, Krishnamachari Srikkanth and Syed Kirmani regaled the spectators with a lot of excitement. They were in such a punishing mood that they were hitting sixers on demands. Venkatpathi Raju was given a very scurvy treatment by the trio.

Kapil was the top-scorer with a whirlwind 60 off only 39 deliveries. Srikkanth scored 59 while Kirmani hit 52. Dilip Vengsarkar, too, played a lovely knock of 28. Karsan Ghavri finished with the figures of 3 for 43.

Chasing a tough target of 246 in 40 overs to win, Baroda Rayon XI was given a sound start by Shastri and the legendary Sunil Gavaskar. The pair put on 93 before falling in succession. Gavaskar's was a short but sweet innings. It was studded with some delightful square cuts and square-drives.

If the pre-lunch session belonged to Kapil, Srikkanth and Kirmani, the post-lunch session was dominated by Sachin Tendulkar and Mohammad Azharuddin. Playing at his brilliant best, the teen-aged batting phenomenon hit 3 sixes and 11 boundaries in his majestic innings of 80 not out.

Baroda Rayon XI won the tie by eight wickets in only 37.1 overs.

Haresh Pandya

NEW DELHI

Inter-University Boxing

MAHARISHI Dayanand University (MDU), Rohtak, dominated the All-India Inter-University Boxing Championships which concluded recently at the Indira Gandhi Stadium. About 143 boxers from 23 universities were in the fray.

MDU regained the crown, by collecting 14 points. They won four golds and one silver medal. Vishnu Bhagwan (fly-weight), Joginder Singh (bantam-weight), Satish Sharma (light-weight), Joginder Singh (heavy-weight) won golds while Anil Kumar (light fly-weight) bagged the silver medal.

Osmania, took the runners-up position with 10 points. Osmania bagged one gold, three silvers and one bronze. Onkar Yadav (light-heavy weight) won the gold, Gautam Mohan (fly-weight), Satish Shetty (bantam-weight) H. Haron (Middle weight) collected silvers while S. Srinivas (light-fly) got the bronze medal. Last year's runners-up Kurukshetra finished third with 9-points. Dharmender Singh (welter weight), Mambir Singh (light-heavy weight) and Joginder Singh (heavy weight) won silvers while Rajeshwar Singh (feather-weight), Randhir Singh (light weight) and D. Singh bagged the bronze medals.

Host and last year's champions Delhi University finished fourth with two golds and two bronzes.

The most promising boxer, Jagdeep Hooda of Haryana Agricultural University (Hissar) won the light-middle weight title, for the fourth year in succession.

Suresh Kumar Lau

GUWAHATI

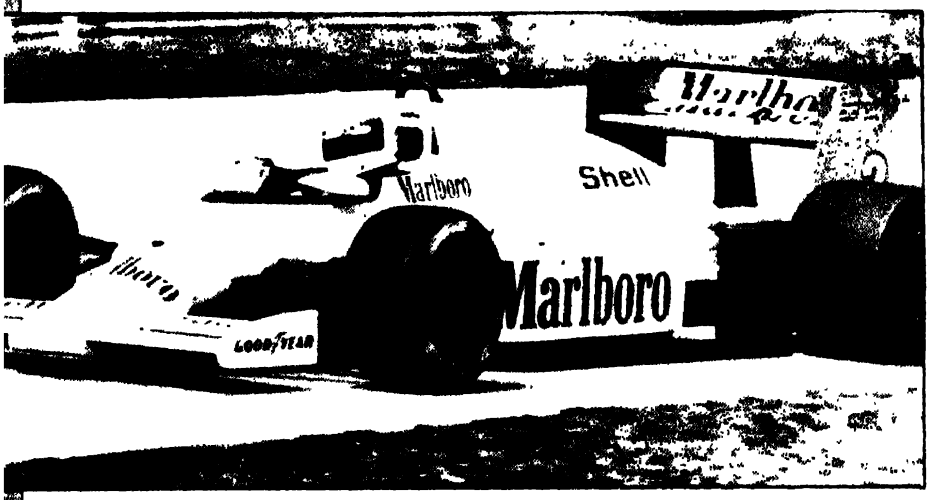
School Football

DIBRUGARH won the fourth Indu Hazarika Memorial Inter-District school football tournament when they defeated Kamrup in the final, 10-9, via the tie-breaker. In the scheduled time, both the teams fought doggedly to score one each.

Earlier in the semi-finals, Dibrugarh beat Kokrajhar, while Kamrup defeated Naogaon.

Benoy Sen

THE RED-AND-



McLaren Honda have made their transition from V10 to V12 a successful one

Ayrton Senna and his red-and-white McLaren Honda don't stop for anybody in the circuit. Ferrari, Williams and Benetton are trying every trick ... but just can't seem to catch up

THINGS are happening on the Formula One circuit. For one, archrivals Ayrton Senna and Alain Prost have finally agreed on something! After risking life and limb trying to put in their fastest qualifying laps on the rain-soaked Interlagos circuit, Brazil, both drivers admitted that "it was a lottery out there".

Not that it slowed Senna down any. Timing his run on the second set of qualifiers perfectly, he made sure of his 54th pole position ahead of the young charger Jean Alesi, Gerhard Berger and Nigel Mansell. The more circumspect Prost preferring not to tempt fate—and the aquaplaning surface—with a sedate fifth spot in the grid.

Dry weather on race day only made Senna more determined to win his home Grand Prix. Held just outside his home town Sao Paulo, this has always been the one victory the Brazilian has coveted And there was no denying him this year as he first fought off Nigel Mansell's challenge and then barely staved off Riccardo Patrese's in his crippled McLaren Honda.

"I finished the race with nothing left at all. Physically I was exhausted, but God gave me this race and I am very happy"...Ayrton Senna, after his much-awaited Brazilian Grand Prix win

Senna had just six gears to complete his last eight laps, and the sheer physical effort of getting the highly strung machine to the chequered flag ahead of Patrese's Williams Renault was underlined when he had to be helped out of his car after the finish.

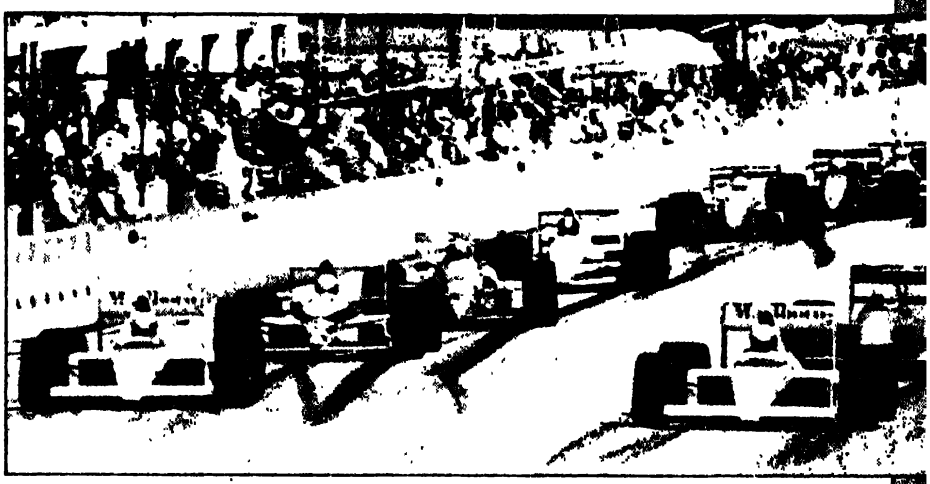
"I finished the race with nothing left at all. Physically I was exhausted," the championship leader said after he recovered, and immediately acknowledged his religious beliefs by adding "But God gave me this race and I am very happy".

Senna later admitted that nursing the fast-fading McLaren through the last few laps, with Patrese's Williams growing ever larger in his rearview mirrors, had been the toughest part of the race. "I had pains in my shoulders, my neck and my arms," he said, while explaining the near-impossible feat of piloting a hyper sensitive Formula One machine with just a solitary forward gear. As anyone who has driven a geared vehicle—even at mundane city speeds—will know, just finishing a race with only sixth gear is achievement enough. Winning it is what makes you Ayrton Senna.

Another person singing the gearbox blues is Nigel Mansell. Plagued with the malady during his stint with Ferrari, the Englishman seems to have brought along more than just the semi-automatic gearbox concept to Williams. The basic idea is still the same—a push button gear selector on the steering

WHITE RENEGADE

The rest of the teams may be gearing up for the chase, but McLaren Honda are still in front



wheel—but Renault seem to be hitting the same potholes as their Italian rivals Ferrari. What's the use of giving the driver both hands on the steering wheel if the car isn't roadworthy enough to run with the best? That's the question both Ferrari and Renault will have to solve now.

In the meantime, Mansell continues to get within exhaust-sniffing distance of Senna's McLaren. .only to have his car let him down. This time too, at Sao Paulo, Mansell perched himself tenaciously on the Brazilian's tailpipe—at one time less than a second separating the two—till a horrendous 15-second pitstop by the Williams team saw him lose touch with Senna whose McLaren pitcrew held him up for just 6.9 seconds. Then, as it is wont to do, the gearbox failed to keep pace with the charging Mansell, who messed up a gear selection, and pitchforked the Williams Renault into a violent spin on the 60th lap.

While Mansell, with typical English stoicism, dismissed it saying "it was very disappointing", his team is pulling out all the stops to get their new semi-automatic gearbox muscled up.

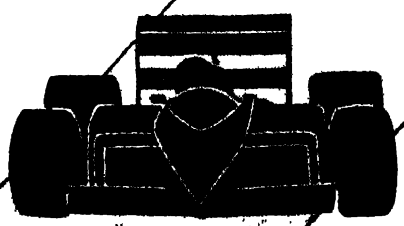
And the man doing all the donkeywork for them on the test track is Damon Hill. If genetics hasn't already earmarked this young man for stardom on the race track—his father, the late Graham Hill, was the Formula One world champion in '62 and '68—then the sheer hard work he put in at the Silverstone circuit recently should. Putting the errant gearbox through the wringer, the Williams test driver had this message for his team as they packed up in Brazil: "We've made progress in testing—the team will get it right for Imola (28 April)."

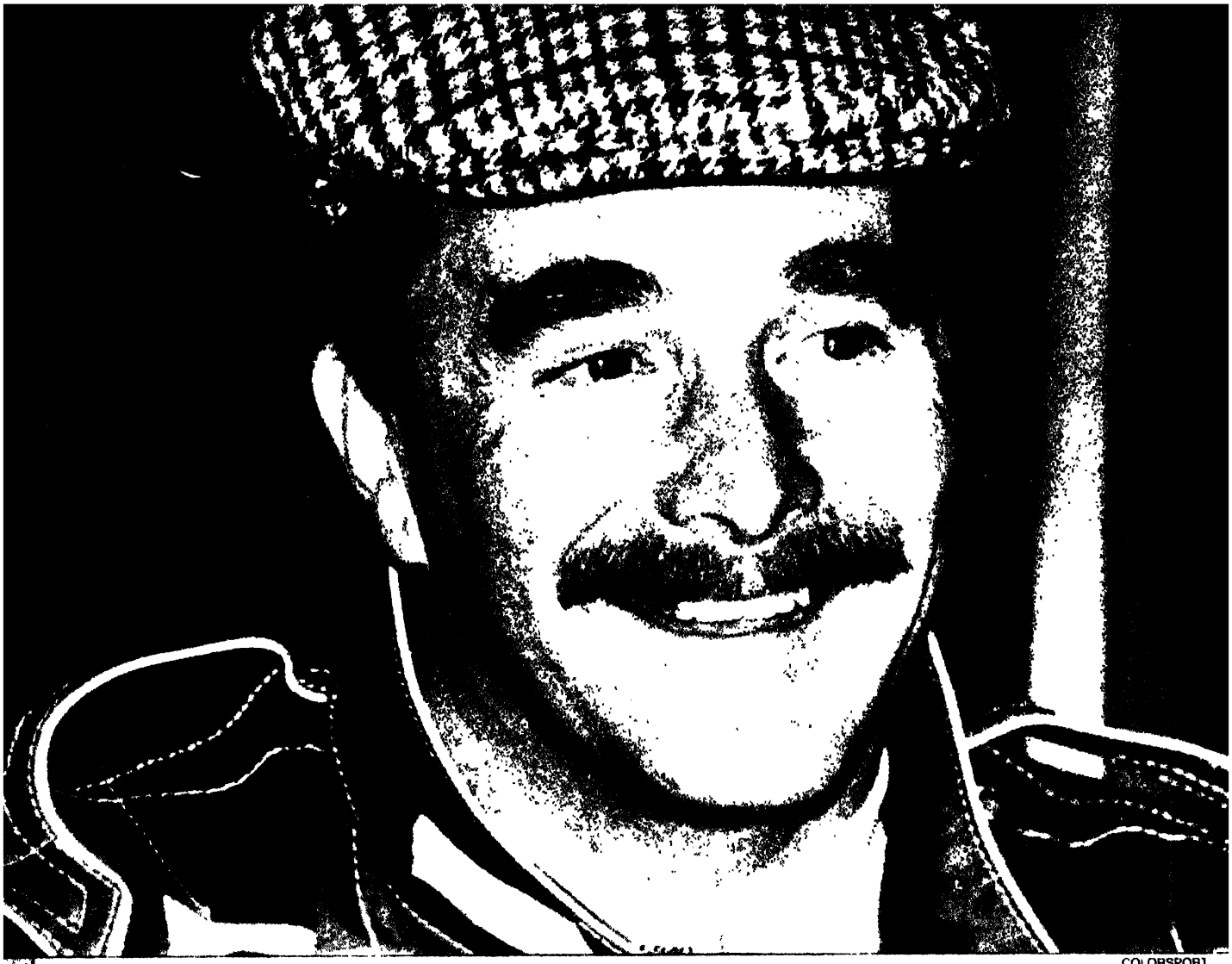
Ferrari too haven't lived up to the promises they made at the start of the season. After intense pre-season testing, as well as the infusion of some youthful zeal in the form of the meteoric Frenchman Jean Alesi, much was expected from the Prancing Horse. But apart from Prost's tame second place finish to Senna in the inaugural Grand Prix at Phoenix, they have failed to deliver. Even Alesi's first finish in the points—sixth, at Brazil—wasn't enough to lift the gloom in the Italian camp.

As anyone who has driven a geared vehicle—even at mundane city speeds—will know, just finishing a race with only sixth gear is achievement enough. Winning it is what makes you Ayrton Senna

If Ferrari are struggling, Benetton have gone one step further in their quest to reel in the McLarens. They have enlisted the expertise of the ex-McLaren, ex-Ferrari design maestro John Barnard and the result—the lean, mean B191 Camel Benetton-Ford machine—will be there for all to see at Imola. Already a force to reckon with in their old Benettons, the Brazilian duo of Nelson Piquet and Roberto Moreno will be raring to get at their red-and-white nemesis.

Having fitted his new creation with a higher, adaptable nose and front win section on a totally carbon-fibre chassis, Barnard plans on opting for the revolutionary semi-automatic gearbox and active suspension system later into the season. But





COLORSPORT

Nigel Mansell is not only sniffing exhaust fumes, but also having gearbox problems

for now "we will go for maximum performance to pick up as many points as we can, but it all comes down to power in the end so we are looking to get as much power as we can from our eight-cylinder engines to match McLaren's V12 Honda" says Barnard.

While their opposition tries every trick in the book to catch up, McLaren themselves are not sitting pretty on their laurels. As their top driver Ayrton Senna himself warns "the standard is very high this year and the competition is getting tougher and tougher. Our car has had very little testing since it was built just before Phoenix and we're going to have to work hard to stay ahead for the rest of the season."

Saying somewhat the same thing, in a slightly different tone though, is the McLaren team manager Ron Dennis. "McLaren exists to win in Formula one," he says, adding "We're here to win, not to come second. When we finish second that is failure."

Tough talk. But then, he's a tough man in charge of a tough team. Better fasten those seatbelts, ladies and gentlemen. The race isn't over yet.

Pradeep Paul

SENNA'S TRACK RECORD

• Has won 54 pole positions from his 112 starts so far. That's a fantastic percentage considering the second-placed man Nelson Piquet has just 24 poles from 190 starts and Prost 20 poles from 171 starts.

• Has driven 2,250 laps (10,385 km) in the lead of a Formula One race, to break Prost's record of 2,237 laps (10,333 km) during the Brazilian Grand Prix. Three-time world champion Jackie Stewart had just 1,893 laps (9,077 km) to his credit while the much-celebrated Niki Lauda managed only 1,620 laps (7,188 km) in the lead.

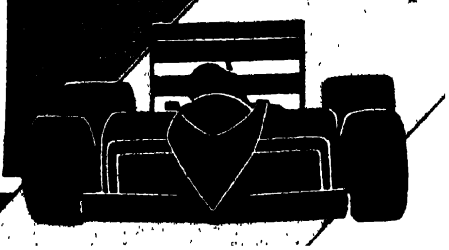
• Has 28 Grand Prix wins under his belt, second only to Prost with 44. Jackie Stewart won 27 and Niki Lauda 25.



Senna (inset) and his McLaren Honda were unstoppable at the Brazilian Grand Prix



"McLaren exists to win in Formula One. We're here to win, not to come second. When we finish second that is failure"...Ron Dennis, team manager



MRF PACE FOUNDATION

JINXED?

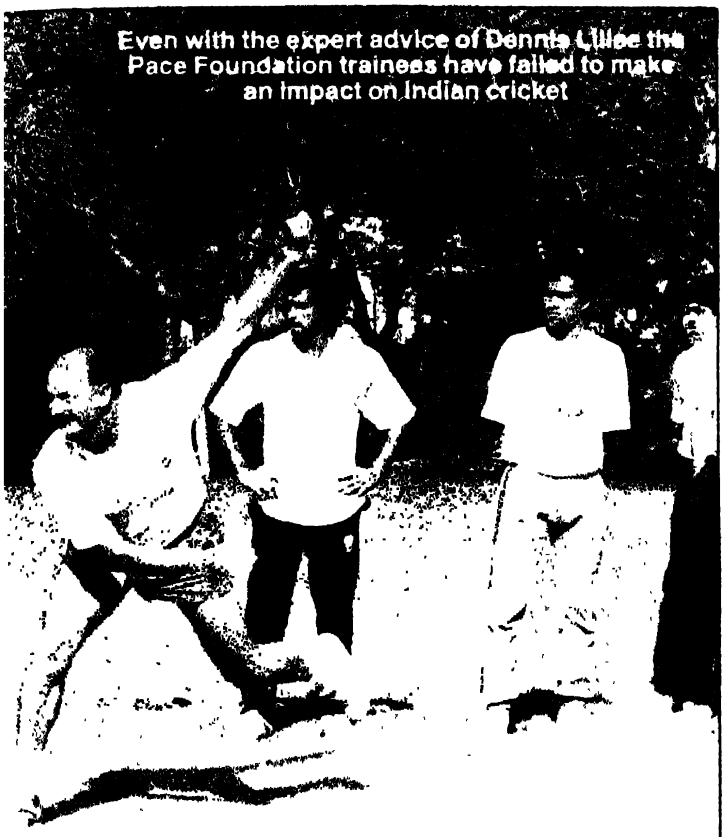


In spite of the honourable intentions of the sponsors, is the MRF Pace Foundation actually contributing to Indian cricket? The major flaw seems to be in the temperament of the trainees who lack the 'big heart'. Partab Ramchand reports.....

"FAST bowling is bloody hard work," said Dennis Lillee at the inauguration of the MRF Pace Foundation three years ago, "and a lot of people are scared of hard work." And there are speculations that perhaps his own wards at the foundation are among those who are scared of hard work. For after three years of existence, the Foundation's progress report would read below average or average.

When the prestigious project was started, there were more cynics than believers because fast bowling has virtually no tradition in India. And secondly, people generally refused to believe that any system could produce fast bowlers. Now, three years later, it seems that the cynics were right.

The Foundation can boast of few achievements Vivek Razdan playing with moderate success for the country even if he was initially a surprise choice for the tour of Pakistan in 1989-90. A couple of others have been regarded as having the potential to play for the country already. All the trainees who were nobodies when they joined the scheme have played for their respective States and three or four of them have represented the



Even with the expert advice of Dennis Lillee the Pace Foundation trainees have failed to make an impact on Indian cricket



zonal sides. But the point is: is this enough?

The answer has to be an emphatic 'no'. For one thing, just consider the "brains trust" behind the Foundation's plans, Dennis Lillee. Former Indian captain, S. Venkataraghavan is technical director, former Indian fast bowler T.A. Sekhar is the chief coach. And assisting the scheme in various ways are: former Indian sprinter Gnanasekharan in charge of teaching the boys running and exercises; Ananth Joshi, a prominent doctor looking after the medical aspect of the boys; Vasu Paranjpe former Bombay batsman and well-known coach, in charge of scouting around for talent to be inducted into the programme.

In addition, Lillee has called upon the services of Darryl Foster, one of the leading physical conditioning experts in Australia and former Australian batsman John Inverarity who recently spoke to the lads on the mental toughness aspect.

So it can be seen that the best men are in charge of the programme. And Lillee, everytime he comes to Madras—which is about twice a year—hails the progress made by the boys. He says time and again that this is an unique

THE boys are to blame. They are not prepared for the hard work and sacrifices that one must make to become a good fast bowler. They do not think big, they lack ambition....They enjoy the best of everything, but they lack that something special that one has to have to reach the top

scheme, that the talent is better than in a similar programme in New Zealand, that there is nothing wrong with the concept, and that he expects great things from the boys.

One wishes, at least for the sake of Indian cricket, to share Lillee's optimism. But at the moment, given the results so far, it is difficult to see the Foundation achieving its goal.

That said, it must immediately be admitted that there is nothing wrong with the basic concept of the programme. The boys as already pointed out, enjoy the best of training from all aspects in the most congenial of surroundings. There are three practice wickets at the Madras Christian College, High School ground in West Madras where the



project is based (incidentally the BAT Scheme is also based there) There is a gym with the latest equipment. There is also a swimming pool

A major step towards giving the boys international exposure was taken last year with two of the lads, Devang Kapadia and Sukhwinder Singh, being sent for a six month stint to Perth They played 'A' grade cricket which is just one rung below the Sheffield Shield level, practised with the Western Australian State squad and bowled to the England and Australian teams at the WACA ground when the two "Ashes" teams assembled at Perth for the Test match

So it can be seen that on the face of it there is nothing wrong with the scheme. Why is it then the results have not been in keeping with the sound concept of the Foundation?

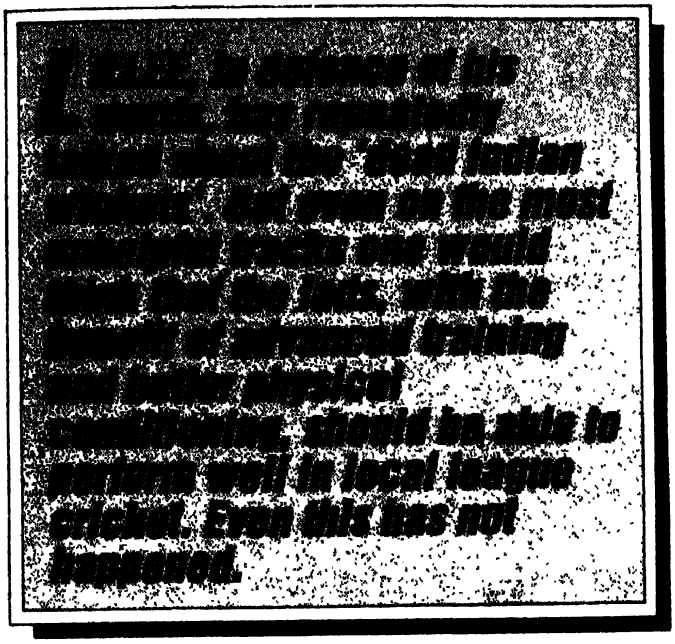
There are answers, and one is that the boys are to blame.

With Kapil Dev and Manoj Prabhakar already in the Indian team there is only one slot left for another medium pacer. Who will fill the slot?

They are not prepared for the hard work and sacrifices that one must make to become a good fast bowler They do not think big, they lack ambition and are content to reach a certain level As Lillee himself put it succinctly at the Foundation's inauguration, "You can take the horse to the water, but you can't force it to drink" It's the same with the Foundation lads. They enjoy the best of everything, but they lack that something extra, something special that one has to have to reach the top

Lillee is happy with Vivek Razdan's progress and has repeatedly pointed out to his performances to augment the claim that the Foundation is on the right lines. But what exactly has he achieved?

WHEN the prestigious project was started, there were more cynics than believers because fast bowling has virtually no tradition in India. Now, three years later, it seems that the cynics were right....



True he bowled very well at Sialkot in December 1989 to take five wickets in an innings in only his second Test. And on the basis of this performance he should have played in at least one Test in New Zealand. But even here, when he got his chances in the first class games, he did not do well Still again, when he was brought back for the one-day games against Sri Lanka late last year he bowled badly and was hammered. A true MRF Pace Foundation product would have fought hard to regain his place, and having got it, would have fought tooth and nail to retain it Razdan may be a tall, strong lad physically, but then fast bowling is also about having a big heart. Alan Davidson, the former Australian fast bowler, says in his book *Fifteen Paces* that, "If one wants to become a fast bowler, he must have a big heart."

One would justifiably expect the Pace Foundation lads to run through at least a local league side, but except for the rare occasion, this has not happened. None of them have done anything outstanding for the State and Razdan in fact has been overshadowed by the other medium pacers in the Tamil Nadu side, Robin Singh and D. Vasu. When questioned about this Lillee, in defence of his wards, has repeatedly talked about the "dead Indian wickets". But even on the most unhelpful of tracks one would think that the Pace Foundation lads, with the benefit of advanced training and better physical conditioning, should be able to perform well in local league cricket. Even this has not happened.

At a press conference in Madras in January during Lillee's last visit to India there was an interesting topic for discussion—Sunil Gavaskar's suggestion (in his syndicated column) to shift the Pace Foundation to a cooler climate like Bangalore This, he said, could help produce better results Both Lillee and Inverarity dismissed the idea as "having no substance". They were of the opinion that if the conditions were tougher, the bowlers would become better

"If the bowlers can bowl in the Madras heat they can bowl anywhere," is Lillee's contention Maybe, but then you again come to the question of the big heart. And that is what you must have to bowl in the heat or on dead wickets Lillee had it; the Pace Foundation lads seem to lack it.



It is a question of the big heart. Lillee had it, the Pace Foundation lads seem to lack it

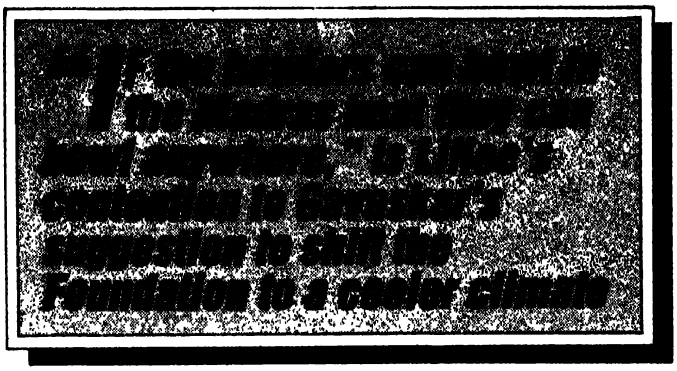
PRADEEP MANDHANI



Razdan was one of the few MRF Pace Foundation success stories

May be the time has come to take Gavaskar's suggestion seriously.

The latest decision, to make the Pace Foundation go international, is also one that could boomerang. It was stated that the Indian boys, spurred by the competition from boys from other countries, would do even better. What guarantee is there for this? On the other hand, if the other boys perform much better then the Indian lads could well lose heart and slide gradually. Yes, here again we come to the question of the big heart. And no amount of advanced systematic training can give you that



one important quality. Nevertheless, it was a brave attempt to bring Inverarity to Madras to talk about the mental toughness aspect. He did create a fine impression on the press, and the Pace Foundation management. Whether he created an impression on the boys remains to be seen.

Inverarity in fact during his visit counselled patience. Sensing that we were eager to see results, Inverarity said "It takes time to make champions". Yes, we understand that and we Indians are generally a patient lot. But looking at the minimal progress made by the wards, one is doubtful whether the scheme will produce anything substantial.

Inverarity's optimism was one better than Lillee's, "I see three or four boys playing for India



over the next four or five years." It will be a miracle if this happens.

Yet it must also be admitted that the Foundation might have achieved at least some more results had it been encouraged properly. At least that is what T.A. Sekhar feels. According to him the Pace Foundation lads are not being encouraged by their respective State associations. Other boys are encouraged at the expense of the Pace Foundation lads who have better credentials. There are certain forces reportedly working against the Pace Foundation, petty jealousy being the reason.

It may be recalled here that two years ago there was the extraordinary charge of "outside interference" made by Lillee. When Lillee came back to Madras he saw the boys had changed their approach On enquiry he learned the reason He then made a fervent appeal to everyone not to interfere with the methods taught to the boys at the Foundation so that they could progress along the right lines. It took some time for the boys to iron out the "adulterated" methods which they had learnt playing for their respective states and get back into the groove Admittedly even this may have hindered the Foundation's progress somewhat And even two years later, the petty jealousies of some coaches, officials and administrators seem to be very much there



It seems as if Gavaskar's well meant advice is not appreciated by Lillee and Inverarity

Sekhar also pointed out a couple of cases in which the Pace Foundation lads have suffered "Vivek Razdan has not been treated well He bowled so well in Pakistan, was not played in a Test in New Zealand, was dropped altogether for the tour to England Then Subroto Banerjee was the first standby for the Sharjah trip last year after he did very well in the Wills Trophy But when a substitute was chosen it wa Ajay Jadeja who went. Frankly, Razdan should be perservered with".

Sekhar admitted that it is difficult for a medium pacer to get into the Indian team, "There are three medium pacers taken among the 14 or 15, and Kapil Dev and Manoj Prabhakar are established in the side That means there is place for only one more and there are about five or six claimants". He however was confident that in the next year or two, "One or two Pace Foundation lads will get into the Indian team"

Touching on the temperament of the boys and their reluctance to work hard Sekhar said, "That is why Inverarity was inducted into the programme I feel the boys learnt a lot and hopefully results will be seen very soon"

So where does the MRF Pace Foundation stand? Not on a very sound foundation, frankly Overall it seems to be a jinxed project Despite the best brains-trust operating it, despite having the best facilities and equipment and despite there being nothing wrong with its basic concept, it has not been able to produce satisfactory results because of the attitude of the boys and because of "outside interference" When the project was launched not many believed that it would succeed. Now it seems that for it to produce fast bowlers, it will take more than a miracle ●

(Extreme left) WV Raman keeps on dropping in to utilise the facilities and the advice of Lillee



PHOTOGRAPHS RAMANAN RELIANCE NEWS

OF ROMA DAN

THE Calcutta racing season of 1990-91, which ended on April 14, 1991, will go down in the annals of the Royal Calcutta Turf Club as one of the most successful ever In the course of 42 race meetings spread over a span of five months local turfites experienced a change for the better which in the years before had seemed merely a pipe dream. Innovative ideas, computerised totalisators, a dramatic increase in the number of horses and an increase in the Stake money were some of the contributory factors which combined as a whole to help arrive at the desired objective. But what made the season all the more memorable was the performance of a grey gelding named Romantic Dancer.

Calcutta has always been a city for Romantics, for the Brave and above all for Dancers. We have seen two of the greatest horses that ever graced the local turf, hail from Calcutta, I'm talking about Brave Dancer and Romantic Dancer, (in case you haven't already guessed) and both these horses have done a great deal in putting Calcutta racing back into the right perspective. Brave held the record as the highest Stakemoney earner in the history of Indian racing. He was pushed to the very extreme of his incredible ability and endurance to achieve this record. He finally reached the pinnacle in March 1990 With the Stake money going up even faster than the prevailing rate of inflation, it was apparent that Brave would not hold onto that record for very long. As it transpired it took a little under a year for his successor to hit the headlines. Romantic Dancer had assumed command.

That Romantic Dancer had a touch of class was apparent the first time he stepped onto a racetrack. Gelded even before he began his racing career to control his slightly boisterous behaviour, Romantic Dancer ran four times in the course of his juvenile campaign and finished off with a 50% strike rate. Nothing to write home about, you might say, but those who had seen him knew that Dancer had the power and the grace to mature into a top class racehorse.



SHUVRO BASU

Romantic Dancer: Calcutta's champion horse

It was his temperament that worried them Some described him as temperamental, but if you ask me it was just Romantic's way of having a good time. He has a great deal of character this grey Loves to be part of what is going on When he enters the parade ring, for instance, his ears prick up and he looks all over the place checking out the crowd and probably the opposition. With maturity he has sobered down and now you can see the intelligence written all across his face. He is a horse who thinks and if you as a rider are not on his wavelength you are sure to find it difficult to get the better of him

When Romantic Dancer returned to Calcutta after that brilliant sojourn down South when he won the Bangalore Derby in the summer, Calcuttans could not wait to see their champion begin his Classic campaign. He had to be exceptional because after all he had become the first Calcutta based horse to win the Bangalore Derby since 1974. Well, Dancer did not let them down. He



BY CYRUS.J.MADAN

NCE AND ING

raced four times in Calcutta and ended up being unbeaten from all his four starts. What was even more relevant was the fact that by winning these four races he had surpassed Brave Dancer's record as the highest money earner and so for the second time a Calcutta based horse (and a grey at that) was at the top of the table.

The Classic St. Leger: The epic duel between Romantic Dancer and Sandbagger. Dancer won the duel though



Romantic began with a bloodless win in the Classic Calcutta 2000 Guineas. His trainer Haskell David had kept him less than 70% fit for the race but that made little difference. Romantic Dancer was never off the bridle to win as he liked, cruising away from the opposition without even working up a sweat. From here it was on to the second leg of the Triple Crown and the most important one at that—The Classic Calcutta Derby Stakes. Here too it was a case of Dancer first, and the rest nowhere, although it must be said in all fairness that Sandbagger who ran second was by no means disgraced and he too ran a great race beating the third horse in the end by a distance

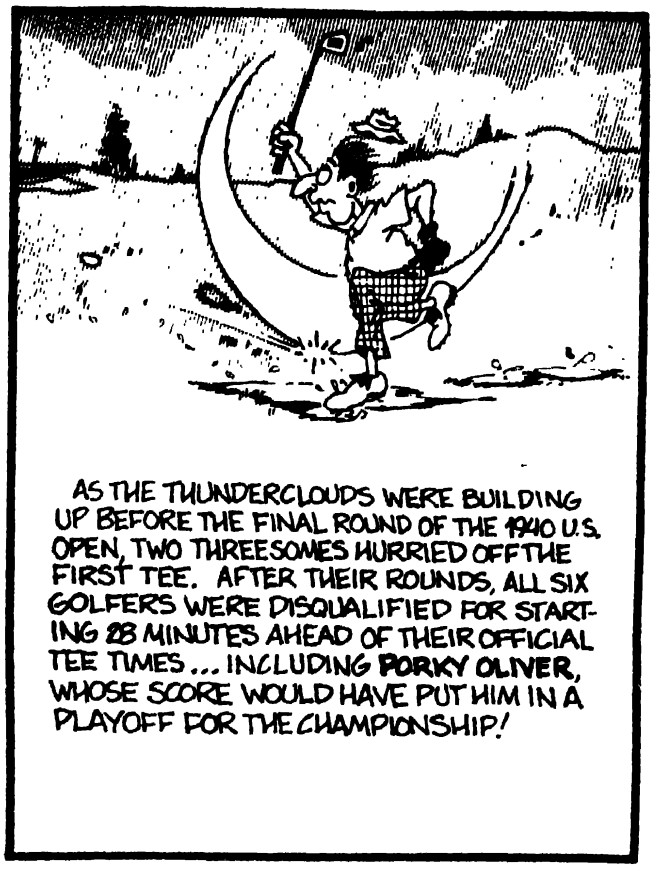
It was after this that Romantic Dancer took on open company for the first time in a newly instituted race called the Gold Riband Indian Champion Cup. A straight "Weight For Age" race with penalties, Romantic Dancer was slated to meet a truly high class field which included two previous Calcutta Derby winners and a horse named Ich Dien one of the highest handicapped horses in Indian racing.

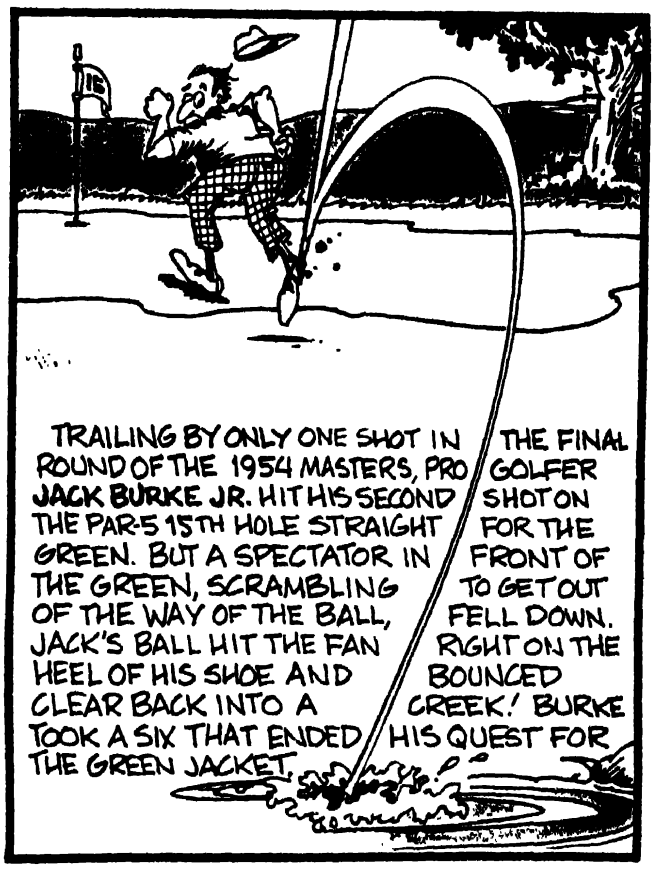
Run over a mile and a quarter, the Indian Champion Cup produced real vintage stuff with Romantic Dancer and Ich Dien waging a truly epic battle all the way down the straight before youth prevailed over age. Ich Dien was giving Romantic 4 Kg on the terms, but more than that he was conceding 3 years in age and that made Ich Dien's performance so much more creditable. Locked in immortal combat over the last two furlongs the pair fought it out stride for stride before Romantic Dancer finally got half a length in front as they flashed past the wire. The time clocked was a mind boggling 2min. 6.4sec. which was a new track record eclipsing a record that had stood since 1968 to the credit of Prince Regent. That itself tells you the story about the Champion Cup and the two champions who made it a race to remember.

Now it was time for the third leg of the Triple Crown—the most gruelling leg of them all, namely, The Classic St. Leger. The race was of special significance to Romantic Dancer because if he could come out and win he would earn a bonus for winning the Triple Crown which was worth Rs. 3.50,000 In addition he also earned the Stake for the race itself and above that a further Rs. 1.25,000 from the RCTC for having become the champion colt of the season Hence to say that it was a vital race for the Dancer would have been an understatement As it turned out Romantic Dancer had to work even harder for his victory in the Leger, than his triumph in the Champion Cup. This time it was Sandbagger who almost avenged his defeat in the Derby as he ran the race of his life and did everything but beat Romantic Dancer who eventually just about got his elegant neck in front to land the spoils.

It was his toughest race yet and it took its toll. Romantic Dancer had to be content with two seconds in his next two starts, one of which namely the Classic Indian Turf Invitation Cup at Madras was surely the most important in his career. Granted he was never given the best of rides on both occassions, but all said and done I feel that had this race come early in the season few would have come near Romantic Dancer, Calcutta's very own champion. ●

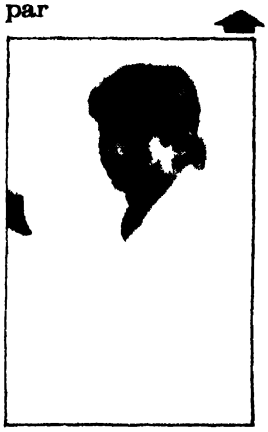
SPORTS HALL OF SHAME — BY NASH & ZULLO





MILESTONES

WON: By Ali Sher, the Addi Golf Tournament at Delhi. His score of 276 set a new course record of 12 under par



HISTORY CREATED: By Steve and Mark Waugh, when they became the first pair of twins to play together in the 114 years of Test cricket.

BANNED: Diego Maradona by FIFA for 15 months after being tested positive for cocaine. The ban applies worldwide.

BARRED: Iraq, by the Asian Amateur Athletics Association, from participating in the Asian Track and Field Championship, to be held in Kuala Lumpur.

WON: By Larry Holmes, his first comeback bout against Tim Anderson, in Florida.



TO COMMENCE: The disputed Ranji Trophy quarter finals, from April 16.

TO BE OPERATED: Robin Smith, for a 'pre-hernia' problem that would lead to him missing the one-dayers against the West Indies.

WON: The Hongkong Open Tennis Tournament, by Richard Krajicek of the Netherlands, defeating Wally Masur in the final.

WON: The $225,000 Orlando Classic, by Andre Agassi, defeating Derek Rostagno. This was Agassi's first win of the year.

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Who was known as the "Georgia Peach"?
2. Where is Baseball's Hall of Fame?
3. Which world heavyweight boxing champion was nicknamed "Brockton Blockbuster"?
4. Which sport is integral to the theme of the film of yesteryears *Body and soul*?
5. What does the sport slang "cherry picking" stand for?
6. What is "Tri-State Futurity"?
7. With what sport is Baton Rouge Open connected?

ANSWERS

1. Ty Cobb
2. Cooperstown.
3. Rocky Marciano
4. Boxing.
5. Basket hanging in basketball.
6. The famous horse race run at Shenandoah Downs
7. Golf

CHESS

Every Russian schoolboy knows Philidors mate that is the smothered mate with the king trapped in the corner. How many people know Morphy's mate one wonders?

This is the epaulette mate with the king self blocked by its own pieces on both sides. Morphy pulled it off in the diagrammed position against Thomas Jefferon Bryan at New York 1859 Maybe the readers should try for the solution which I'll give next week. Remember white to play and win.

Meanwhile to help you along, here are a couple of similar cheapos. White: Alekhine Vs Lugovsky, Bled, '31.

1 e4 e5 2 Nc3 Nc6 3 Bc4 Bc5 4 Qg4 Qf6 5 Nd5 Qxf2 6 Kd1 Kf8 7 Nh3 Qd4 8 d3 Bb6? 8—d6 keeps black in the match (this was a simultaneous display actually) **9 Rf1 Nd8 10 c3 Qc5 11 Ng5 Nh6 12 Qh4 d6 (1-0).** White announced mate in four 13 Ne6 Nxe6 14 Qe7 Kg8 15 Qe8 Nf8 16 Nf7 mate.

White: Donner Vs Black: Balcerowsky, Varna, '62.

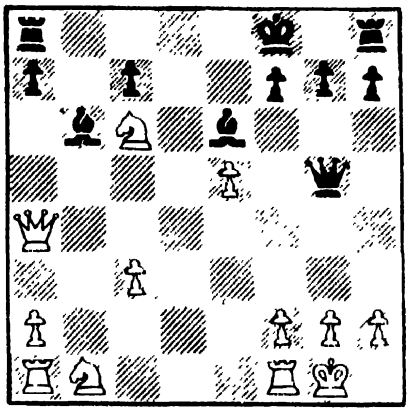
1 d4 c5 2 d5 e5 3 e4 d6 4 Nc3 Ne7 5 Nf3 Bg4 6 h3 Bxf3 7 Qxf3 a6 8 a4 Ng6 9 g3 Be7 10 h4 0-0 11 Bd2 b6 12 Nd1 Nd7 13 Ne3 Nf6 14 h5 Nh8. Black's king has put on his epaulettes.

15 Nf5 Ra7 16 h6! (1-0). A slightly premature resignation and readers are entitled to ask where is Morphy's mate?

Well, **16—g6 17 Nxe7 Qxe7 18 Bg5** loses a piece and if 16 **Ne8 17 hg7 Nxg7 18 Nh6** and hey presto! You have Morphy's mate

Devangshu Dutta

Morphy vs Bryan
White to play and win



BRIDGE

The other day I was reading an article on probabilty illusions Suppose I tell you about my friend Mihir who is quiet, reserved, soft-spoken and likes to read Guess whether he is a salesman or a librarian? Most people would surely expect Mihir to be a librarian. However, salesmen outnumber librarians by at least 500 to 1 So, unless less than 1 in every 500 salesmen is quiet, reserved, soft-spoken and likes to read, Mihir is more likely to be a salesman than a librarian. I was reminded of the article after friends criticised me for going down on this hand from a rubber-bridge game :-

Dealer North E-W vul

NORTH(dummy)
♠ Q 7 5 4 3
♡ A Q J 3
◇ K Q . 10
♣ -

WEST
♠ A 9 8 2
♡ K 10 7 2
◇ A 9 6 2
♣ Q

EAST
♠ J 10 6
♡ 9 8 6 4
◇ 8 7 3
♣ J 6 2

SOUTH
♠ K
♡ 5
◇ 5 4
♣ A K 10 9 8 7 5 4 3

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
–	1 ♡	Pass	2♣
Pass	2 ♡	Pass	5♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

North's bidding was not what I would like the readers to learn but anyway we reached a decent contract West led the spade ace and at trick two switched to a low heart What now?

If the clubs were 3-1 I would have to hope that the heart finesse would work so that I could dispose off the diamond loser However, if the clubs were 2-2, the heart finesse would be an unnecessary risk for if it failed, the defence would cash the diamond ace You must have guessed what happened, I took the heart ace and went down Now some of my friends pointed out that the heart finesse was a 50% chance while a 2-2 club break was only 40% , so I should have taken the finesse. What they failed to take into account was that with the heart king inside, West had no business to play back a heart if the finesse was unavoidable, I would surely take it. So, the heart return only risked giving me a chance to dispose off my diamond loser as I would surely have done if my trumps were a bit weaker, even king-jack-ten to nine cards (heart finesse, dispose off the diamonds, ruff back to hand and take the only chance, leading the club king, hoping to find a virgin queen) Looking at the heart king in his own hand, West should have realised that the only hope was to find a trump winner with partner. So, he should have simply cashed his second ace at trick two which would have left me with no chance

That is my point while the heart finesse was 50% *a priori*, it should have been exactly 0% *a posteriori* against my competent opponent while the club break remained at 40% To think that the heart finesse was a 50% chance even after the actual heart return was a probability illusion!

Santanu Ghose



THE COLD FACTS

COME evening and you've talked yourself into the 'zone'. You talk yourself into doing a really intense workout. Not the stuff that you do every other day. This evening, you plan to really sweat it out. You are determined that by the end of the month some of the flab visible around the waistline should disappear. You are getting ready for that *ultimate* workout when, aachoo. That explosive sneeze left you breathless. You think nothing about it and proceed with the workout. You then realize that something is not clicking, that you can't put in the extra bit that you had planned to inject into the workout.

Your body does not respond to the exacting pressure put on it, by the weights or the aerobic exercises. Your mind tells you to lay off. The metal suddenly feels cold, and you experience a strange soreness in the joints. The enthusiasm has ebbed off and you are tired, and feel absolutely wiped out.

Translation. Your body has just been invaded by one of the 300 or more viruses that are the carriers of the most common disease 'the common cold'. What is more frustrating to fitness enthusiasts other than the sore throat and running nose is the thought that you will have to lay off the regimen till the cold subsides, and the kilos might just catch up with you again.

Now, how do you catch a cold? Coughs and sneezes have through the ages been associated with colds. We are always wary of the person in the room who is coughing or sneezing. But recent studies have proved that colds are spread more by actual contact. This means that carriers of the cold virus leave behind some, of the virus on the surfaces that they touch. We guess that this bit might get you paranoid, because every surface, doorknob or counter tops could have traces of the cold virus. Well they may have, but the immune system of the body also wards off attacks to a large extent, and are pretty successful at that.

We can also take some easy precautions to see that we are not often the victims of cold. Here are some tips: 1) Don't touch your nose/mouth with your fingers often, specially when you are sharing things with someone who has a cold. Experts are convinced that the hands are the primary mode for infection. 2) Wash your hands frequently. Water is not enough to kill the virus but it will wash it off. 3) Insist that your partners in the gym use disposable tissues when they have colds. Also insist that the commonly used places like benches be washed often with disinfectant. 4) Keep the air in the gym a bit humid, 'cos when the mucus membrane becomes dry then one becomes more susceptible to colds.

Coming to the question as to whether you should exercise when you have a cold. An opinion poll was conducted by the journal *The Physician and Sportsmedicine*, and according to that the opinions are varied.

Some doctors are of the opinion that people feel better after exercising when they have colds. The reason: Exercise can increase mucus flow, which provides relief to the upper respiratory tract systems. Other doctors are of the opinion that exercising with colds could turn into something worse.

Some basic guidelines to determine whether you should exercise with a cold. If the symptoms are located above the neck (runny nose, sneezing, or scratchy throat) then exercise is safe. But on the other had if the symptoms are below the neck (fever, muscle aches etc) then we recommend that you lay off for a while. Wherever the symptoms are located, do a 'test drive' first. Do 10 minutes of your workout at half the normal speed. If you feel that your head is clearing up a bit and that you're feeling a bit peppy then go for it. But, if with every step your head jars, and your legs feel heavy, then there's no point in continuing. At this state it is time to give that system of yours, some much needed rest.

While you are off exercising it would also do you good to add lots of Vitamin C to your diet because it has been proved that Vitamin C does lower the symptoms of cold. Also if possible go in for zinc lozenges, 'cos zinc is good for the throat. The cold has not yet been conquered and there is no quick respite when your immune system is overwhelmed by the virus. So lay off for a while and then— go for the ultimate. ●


COLUMN

Symmetry is what it's all about

LET'S be honest with ourselves. Why do we exercise? For fitness? Yeah, partly. To live longer? Get outta here. To look good? Right on! All of us—provided we're man or woman enough to admit it—work those muscles to look better. And about the best way to look good is have a trim, symmetrical build.

Symmetrical... that's the key word. Like that heavenly build sported by the great Frank Zane, three-time Mr Olympia. Now running a fitness centre in Palm Springs, California, Zane shares his secret of symmetry: "When I was a competitive bodybuilder, everyone said, 'Zane has perfect symmetry.' The truth of the matter is, I don't at all. And neither does anyone else.



Scientists have for centuries tried to explain why nature tends to economize form in its creations, whether it be bubbles, fish or atomic nuclei. This phenomenon of nature to proceed in the simplest, most efficient way is seen in the human body as symmetry. Although perfect symmetry is not to be found in people, some have it to a greater extent than others.

I have known for a long time now that the left side of my body was quite different from my right side. Not only are the muscles shaped differently on each side but my vascular network is quite different as well. While there wasn't anything I could do about the convolutions of my veins and arteries, I could—through weight training—develop the shape of my muscles so they would more closely match left side with right.

What bodybuilders and physique critics mean when they refer to symmetry is *proportion*. In mathematics, proportion is defined as a statement of equality between two or more ratios. A ratio is a comparison between two measurement—and when all of these measurement comparisons are skilfully blended together, there is perfect proportion.

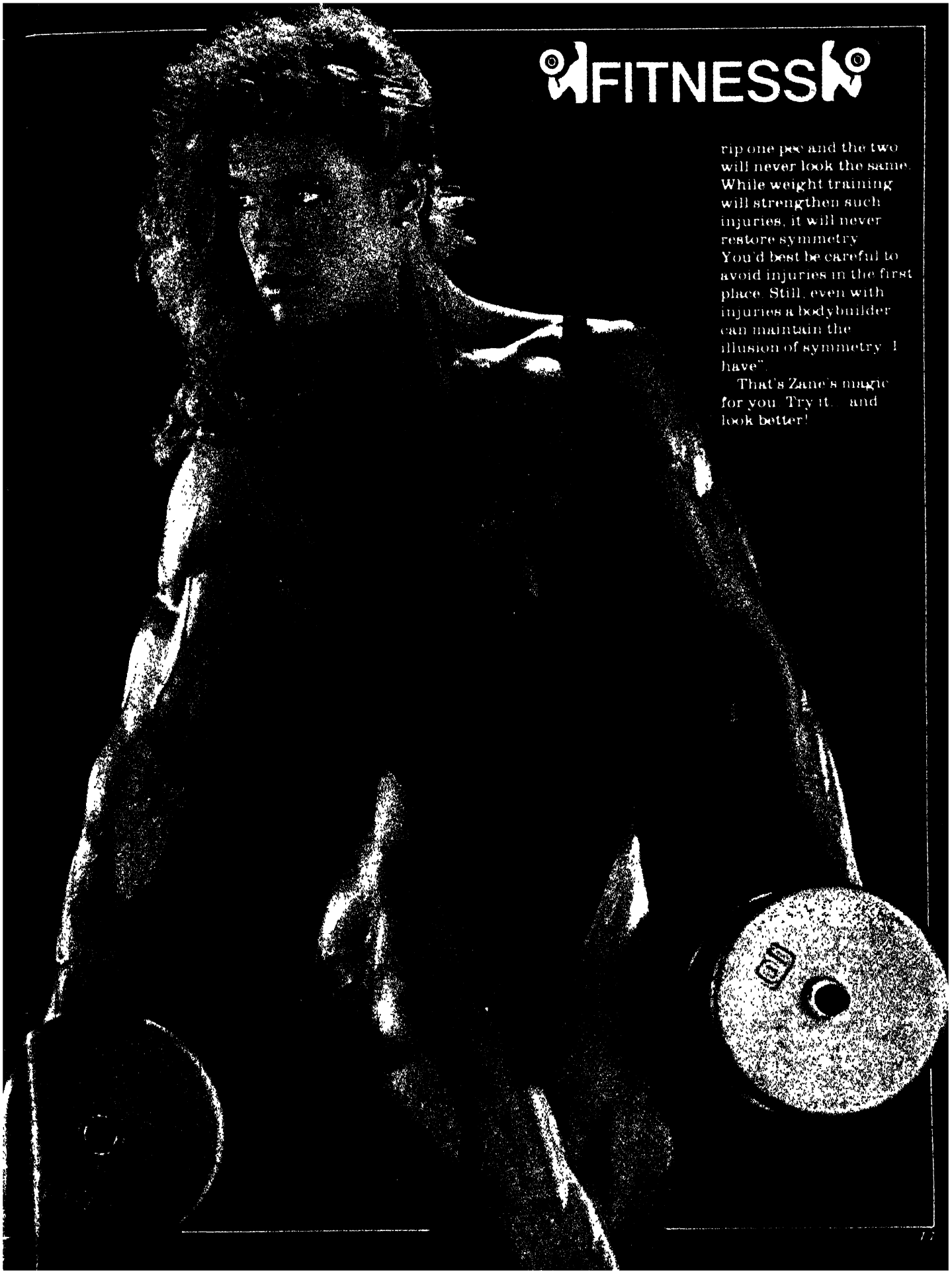
Years ago David Willoughby defined perfect proportion as equal measurement of calves, upper arms and neck, but I feel there is more to proportion than that, as the entire body must be taken into account. Thighs must not be too big in comparison with calves, biceps development must match triceps, upper body must not overshadow lower body, upper arms must be in balance with forearms, traps must not be too big for lats, pecs must not be so heavy as to make the deltoids appear too small, neck must not be too big as it would make the shoulders and torso appear narrow, waist should be small enough to accentuate the taper of the torso and development of the legs.

Put all this together so that no one bodypart dominates visual attention at the expense of the others and you have perfect proportion, a quality I have spent my entire bodybuilding career striving to achieve. And while I may not have perfect symmetry, I come closer to perfection when it comes to proportion.

Now while nature tends to optimize form in the human body through symmetry, unless we practice the right kind of weight training we may become less symmetrical as we grow older. Take a look at sports we may practice throughout our lives: Baseball players catch with one hand and throw with another; football players kick with only one leg; tennis players are far from ambidextrous, as are golfers, archers and basketball players; runners and cyclists develop their legs without upper bodies to match; weightlifters have big strong traps, thighs, buttocks and lower backs; gymnasts have great upper bodies at the expense of balanced leg development. And while some sports work the whole body in a more balanced fashion than others, e.g., swimming, sports in general promote asymmetrical development.

Bodybuilding is the only sport where attention is paid to the development of the body as an end in itself and not a means to an end. Through intelligent training, with the use of free weights (especially dumbbells) and cables, we can balance a predisposition toward asymmetrical muscular development inherent in practically all athletic endeavors.

Also, as we age the body can become less symmetrical through injuries. A biceps tear results in two very dissimilar looking arms



rip one pec and the two will never look the same. While weight training will strengthen such injuries, it will never restore symmetry. You'd best be careful to avoid injuries in the first place. Still, even with injuries a bodybuilder can maintain the illusion of symmetry. I have"

That's Zane's magic for you. Try it... and look better!

EXTRA-TIME EXTRA

US Gets Ready For The Cup

EVEN though a general sense of pessimism prevails throughout the soccer world about the 1994 World Cup being held in the land of no-football, the Americans seem to be quite serious about the challenge they face.

They know, for all the criticism and doubts the world over, that infra structure will by no means prove a problem for holding the Cup; the US do have the capacity and money-power to offer the most up-to-date facilities. But what worries them now the most is their low reckoning as a footballing nation. The Americans do not simply want to look like a bunch of fools giving a poor account of themselves on the playing arena, while hosting football's greatest razzmatazz.

So, they are eager to set about their preparations well in advance and recently made up their mind on the man who is going to coach their prospective 'world beaters'. Bora Milutinovic, who led Mexico to the sixth place in the 1986 World Cup, and then took Costa Rica to the second round last year, has been appointed coach of the United States national team for the 1994 World Cup.

And, far from regarding himself and his boys as undedogs, the new coach has already been articulate about his dreams and aspirations. "The final game is my dream," he said, recently, "And if you don't dream, you'll never get there."

And to be of hundred per cent help to his boys, Milutinovic has already put himself into an intensive crash course in English.

Happy Days Are Here Again

GOOD times have once again come to the life of Gianluca Vialli. The Italian has suddenly found himself amid goals, scored faster than ever in the Italian league and is now poised to drive his club Sampdoria to a championship they have never in all their 96 years even suggested they can win.

Vialli was a man under extreme pressures during these tense days leading to the Italian World Cup, when a whole nation took it for granted that Vialli would be Italy's main scorer and saviours. One writer, realising the players sorry plight under the burden of expectations, even wrote, "Look into the eyes of Gianluca Vialli



COLORSPORT



and you look into the eyes of a haunted man."

And the strain destroyed Vialli. He played in only the first two disappointing Italian matches, then disappeared until the semi-finals when he was substituted after 70 minutes. And the goals he was expected to provide were scored rather by Toto Schillaci.

Subsequently, Vialli, hurt and humiliated, recoiled into his own shell of silence and dejection, while a barrage of criticism continued to be hurled at him by detractors as well as disenchanted fans.

He missed the first eight games of this season with a knee injury and was left out of the national team last December which was almost an insult since they were merely on a trip to Cyprus, and won 4-0.

But if talent might sometimes slumber, it will always return with a vengeance and Vialli indeed was due a comeback. Since the turn of the year and his two goals in a 4-1 thrashing of Napoli raised his stature from near oblivion, stretched Sampdoria's run to eight wins in their last nine games and opened a three point lead in the league.

And in recognition of his remarkable comeback the Samp doria coach Vijadin Boskov said, "Vialli is at his very best now. He has matured, he's in peak condition and we can always expect goals from him, now that he has put behind his injuries and disappointments from the World Cup."

Husband Divorces Refereeing Wife

FOR 28-year-old Wendy Toms, it was the best of times and the worst of times. In March 1991, she became the first woman referee in the British football league. One of the last male bastions crumbled, when Wendy was chosen as the fourth official for a 3rd division match, Bournemouth vs Reading at Deans Court. However, Wendy had to pay a price for this unusual (for her sex) dedication to football.

Her husband applied for a divorce, stating that his wife was neglecting the house and relationships had become incompatible. The judge at Poole saw the irony in the situation and said it was the first occasion that a husband asked for a divorce as the wife was too involved in football. ●

PRIVATE EYE

WE LOOK WHERE WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO!



Tyson: Daddy's gonna pay

PAYING FOR *IT*

Tyson strikes again

PROMISCUITY is rife in the western world and some people pay, literally...like Mike Tyson. Tyson recently fell victim to one of his *hazaar* sexcapades. Surprised? Well, along with the mortification of having to admit to the affair, Tyson was slapped with financial support. Though someone else was left carrying the baby.

"We resolved our differences in a civilised fashion," said attorney Raoul Lionel Felder, the lawyer for 23-year-old Kimberly Scarborough, mother of Tyson's daughter. Felder was also the attorney for actress Robin Givens during her much publicised estrangement with Iron Mike.

During a 15 minute court appearance at the Manhattan family court, Tyson was asked by hearing officer Francine Seiden if he was the father of the child. "Yes," he replied stony faced. When it came to financial settlement, Tyson took a bit of a battering there too. The financial terms of the agreement were not disclosed but were obviously heavy. "My lips are sealed but they resolved it in a decent fair way," Felder again chipped in. Tyson only had his way when it came to the child's name: the baby girl was named Michael Tyson.



Boris Becker: No license for skill

DRIVE MY CAR

Becker around the bend?

WHAT does Boris Becker want to be? A New York cabbie. And what did he do when he once lost early in the U.S. Open? He got into his car and drove all over New York trying to forget all about it. Now what does Becker have a fetish for? Cars, because he loves the atmosphere of solitude inside them.

This passion of his, however, got him into a little trouble last year when he was caught speeding down the Stuttgart-Munich highway. The result was a suspension and a hefty fine.

Becker appealed against the fine recently but the courts ruled it out. Trapped by one of those fixed traffic cameras that are so common in Germany, Boris was recorded driving at 128kph (80mph) on a 60 km stretch. But was he really bothered with all this? No way, Jose. He spent most of his time in the U.S. where he drove around with his American license.

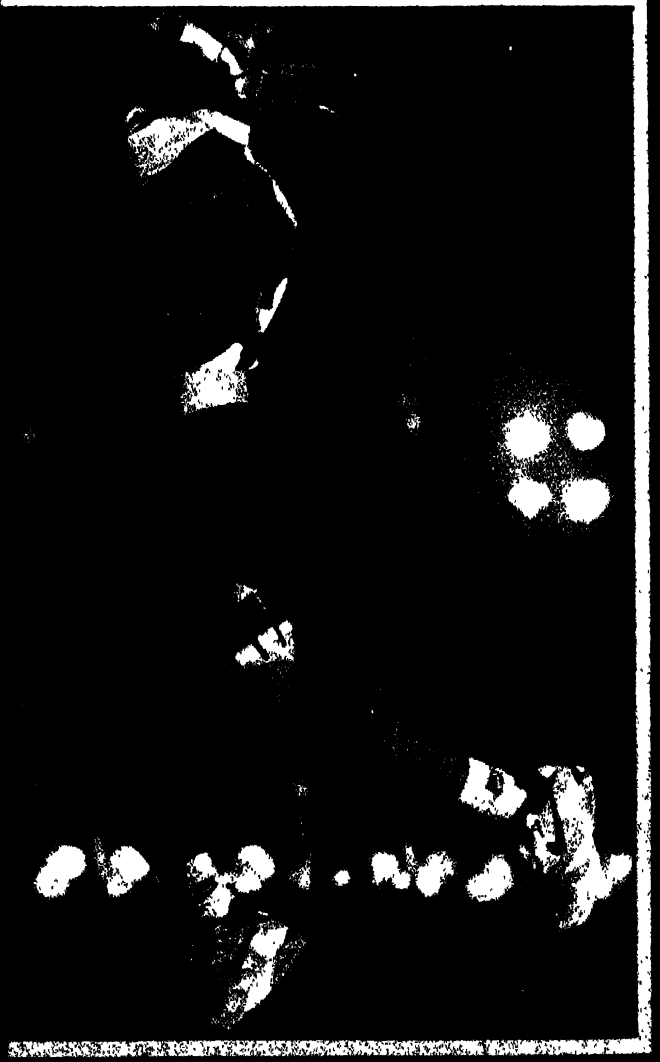
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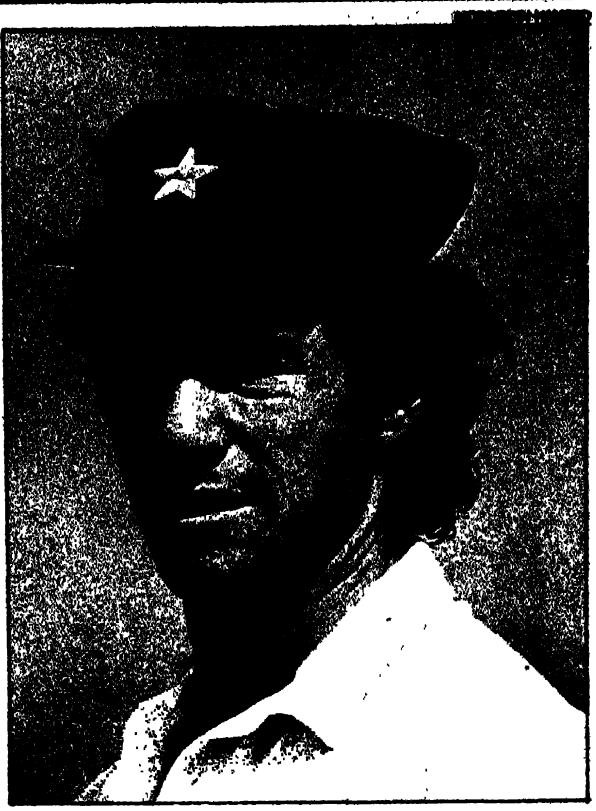
Horribly good

ANDRE AGASSI is coping fine with fame and money, thank you. And once in a while, he does try to stay in the news. Agassi who was about to take delivery of his seventh car—a $300,000 Vector sports car which goes from 0-60 in four seconds and has a top speed of 240 mph—has also been giving out some pieces of inside info on his peculiar traits, specially the colourful attire that he dons.

Andre apparently creates his own combination of garish colours. Nike are you listening? And he explains, "I just throw a few things together and sometimes look at the mirror and say, 'That looks horrible!' And then he goes out and wears these very same outfits to set the court on fire. That's what fashion has come to!

Agassi's latest Nike ad : Loud clothes, flashy tennis





Imran Khan's dream slowly comes true

IMRAN AND THE BIG C

And it's not cricket

THIS one's slightly different. Pakistan's first Cancer Hospital is under construction and there is no one happier than dreamboat Imran Khan whose tireless efforts have initiated it. This is a project which Imran says, "I've dedicated my life to."

Imran's efforts at fund raising for the hospital started in 1989 and he has managed to raise $2 million. The total target is $13.5 million.

The motivating factor behind this campaign was Imran's mother who died of cancer because the doctors in Lahore didn't have the facilities to detect the symptoms. The arrogant Khan that he was, Imran admits that at one time he was "immune to the pain and misery around me." He found it difficult to start fund raising, "Having hardly ever asked my parents for money, I found it difficult to ask other people for donations." But now he says, "I'm lucky I can turn any achievement on the cricket field to some socially useful purpose. Making someone close to me suffer was Allah's way to show me the direction."

And thus Imran's dream slowly takes shape. Told you this one was different.

freewheeling

STOCKHOLM, Sweden—"Sold to Ners Nielesson for 10,650,000 crowns".

Some 100 people, mostly curious spectators, were crowded into an auditorium as the gavel was brought down. But this was no everyday real estate auction. Up for sale was the Archipelago Paradise Vikingskill, a ten—room estate just outside Sweden's capital city.

The owner was Bjorn Borg.

It was an extraordinary and sad situation that many were hoping could have been avoided. But when the money that covered the five times Wimbledon champion's debts never materialised, there was nothing else to do.

Since Borg had paid only $500,000 for the property, it should have been a lucrative transaction. But the former owner, who was in Milan, Italy with wife Lorendana Berte, and did not see a single penny from the sale. It went directly to the Swedish authorities.

The string of negative events in Borg's life, from the alleged suicide attempt in February 1989 to the collapse of his clothing empire last year have without doubt tarnished his reputation. But at the same time, the Swedish people still talk about and remember "Ice Borg" as a hero. And not surprisingly, news of his return to tennis has generated enormous interest.

Many are all for it. Others feel it could further spoil his image. Most of all, Swedes are hoping that if Borg does indeed launch a serious come back, that he atleast be in as good a shape now as he was during his glory years.

Former coach Lennart Bergelin is not one of the believers.

"Let us continue to remember Bjorn as the great champion he was," Bergelin says. "With today's competition and after such a long break, he wouldn't have a chance. It would be impossible, even for a person with a will of steel."

Whatever happens, the speculations about Borg's future comes at a good time. Pictures taken from his practices in London reveal that Borg is taking care of his body and working seriously. He hopes he can finally lay to rest the image of a washed up sports idol who wasted his fortune on drugs and parties.

And what of the cocaine? When it comes to drugs, all is taboo in Sweden, though every variety is available here. So when former girlfriend Jannicke Bjorling, who was in a custody battle with Borg over their son, Robin, "disclosed" in a magazine article that Borg used cocaine, the pedestal upon which he sat began to shake. A drug addict as a sport hero is unacceptable.

Borg won the ensuing libel suit and collected $15,000. He continues to deny ever having taken drugs. Backing up this claim is an advisor Ingmar Alverdal, who has been closer to Borg over the last seven years than anyone. Say Alverdal, "I have never seen or had any reason to suspect that Bjorn has had anything to do with drugs."

As for his alleged suicide attempt, it has never been taken seriously by those who know Borg. It is acknowledged that two mistakes were made: One, that the combination of good wine and insomnia medication was too much: and two, that Loredana called for an ambulance rather then a private doctor. That immediately alerted the media and created headlines where none were warranted. Borg left the hospital a few hours later—under his own power.

Speaking of Loredana, there is a war between her and the Swedes, one that has been going on ever since since she first became Borg's girlfriend and was introduced on a Swedish entertainment program. The singer's provocative profile was too much for the staid Swedish public. Since then Loredana has felt targeted and unwelcome. It's too bad, because behind the mask of the artist is a woman who certainly is impulsive, yet at the same time both charming and warm.



Is Borg broke? Of course not. Bolstered by IMG's advisors, Borg is set for life financially, even if the crash of his business empire was a very expensive experiece. So why the auction? Well, large parts of Borg's assets are tied to funds abroad. and in order to cover his $4 million debt in Sweden he had to release some $11 million of that money. The differnce—$7 million—would have gone directly to the Swedish executors!

But even if the final bill amounts to $20 million, Borg will not be knockedout. His new business companion is an Italian, Alessandro Racic and they have big plans. The base of the new venture will still be the name Bjorn Borg but instead of manufacturing the goods themselves, the pair intends to license agreements worldwide. Thus, Bjorn will no longer have to be involved in the day to day operations or take all the financial risks and can spend his time on the court preparing his body and his mind to do the unthinkable.

One thing is for sure: Bjorn Borg has not hit his last tennis ball—or paid his last bill.

Aren Reimer
The author is a tennis reporter for newspapers in Sweden for the past 15 years

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WORLD TENNIS

SHAME & SCANDAL

AN EXPOSURE ON HOW UNLIKE OTHER SPORTS, THE DIRTY LITTLE SECRETS OF *TENNIS* ARE CAREFULLY GUARDED AND KEPT AWAY FROM THE PUBLIC



STEFFI GRAF


BOOM BOOM
SHAKA LAKA
BOOM BOOM SHAK
STREET CAT'S GONNA
KNOCK YOU BACK

THE MEAN MACHINE

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TOMMY HINDLEY

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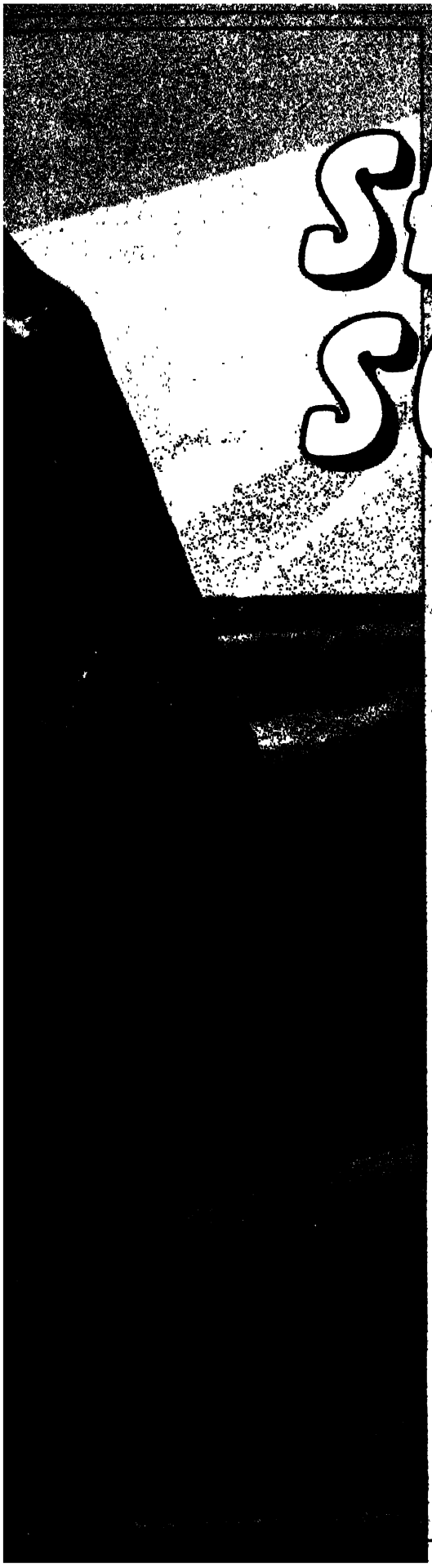
AN EXPOSURE ON HOW UNLIKE OTHER SPORTS, THE DIRTY LITTLE SECRETS OF *TENNIS* ARE CAREFULLY GUARDED AND KEPT AWAY FROM THE PUBLIC



TOMMY HINDLEY

BY ANDY O'BRIEN

SHAME & SCANDAL



Monica Seles poses for a photo session in casuals

If you're a tennis fan looking for some 'dirt' on tennis. Forget it. The chances of you, ever stumbling upon scandal or rumour in tennis are pretty remote.

Tennis players are among the few athletes who, as a group, have somehow managed to avoid the slashing style that has characterised sports journalism over the last ten years. 'You screw up, we bring you down', almost seems to be the written-media's motto this past decade. Indeed, as writers have brought down one icon after another, the tennis player has, by and large, remained unscathed. In an era when dirt is so alluring, the tennis world is squeaky clean.

It is not for the lack of rumour or innuendo. The underside of the game is as dirty as any other. There are drugs, there is betting, there is cheating and both the men's and women's tours are fertile ground for sexual experimentation. Yet rarely does any behind-the-scenes gossip ever find its way into the mainstream media. Why then is it, that tennis stars are watched and not judged?

One reason is that there is a whole army of people guarding the dirty little secrets of tennis. And any serious or regular touring journalist exposing the private lives of the stars risks being cut-off forever.

The problem is not that tennis writers want to avoid the truth. On the contrary most have devoted their lives to illuminating the subtleties of the game and tennis journalism has always served as

There are drugs, there is betting, there is cheating and both the men's and women's tours are fertile ground for sexual experimentation. Yet, rarely does any behind-the-scenes gossip find its way into the mainstream media.

something of a paragon for sportswriting in general. But the tennis journalist always has agents, managers, personal assistants and public relations people to contend with who ensure no writer can rock the boat. And the burden under which tennis journalists have always toiled is one of 'access'.

For the regular touring writer, the guys who *really* know the players) it's all a question of access to the stars, which, very limited to begin with, is completely cut off to those who are viewed as rabble rousers. Thus a writer with an inside angle might very well find himself on the outside looking in. Going for the lines, so to speak, just doesn't pay.



SEX, DRUGS, ROCK & ROLL

TENNIS writers knew that Chris Evert's life off court did not always jibe with the demure persona she projected for the fans, yet not a single word about her personal life ever appeared in print. Boyfriends and husbands ranging from Jimmy Connors to John Lloyd, Burt Reynolds to Adam Faith and yet...!

Of course Evert had nothing to be ashamed of; it might have even lent a little more complexity to her image. Yet why were Evert's, or for that matter so many others, off the court exploits such a closely guarded secret of the media? Could a tennis writer have built any kind of career without some access to say an Evert or a Lendl?

Frenchman Yannick Noah took over from where 'disco kid' Vitas Gerulaitis had left off. Noah once even publicly claimed that he made love to his girlfriend in the *men's* locker room only minutes before a game at the Australian

McEnroe cools off when the heat is on

Open. And how much do you know about Noah's exploits outside the court? Almost nothing! Could a football coach with a similar lifestyle coach France for the World Cup? Not a chance. Yet, Noah is today the captain of the French Davis Cup team. Any other press would have put him away for good.

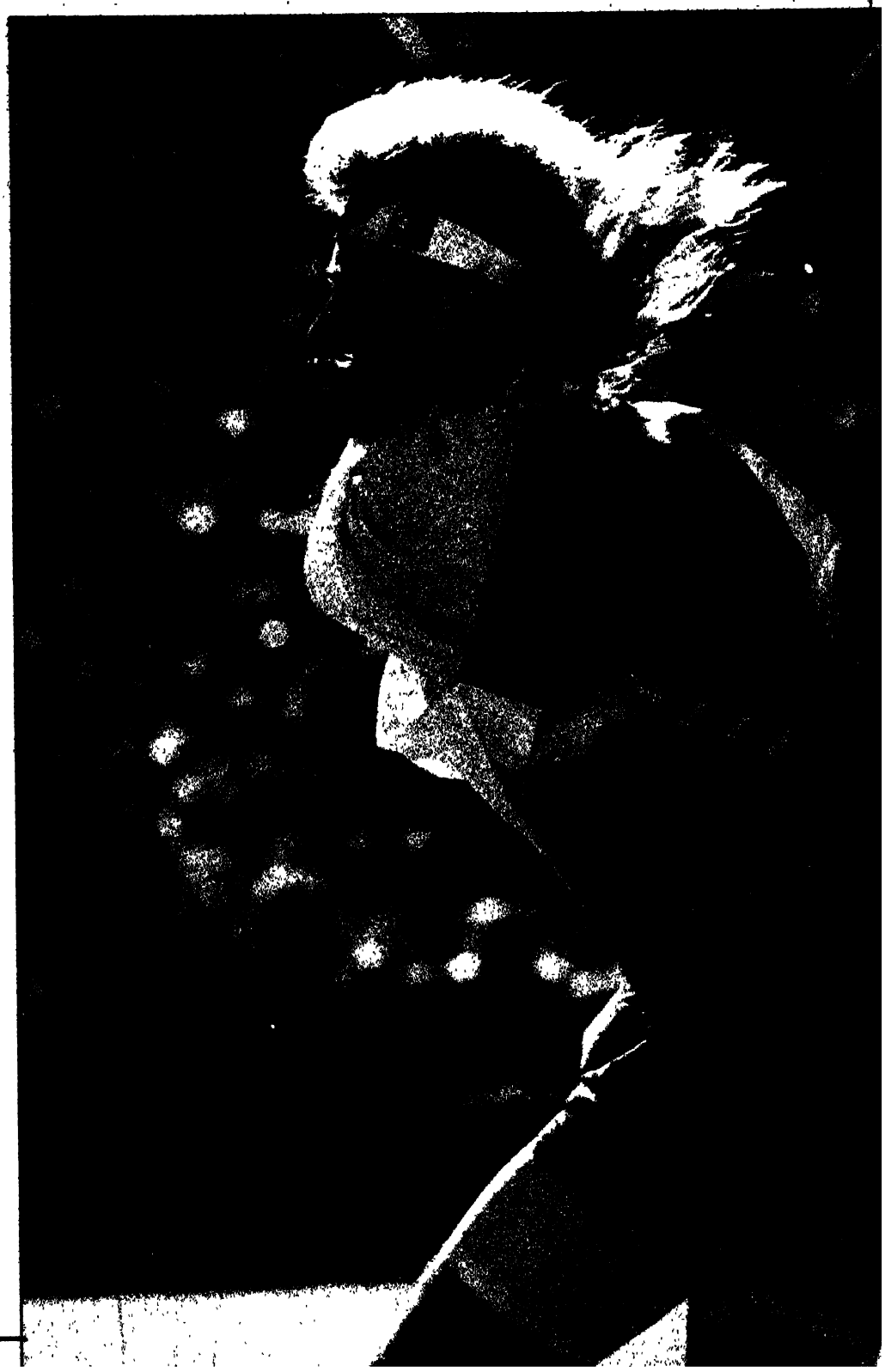
The issue of drug use—whether performance enhancing or recreational—is another can of worms the tennis press has no interest in opening. While in football Maradona is suspended and humiliated for cocaine use, there is scarcely any mention of the continuing rumours that John McEnroe was—and probably still is-- a regular cocaine-user. There are top players, though not willing to be named,

Whether symbolic or psychological, there is a real sense that the men and women so immaculately clad are inherently good, as is the cast of charecters that surrounds and feeds on them

who talk openly about the McEnroe cocaine habit.

A few years ago a writer from *World Tennis* magazine actually mustered enough courage to ask McEnroe about the rumour. When he reacted in a typical Mac manner, the question

was gradually shifted onto another topic. Many players have been rumoured to have overdone things to the detriment of their careers; from Bjorn Borg to John McEnroe to Mats Wilander, who's precipitous drop from the number spot and sudden fanatical fondness for rock music is a total mystery.



Andre Agassi: Labelled a 'punk' and a 'jerk' merely because his clothes don't conform with tradition

Since there is no serious and regular drug testing on the tours, the only other people who have a sense of who's doing what are the writers. But no one is saying anything.

And so while in other sports players are fined, suspended and sometimes convicted for their involvement with alcohol or narcotics, tennis comes out with a clean image.

LOCKER-ROOM SECRETS

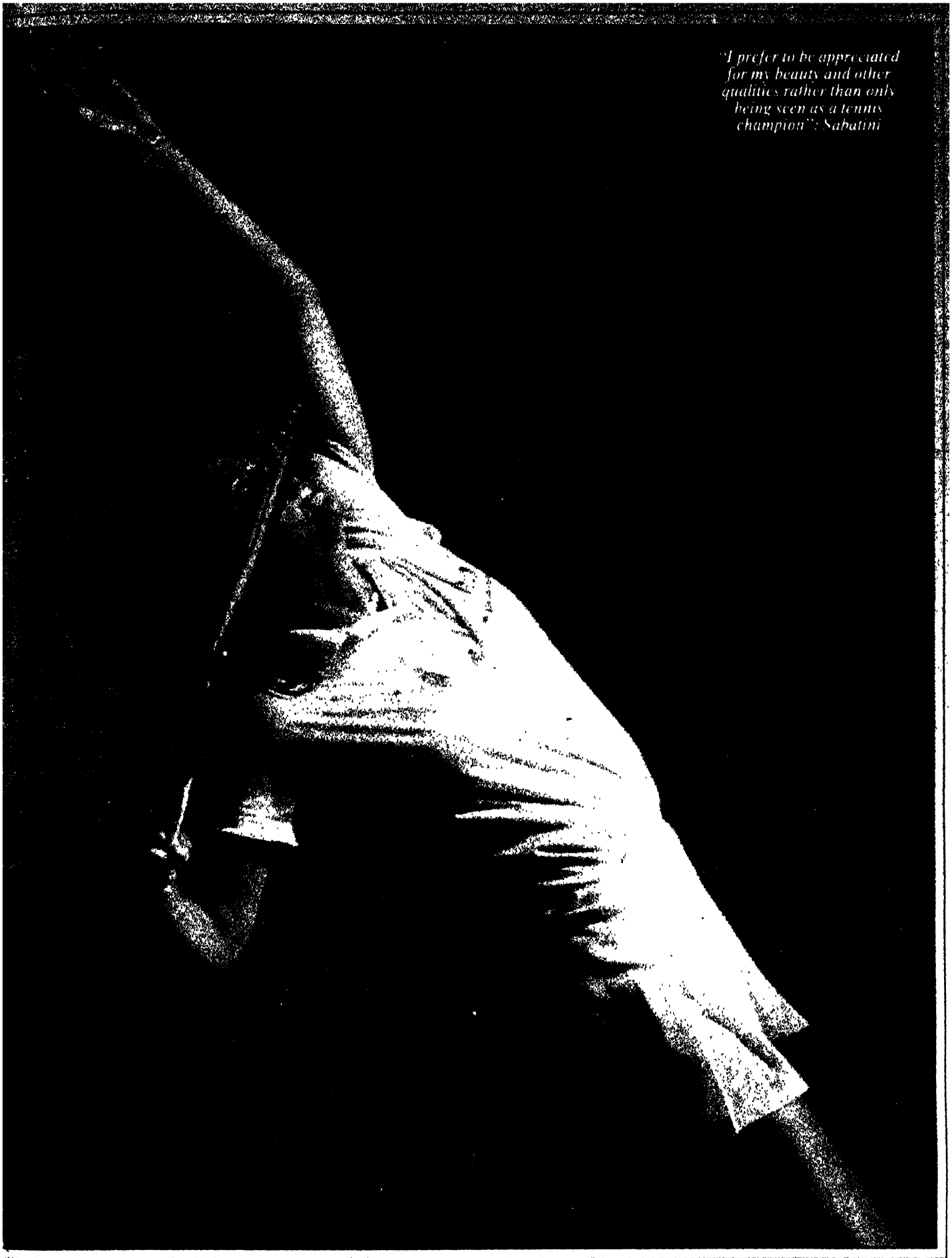
SOME of the most engaging rumours in the game concern the subject of sex on the women's tour. The truth of what goes on, lies somewhere between common knowledge and a deep dark secret. But again no one is saying for sure.

When Sue Barkar (remember the girl who dated singer Cliff Richard) claimed that it was the older women who 'turned' the younger ones 'their way', she even mentioned that one all-time great's sexual tendencies were such a closely guarded secret that no one even had an inclination who it was. But there was no follow up on that claim and rumours that it was Virginia Wade have never been confirmed. Wade still continues as a very respected lady at the All England Club being the last British lady, to win a singles title there. Just as Billie Jean King is now a very highly respected person and coach in spite of the confirmed stories that she once had as a 'companion' a young invalid girl who eventually sued the bespectacled champion for damages.

When Gabriela Sabatini was asked a few years ago about what goes on in the locker room, she replied that she didn't know much since she always undressed in private. She claimed she was 'frightened' to change in front of the other women in the room.

Sabatini said she did not know much about what goes on in the locker room since she always undressed in private. She claimed she was 'frightened' to change in front of the other women in the room

Sabatini herself has gone out of her way to make her preferences clear. Her disastrous romance with one Frank Unkelbach,who claimed that though she was a glamour girl, Sabatini was actually an innocent virgin—might have affected her play last summer, but it did, however, put the record straight. The latest is



"I prefer to be appreciated for my beauty and other qualities rather than only being seen as a tennis champion": Sabatini

that Gaby has now fallen for a man twice her age. Her new love is 41-year-old Jorge Martinez, a twice divorced Argentine actor she met at a Buenos Aires night club. A friend of the 20-year-old multi-millionaire beauty says, "He's the sort of mature, experienced man Gabriela needs."

Of course, the most talked about, sexual preference is that of Martina Navratilova. One must however admit that Martina played her cards well. She made her confession early and straight. In her autobiography *'Being Myself'* she told of how her first experience with a man was disappointing, and so the change of preference. It is rumoured that though Martina's inclinations are stronger towards her own sex, she is bisexual. Surprisingly she has even gone on record that she wants children of her own.

While it is no one's business what players do in the privacy of their bedrooms, can you imagine if ViV Richards had publicly claimed that he was a homosexual!

Yet Martina and all the others get no flak. Even her recent break-up with long time companion Judy Nelson has not got much publicity.

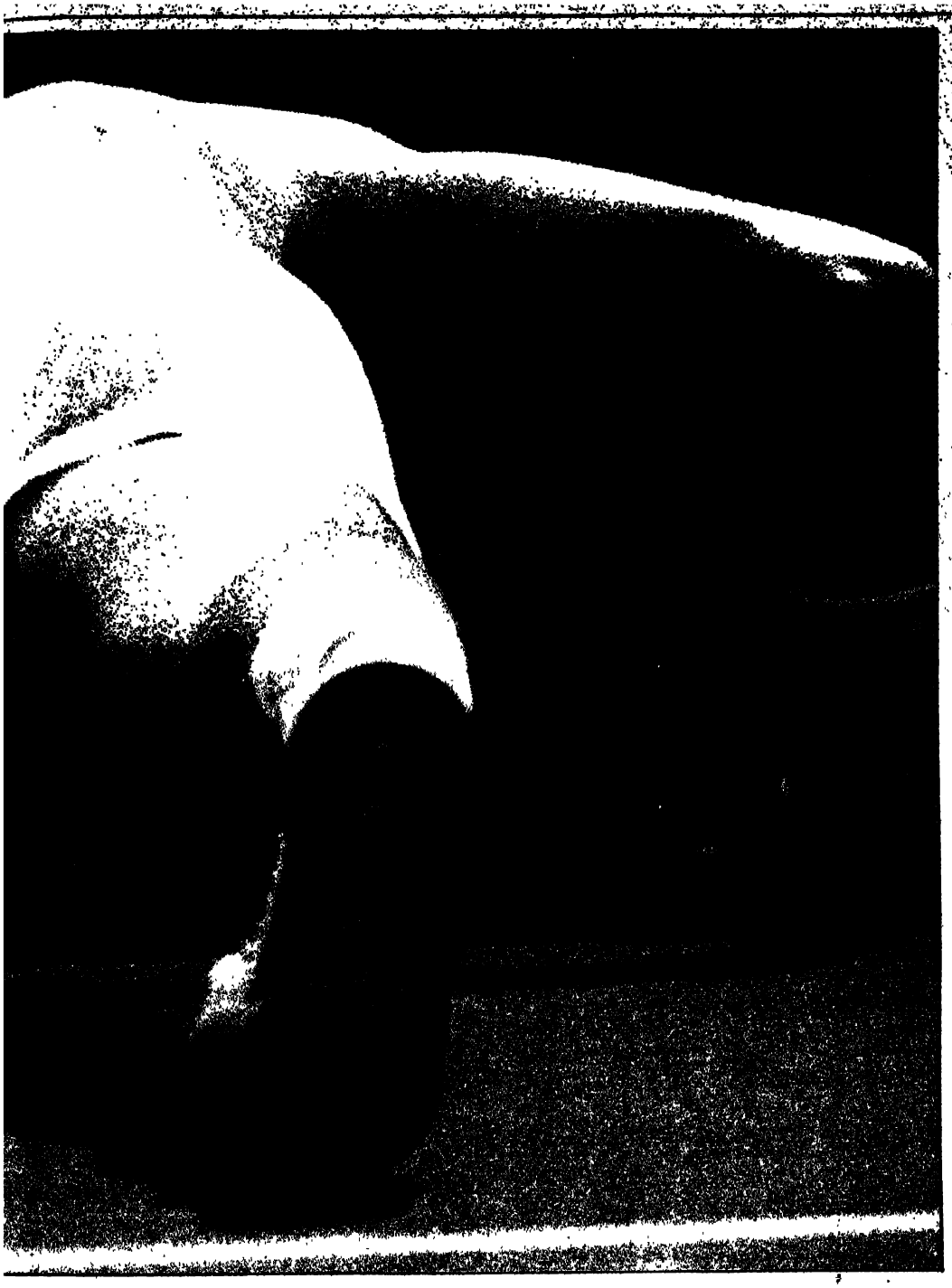
When Margaret Court blasted Martina last year for being a poor role model, a few American newspapers were brave enough to pick up the story. Oh yes, the tabloids went to town, but then who takes them seriously anyway. None of the more serious newspapers chose to go much further than simply quote Court. Had they done so, they might have exposed a world where young players are sometimes pressurised to adopt a certain lifestyle in order to enter the inner sanctum of the women's tour. Even the players didn't side





TOMMY HINDLEY

However, there seems to be a new breakaway trend among the younger women's players now. Many are very 'into' the latest lady's fashions and some have even ventured into modelling. This has helped give the women's tour a greater shade of feminity



For left: Natalia Zvereva of the USSR is also into the modelling scene, while Lendl (seen on left during youth age) keeps his off-the-court life a secret by living in a fortress like mansion.

Astronauts. Even so, should the writer even contemplate to cover women's tennis full-time, she is likely to find herself *persona non grata* on the tour.

One would wonder why there is not much scope for sexual experimentation in tennis when there are so many men and women on the tour. One can only name Robert Seguso and Carling Basset as a high profile tennis-playing married couple.

It should not be forgotten that except for the Grand Slam tournaments and a few others,the men and women's tournaments are held separately and at different venues. The seclusion might act as a catalyst to the lifestyle on the women's circuit. Rumours about who is gay and who is not are the most interesting in tennis. But with so much at stake for the players and the journalists who cover them, few will ever see the light of day.

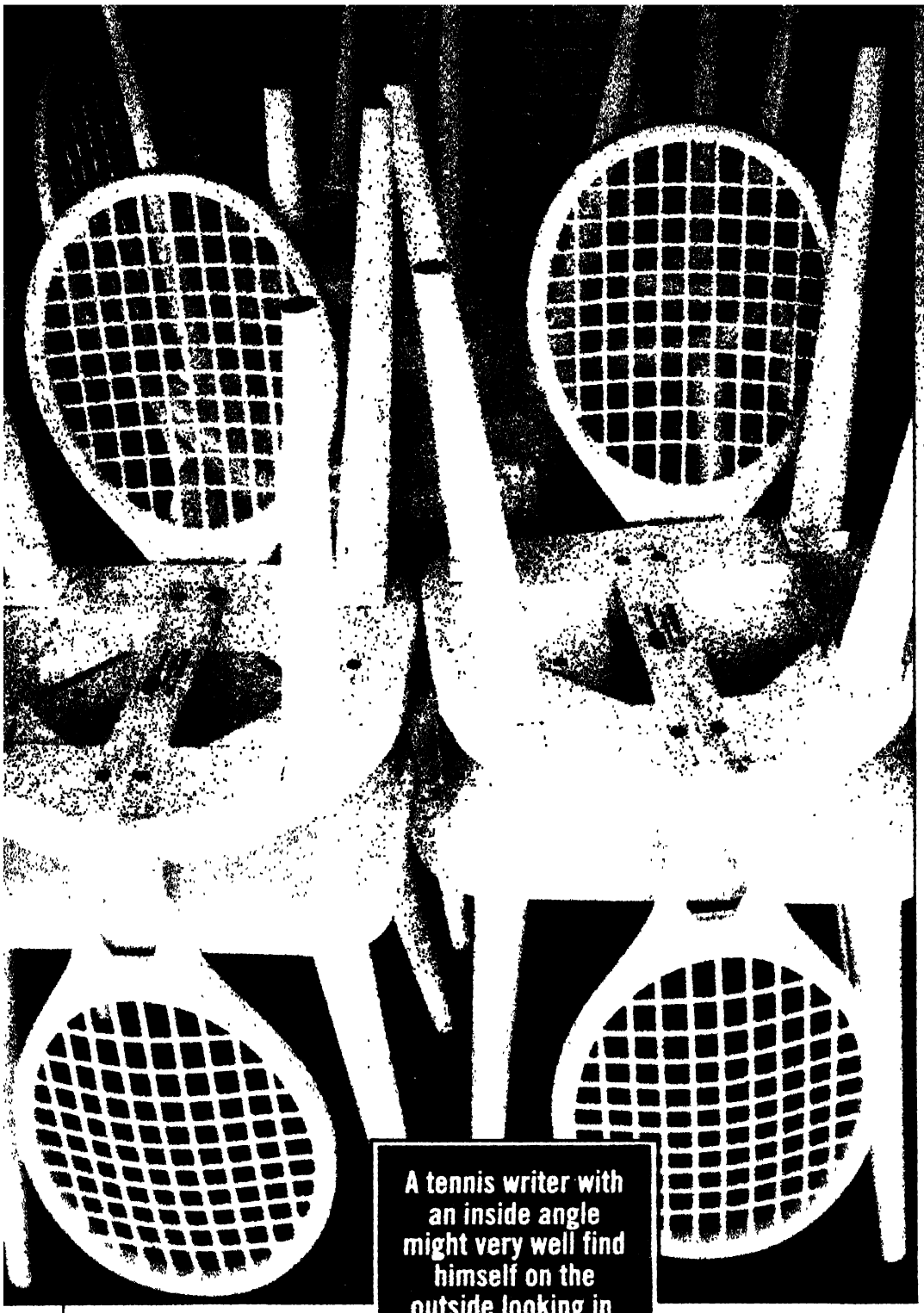
However, there seems to be a new breakaway trend among the younger women's players now. Many are very 'into' the latest lady's fashions and some have even ventured into modelling. This has helped give the women's tour a greater shade of feminity.

One of the few

with Court. Chris Evert practically told Court to mind her own business saying that Martina was a role model even for her.

Ironically, the only substantial story that followed the Court outburst was done by a writer of a tabloid. She unearthed an unnamed teenager whose "tales on the women's tour" were lost in the tabloid, sadly and predictably, among UFO babies and Nazi

Why are off the court exploits such a closely guarded secret of the media? Could a tennis writer have built any kind of career without some access to say an Evert or a Lendl? Why is it that tennis players are watched and not judged?



A tennis writer with an inside angle might very well find himself on the outside looking in. Going for the lines, so to speak, just doesn't pay.

private-life scandals that actually got more publicity than it truely deserved was Peter Graf's relationship with former *Playboy* model Nicole Meissner. The reason was simple. The story broke just before an unusually 'dry' Wimbledon and the parasitic British tabloids pinned their circulation hopes on it. Moreover, Steffi's indifferent play on the court

[illegible] and sympathy for the story.

But even [illegible] and of it all the [illegible] were actually [illegible] with sympathy for 'poor Steffi'. Midway through the tournament it took just one formal request from the organisers to win the consent of the media not to ask any personal questions at Steffi's press conferences.

SHOCKING

IF tennis writers feel that sex and drugs is not what they should write about since it doesn't have any direct relation with the game, then what about the other shady part of the game itself; cheating, tanking, wheelerdealing etc.

The one grand attempt to expose the dark side of the game occured seven years ago, when Michael Mewshaw penned *Short Circuit*. In it he made a candid presentation of the shocking improprieties affecting every level of the men's game. He wrote about things that would have scandalised and shaken the foundations of any other professional sport; players including Vijay Amritraj, tanking matches, linesmen keeping top players in tournaments by cheating on line calls, shady financial deals and appalling conflicts of interests. When the book hit the stands it was advertised as 'the book to put out the lights of the tennis world'.

The initial reaction from the tennis establishment



The most talked about sexual preference is that of Martina Navratilova. But Martina has played her cards well. She made her confessions early and straight

was one of mild panic: the players ran for cover and the power brokers denied everything. When it became clear that no one cared enough to effect any reforms, it was back to business as usual.

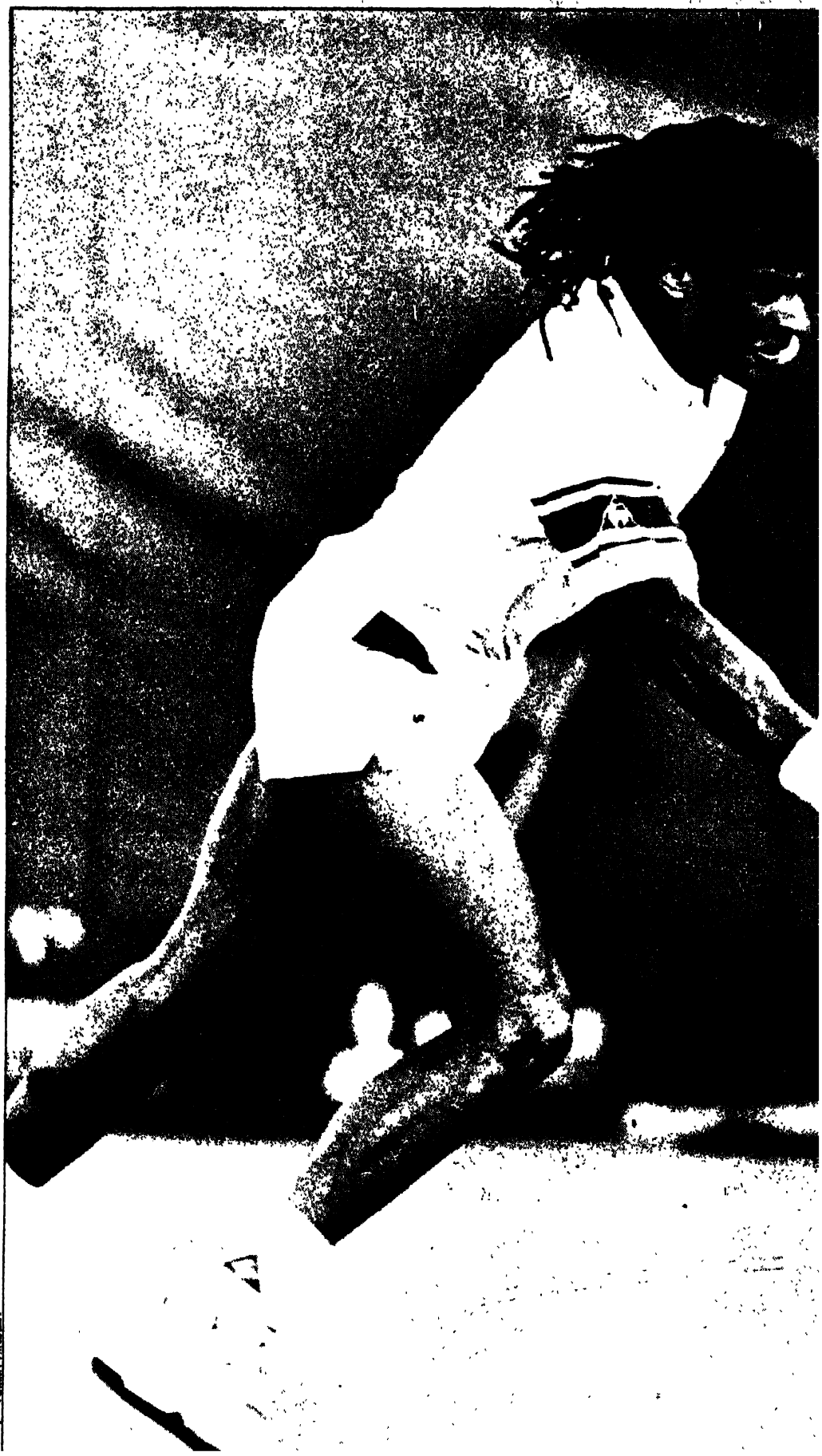
Take the case of Goran Ivanisevic, the young Yugoslav now making it big on the circuit. Among his fellow pros he has quite a reputation as a 'tanker'. Any other non-trier in any other sport would have been crucified and buried by the press for lack of fighting spirit, but in tennis they just joke about it.

After one match, which he lost in five sets to Darren Cahill, Ivanisevic admitted, "I never should have lost that match. But after I lost the fourth set, I just 'tanked' the fifth".

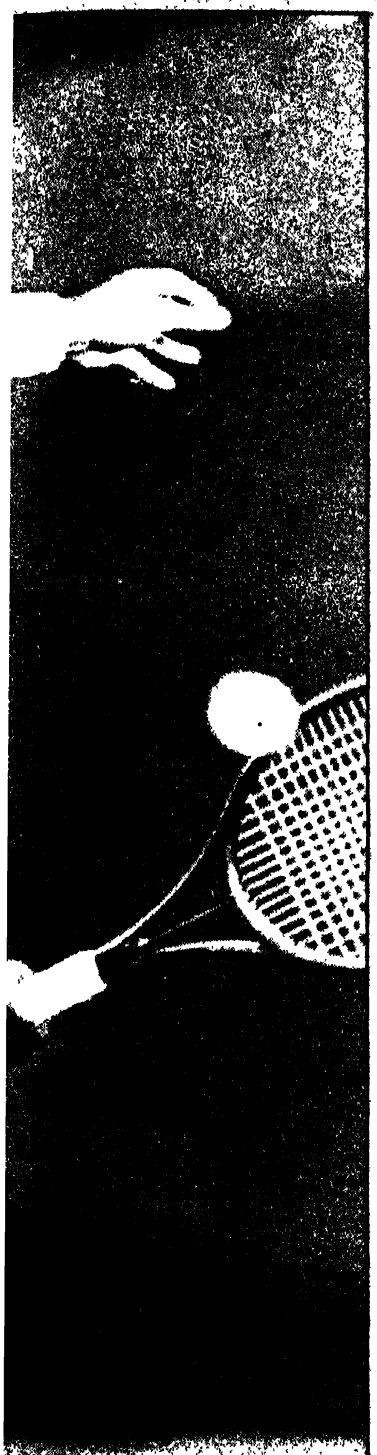
Reporters amazed and amused at his bluntness merely wanted to be sure he wasn't misusing an English word. "Goran," one of them asked, "are you sure you know what 'tanking' is?"

Ivanisevic shrugged, "Sure", he answered, "It means you give up".

Everybody laughed, the Yugoslav made it to the cover of *World Tennis* the following month and



Yannick Noah: Now propagating drug testing in the tennis circuit



Boris Becker proclaimed that "he is great for tennis. The game needs more guys like him".

'WHITE' LIES

BUT don't be mistaken. The tennis press does occasionally take players to task. The man on top of the hit list is now Andre Agassi. "Infantile twerp," "Wayne Newton in Denim" and "a chic bundle of cynical contrivances" are the more subdued names that Agassi has been called in the American media. When one journalist was refused an interview by the boy with the howitzer forehand, the gentleman went ahead and wrote a thirteen page run down of Agassi, in *Sports Illustrated* which for starters had an introduction that read "Andre Agassi was recently born again. Now, if he can only grow up".

The anti-Agassi hype came to such a stage that the player had to appeal to people to lay off him. A born-again Christian he wondered why people hounded him for being bad when "there are so many other bad, bad guys around us".

Oh yes, Andre does have his short-comings, but why label someone a "punk" or a "jerk" because his clothes don't conform with tradition. If wearing coloured clothes on court is evil then Agassi is the devil himself. Afterall, good guys wear white, remember. More than a mere metaphor, 'white' is a halo of respectability accorded to all American heroes, including of course American tennis stars. White has always set tennis apart and despite the intrusion of neon and the likes, it always will. Whether symbolic or psychological, there is a real sense that the men and women so immaculately clad are inherently good, as is the cast of characters that surrounds and feeds onthem. It colours, however subtly, the thinking of the fans, the press and sometimes even the players themselves, forming the basis for a relationship that has thrived from the good old days when 'gay' meant happy right up to the tennis boom. No one in the tennis world seems to have heard of 'white lies'.

White might not always be right, but no one seems to want it any other way. ●

Yannick Noah, (in picture) who, took over from Disco Kid, Vitas Gerulaitas, even claimed that he had once made love to his girlfriend in the men's dressing room before a match at the Australian Open



Rain no play. A disappointed Malcolm Marshall pulls the covers up.

WASHOUT!

Not only was the third Test washed out by rain, but poor gate receipts proved that long Test series in the West Indies are fast fading

BY JOHN WOODCOCK

THAT there was any play at all in the third Test match between West Indies and Australia, after all the rain, was remarkable enough. As for the prompt start, at 10 05 am, that surprised even the locals. The pitch seemed to have been adequately covered this time, though its slowness made runs hard to come by.

With the game so far behind the clock, and the people back at work, the ground was predictably empty. The authorities had spent the weekend counting their losses. The only tour here in the last 20 years to have made a profit was that by Pakistan three years ago, not least because it comprised only three Test matches. The cost of travel and the loss of play in the first Test in Jamaica, and, more importantly, here in Port of Spain, where the takings are normally the best, means that the West Indian board is already looking at a sizeable deficit. Ultimately, they may be faced with something in the region of £50,000.

Going back to the Test proper, captain Viv Richards won the toss and after serious consultation with his senior players, decided to put the Australians in to bat. The decision was amply justified when after 18 overs of rain free performance the Windies walked off for the day -- courtesy rain -- with the Aussies at 36 for

one. Mark Taylor trying desperately to recover his lost form was found frequently fishing outside the off stump David Boon made up his mind after 36 balls to score a run and Geoff Marsh, the day's only casualty was out at 24, in the ninth over off Curtly Ambrose

Australia resumed much as they had finished on Saturday, with Taylor looking quite himself again, after a long search for form, and Boon a picture of defiance They had added 69 for the second wicket when Boon was caught at short-leg off bat and pad, pushing forward to Patterson.

With Border's arrival the clouds began to build muggily up again and Marshall took over from Walsh Three cover boundaries off Marshall, all fine strokes, took Taylor past 50 and into the 60s, whereupon he dragged a long hop from Marshall straight to Walsh at wide mid-on This was a wicket thrown away, and Australia were back on the defensive as Border and Jones took them to 128 for three at lunch.

At just over two runs an over and no more than 13 overs to the hour, if that, and only two wickets falling in the first three hours of the day, progress was negligible The batsmen, even so, were kept at full stretch Jones had had a nervous struggle to get any sort of a footing when he hooked Walsh magnificently for four In the first hour after lunch he and Border scored 19 runs off 11 overs.

A talking point, and there was the need of one, was another basic umpiring error, committed this time by David Archer When a ball slipped out of Walsh's hand and lobbed high to Richardson at third slip, Archer, rather than signalling a wide indicated that it was a dead ball "If the bowler bowls the ball so high over or so wide off the wicket that, in the opinion of the umpire, it passes out of the reach of the striker,



Boon rightfully acknowledges the cheers of the crowd. He scored a run after 36 balls



Walsh was by far the most hard working of bowlers, in an otherwise ordinary battery of pacemen

standing in a normal guard position, the umpire shall call and signal 'wide-ball' as soon as it has passed the line of the striker's wicket." Once again the Laws of Cricket (25/1) make it clear enough.

William Rhodes adds:

The fourth day saw the rather quick exit of Dean Jones who is surprisingly trying to find Test form. His spirited performances for his country during the one-dayers must have exhausted his hunger. Jones made just 21 before falling leg before to Patrick Patterson.

Mark Waugh followed and almost immediately ran out skipper Allan Border when attempting a quick single to Carl Hooper at cover. Border scored an insecure 43 Immediately after Border's dismissal, Steve Waugh sauntered in, and the statisticians started sharpening their pencils in order to compile new data Twins Mark and Steve Waugh had made history! When the Waughs came together at 210 for five they became the first twins to bat together in a Test

Ninety minutes later, Steve Waugh trudged back, his head bent over in dismay, caught behind off Courtney Walsh for 26. Walsh's 30 overs cost him just 45 runs. Mark deserted by his brother, paid the price for running out of partners by



working hard for his half century. He went to sleep after scoring 57. Tomorrow was definitely another day.

The fourth day saw a rather quick collapse. Australia's overnight 279 for six was quickly transformed to 294 all out. The smiles on the faces of Vivian Richards and Co. did not last long either. Along with the weather they also ran into Hurricane Hughes. Skipper Richards started praying fervently to the rain Gods. For the hosts, a draw would suffice.

In trying to reply rather contemptuously to Australia's modest total of 294, the Windies themselves faced an embarrassing total of 92 for six. Dujon and Marshall avoided the ignominy of a follow-on after their predecessors put up a rather sorry show. But the day definitely belonged to Merv Hughes who laughed all the way to the dressing room with four scalps under his big belly. They cost him a stingy 19 runs. Dujon who finished the day on 70 posted his highest score on this ground after three years.

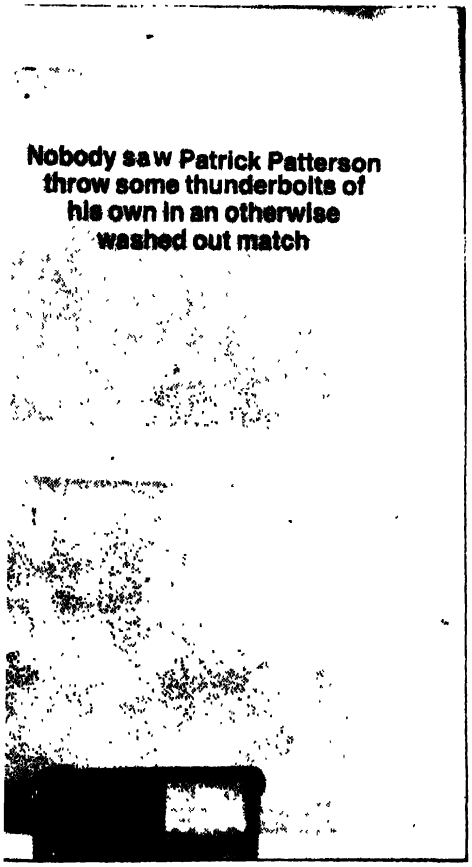
It might have been a rather sleepless night for Richards as he could have kept awake definitely trying out a bit of local voodoo charm and praying for rain, torrents of it. On the final day, the pregnant clouds broke forth.

A draw, predicted the experts, was imminent.



When Merv gets going he doesn't give a XXXX for the opposition. Thunder from Down Under

NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA



Nobody saw Patrick Patterson throw some thunderbolts of his own in an otherwise washed out match

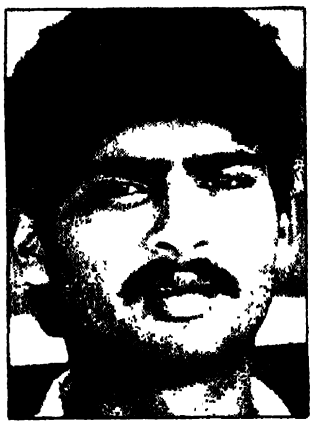
BRIEF SCORES
FIRST INNINGS:
AUSTRALIA: 294
WEST INDIES: 227
SECOND INNINGS:
AUSTRALIA: 11 FOR ONE
TEST DRAWN

COURTESY THE TIMES LONDON

ASHISH WINSTON ZAIDI

HIT MAN

Ashish Winston Zaidi, a 19 year old from Allahabad, is all set to make the top league in cricket. 8 wickets for 111 against Haryana, in the Ranji Trophy quarter final last week and an impressive list of performances in the under-19 team has made him a force to contend with...



"LOOK, if *Amar Akbar Antony* can be accepted without a fuss why should I be repeatedly quizzed," asks Ashish Winston Zaidi obviously bemused that his name causes such consternation. Yet, the prodigious 19 year-old speedster from Allahabad, coincidentally the place from where the superstar of the movie also hails, looks so hungry that sure looks like he's seeking to be as big as that blockbuster of the Seventies. Well if this prodigy from the banks of the Ganges, can be half as successful, then Indian cricket is bound to go places



A. W. Zaidi: all set and raring to go

That Zaidi belongs to a totally different league is evident from his impressive hauls -10 wickets in an under-19 Test at Karachi's National Stadium, 12 wickets in an under-19 Test in Kanpur, followed by another ten-wicket haul in an under-19 Test at Rourkela. Incidentally all the latter two hauls were against Pakistan. But once he gets to the top of his run up the genial demeanour gives way to a fierce single-mindedness, the objective – to claim the scalp in front.

Very recently, Zaidi turned in another brilliant performance—for UP's champion U-19 outfit versus Rest of India in the Chidambaram Trophy. The tall Zaidi extracted appreciable bounce on a placid Eden track to fire out eight batsmen in the first essay. A toe injury came to Rest's rescue in the second innings, where the limping Zaidi picked up one wicket. Otherwise, yet another ten-wicket haul was there for the asking. Zaidi *can* scythe through the opposition, a very distinct plus in the Indian context.

Zaidi, whose paternal grandfather was a Muslim who converted to Christianity (which explains the unusual 'Winston Zaidi'), took to the sport in right earnest on shifting to Lucknow's Sports College. That was in 1986.

He caught the eye in age-group camps and in the 1988-89 season, graduated from the state colts' level to a junior International. Zaidi hasn't looked back after the Karachi outing that season.

"I haven't encountered a more helpful wicket than the one at Karachi. There was enough encouragement to go flat out," Zaidi recalls. Incidentally, one Waqar Younus, today arguably, the world's *numero uno* paceman, featured in that rival XI.

Realising that they could mould a winner, the MRF Pace Foundation signed Zaidi last year. And that, for the Dennis Lillee admirer, was a dream come true. "To actually get tips from one's idol is the most that anyone can hope for. I'm trying to perfect Lillee's cut-and swing suggestions," Zaidi emphasises enthusiastically.

Perhaps the only area he needs to work on is the outswinger. "Yes, I bring the ball in more than I move it away. But, of late, I've begun to pick up wickets with the swinger," Zaidi remarks.

And what is the secret behind that phenomenal lift he generates? The ubiquitous smile precedes the answer. "*Wrist ka kaamal hai* – it gets the ball to kick."

Perhaps it was the *wrist ka kamal* that helped him take all the 8 wickets that fell on the 1st day of the Ranji Trophy quarter final against Haryana at Faridabad. Zaidi had the Haryana team in all sorts of trouble when he claimed the first four wickets in 15 overs conceding just 22 runs.

Interestingly, Zaidi has also played soccer at the national sub-junior level. And though he may not now be a right-out on the football field, he certainly stands out on any cricket ground. ●

L.P. Sahi

EVEN OUT THE BORDERS



Australian captain Allan Border is slowly coming into his own in a new dimension: that of an accomplished spinner. So much so, he sees himself as an allrounder in the future Australian team

ALLAN BORDER'S role as Australia's only spin bowler for the third Test against the West Indies in Trinidad will have brought a wry grin to the face of Tony Lock of England, Surrey, Leicestershire and Western Australia fame.

In the late 1970s, when cricket's traditional values and virtues were under attack, Lock worked with missionary zeal among the secessionists of Western Australia, scanning the horizon for any young orthodox left-arm slow bowler he could imbue with the spirit of his craft.

The canny and, by then, corpulent professional, who made an incalculable contribution to West Australian cricket, was enthused when he saw a young Border bowling at the nets during a visit to Perth by the New South Wales team.

But Border, who had just been persuaded by former England international Barry Knight to leave the beach and pursue a career as a cricketer, wanted to be a batsman Nonetheless, Border politely listened to the master and learned of his techniques and philosophy.

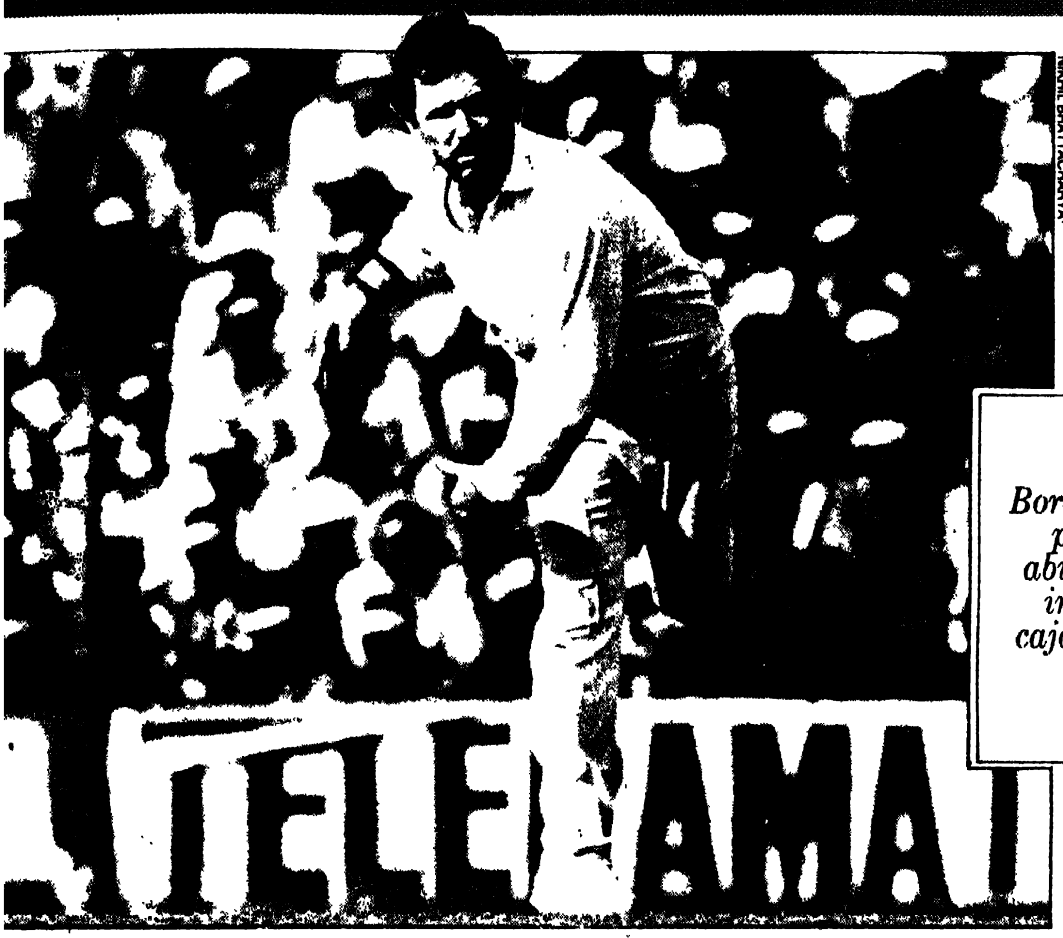
Indeed, for the only time in his life, Border had a sore spinning finger —a revelation which greatly amuses Geoff Marsh, who rather irreverently refers to his skipper as a "hand spinner."

Border, arguably the modern game's most accomplished batsman against slow bowling, is embarrassed that at the age of 35 and in his 123rd Test match he has been chosen as a quasi all-rounder. At the same time, he has shown a boyish excitement at such a challenge and cursed louder than most when rain swamped the Queen's Park Oval.

He senses the change of status could



"Maybe if I hadn't been captain over the last seven years I might have bowled a lot more, I really haven't put much thought into my bowling but I work hard at nets."
...Allan Border



NIKHIL BHATTACHARYA

Border has always had a poor opinion of his ability as a bowler and invariably has to be cajoled into service by a team-mate

prolong his Test career and he can envisage batting at No 6 behind Dean Jones and the Waugh twins as the spin-bowling all-rounder.

"But I would have to bowl better," he said. "After a while, people don't treat you as a part—time. Because you have to bowl more overs, you go for more runs At the moment, if I get hit I simply go off."

Border has always had a poor opinion of his ability as a bowler and invariably has to be cajoled into service by a team-mate. In the second Test at Georgetown, Guyana, it was frustrated off-spinner Dean Jones who pestered Border to take on Desmond Haynes and Richie Richardson as the West Indies total neared 300 for the loss of just one wicket. Border was disconcerted that evening when, in a total of 532 for nine, he had, to use his term, the quite ridiculous figures of five for 51.

At the moment it became clear to Border that he would have to play in Trinidad as the specialist spinner. "It's a bit sad really. Under normal circumstances, I would not hesitate in using a spinner. But the fact is that these (West Indies) players don't play me as well as they do the off-spinners."

That fact first became apparent in January 1989 when Border returned the startling match analysis of 11 for 96 in the fourth Test of the Worrell Trophy series at the Sydney Cricket Ground. Even given the West Indians' paranoia of Sydney, it was an outstanding achievement which overshadowed the exploits of the specialists, leg spinner Trevor Hohns (four for 118) and off-spinner Peter Taylor (three for 156).

"Maybe if I hadn't been captain over the last seven years I might have bowled a lot more." he said. "I really haven't put much thought into my bowling but I work hard at nets."

Given that he has taken 17 of his Test wickets (at 18 76) in 23 games against the West Indies, it is hardly surprising that he laments the absence of a right-arm leg-break bowler in this Australian party

In St Vincent he watched admiringly as Trinidad's Rajindra Dhanraj placed his wares, including a sophisticated googly, before the Australians. "I reckon Dhanraj would be playing in this Test if he was an Australian. In my mind, he's real quality," concluded Border, who is seeking 10,000 runs and 50 wickets in Test cricket.

"Winning tournaments is not something that I'm thinking about right now. It puts a little too much pressure on me. Being No. 1 is something I don't see me wanting until I'm 24 or 25"--World No 4 Andre Agassi, age 20.


TOMMY HINDLEY

"WHERE'S ANDRE?"

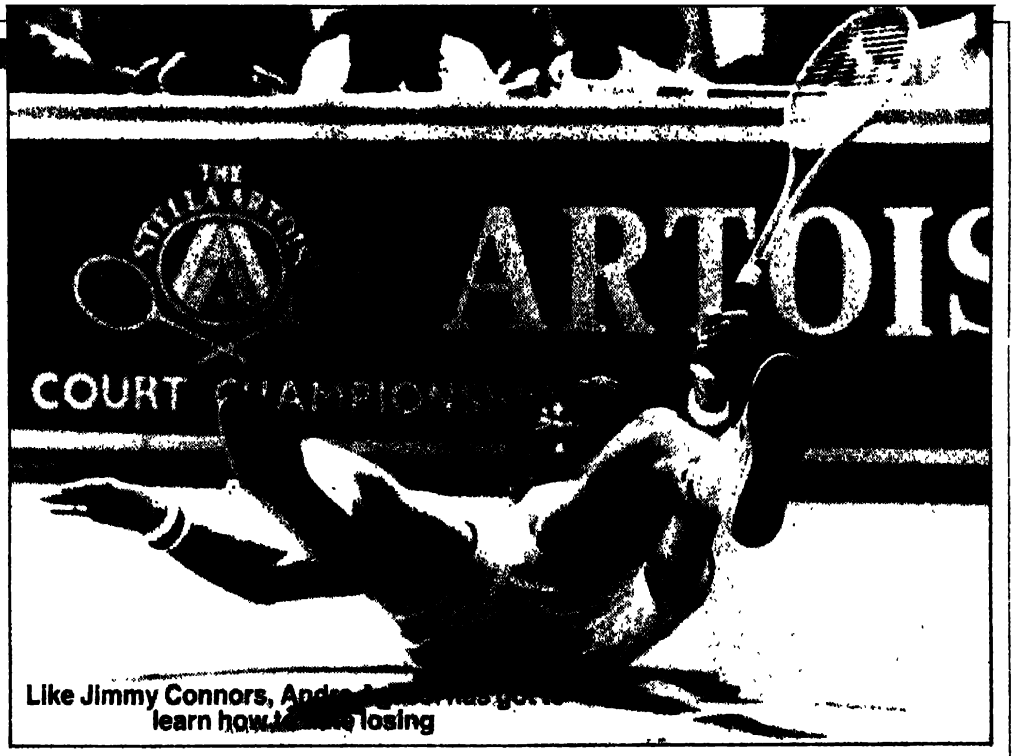
Old time hustler and champion Bobby Riggs doesn't mince words. "Come see me and you'll be the world's best player" is his message to Andre Agassi

BOBBY RIGGS has an urgent message for Andre Agassi: Come see me and listen to me, and you'll unquestionably be the world's best player and not just one of the best

"If I could sit down and talk with him and give him my theory of airtight tennis and how not to play points so loose at different times in a match and everying,

it would help him a lot," says Riggs who won all three Wimbledon titles on his first try 52 years ago. "Andre gets a little loose on some shots. He gets a little lax. His concentration strays at times."

Riggs, far better known for his celebrated 1973 "Battle of the Sexes" Houston Astrodome loss to feminist Billie Jean King than his prime time triumphs, also thinks, Agassi, his favourite player, needs an attitude change. "I don't know whether Andre can ever get it because he's made so



Like Jimmy Connors, Andre [illegible] learn how [illegible] losing



PEOPLE ARE TALKING

MARTINA NAVRATILOVA, telling Barry Wood of *Tennis World* that the arrogance and anarchy damaging men's tennis is creeping into the women's game, too: "Players are spoiled rotten, and there are those who haven't won tournaments who are dictating to the promoters about when they should start playing and what they need and the order of play. At one event (an exhibition in Essen, where several injured players were replaced by others) they were trying to get a junior to play, but she found out she wasn't going to be on TV so she didn't come. She wasn't even ranked in the top 100 and had never played these top players, and they're making these demands...The mentality has changed a lot, and these players are like prima-donnas. They walk around as if they own the world, and they haven't won a thing."



TOM ATHERTON

Mac's temper is like smoking: a bad habit

DID YOU KNOW?

ANDRE AGASSI'S frenzied television commercials blare and glare at you.

In a bizarre new comercial for Perrier mineral water, John McEnroe doesn't rage, but ages 30 years.

McEnroe, 32, posed as a 60-year-old tennis player—playing himself in the 45-second advertisement that was filmed in London and aired on French television in March.

The aged Mac sported a headband and tennis shirt, and a four-hour make-up session gave him a lined face, sagging chin and (even more) receding hairline.

MARTINA NAVRATILOVA has left Judy Nelson, her attractive, blond housemate and constant companion for the past seven years. And the break-up apparently wasn't amicable.

Nelson, who gave up her wealthy doctor husband for Navratilova, has lodged a palimony claim for $5 million, reports Terry Smith of Australia's *Daily Mirror*.

IMAGINE muscular, 6' 3", 230-pound heavyweight contender Donovan "Razor" Ruddock whacking tennis balls instead of fighters' heads. It could have happened because boxing was only Ruddock's second choice as a sport. Tennis was his first.

"I used to play like from 9 O'clock in the morning to 11 O'clock at night. That's how much I wanted to be good at tennis," Jamaican-born and Canadian resident Ruddock told *CNN-TV Sports* before losing on a seventh-round knockout to Mike Tyson.

"But the reason I was out of tennis is because I just couldn't maintain it. It was too expensive. So I had to go to a different sport. So that's the reason why I'm in boxing," revealed Ruddock.

JOHN McENROE, older, wiser and even repentant these days, discussed a wide range of issues in a *Chicago Sun-Times* profile by Len Ziehm.

On his on-court tantrums: "It's like smoking cigarettes—a lousy, stinking habit. I have no excuses, and I don't try to rationalize it. It breaks my concentration, and costs me."

On how he'd like to change tennis: "I would break the trend in American tournaments. Tennis is not as strong in America as it is in Europe or Japan. New York lost the Masters. Our U.S. Open is the worst of the four Grand Slams. It should be the best."

On sports comebacks: "George Foreman is coming back to fight a bunch of stiffs. Bjorn Borg might be able to beat a nobody in the first round, but I don't think he can win a tournament again. It amazes me that people want to see that."

On his retirement plans: "I don't know when, but I won't be playing too much longer."



Agassi and Becker: friends and foes

much money already and he's going to make so much more no matter what he does anyway," says Riggs. "These guys like Sampras (who got $ 2 million for winning the Grand Slam Cup) and him, these young stars, are making so much. They don't really have all that incentive, you see. The guy's already got more money than he ever dreamed (was) possible."

What Andre, now 20 and in his fifth year on the pro tour, hasn't got is a Grand Slam title. He inexcusably skips Wimbledon—"WHERE'S ANDRE?" T-shirts are big sellers—and the Australian Open annually, and last year suffered disastrous upset defeats in the finals of the French and U.S. Opens.

Riggs, the zany hustler who won large sums betting he could beat people while he was tied to elephants and donkeys, enjoys Agassi's happy-go-lucky, carefree brand of showmanship. "He gets a kick out of wearing an earring and a beard and the long hair and the orange undershorts and all that bullshit he goes through. It's colourful. The guy is a crowd pleaser, let's face it."

But Riggs, the relentless, resourceful competitor who still wins Super Senior tournaments at 73, cringes when Agassi, after falling behind in a match, visibly stops trying instead of digging in and really fighting it out. "My main objection is that Andre doesn't care whether he wins or loses. See, I don't like happy losers. Every great, great champion cannot stand losing," stresses Riggs, growing more animated. "They hate losing! It really hurts them bad deep down inside. Look at how tough it was for Connors to lose. Gonzales, Segura, Rosewall, Laver, even Lendl now. They had great heart. They hated losing. They're not happy losers."

Still, Riggs predicts that Mr "Image Is Everything"—the unquestioned tennis king of endorsement commercials—will capture the French Open in June. "He's got the talent, he's got the game," praises Riggs. "He should go all the way. It's just a question of what his goal is. Does he want to have fun, play a few tournaments and make all the money? Or does he want to be the best player in the world? It's up to him."

Paul Fein

STORM IN A TEA CUP

The championship was held in a hamlet quite some distance away from Pondicherry which made commuting difficult. The lodging facilities were poor. And a revolt by five star players led to a truncated meet. Devangshu Dutta reports

INTERNATIONAL Master Devaki Prasad (Karnataka) retained the National Chess Championship by winning the trouble ridden National 'A' recently at Pondicherry. Prasad scored 8½ points from a possible 13 to tie with IM Pravin Thipsay (Maharashtra) and he pipped Thipsay on the tiebreak.

These two were followed by newcomer P. Konguvel (TN), IM Niraj Mishra (Bihar), P. D. S. Girinath (A.P.), and debutant G. B. Prakash (T.N.) in the standings.

The first sign of trouble in the offing was topseed Grandmaster Dibyendu Barua's withdrawal at the 11th hour citing tiredness. Barua was replaced by C. S. Sridhar, but this was naturally a disappointment to the fans of the Union Territory. Then the meet was delayed when all 20 participants protested about the lodging arrangements before the first round.

The basic problem here was that the meet was being played at the hamlet of Lingaredipalayam some 20 km from Pondi town where the players were being lodged. The prospect of travelling to and fro several times a day was obviously not relished by anyone.

Eventually the organisers agreed to provide alternative accommodation near the venue to the players and after the draw, the first round commenced.

Five players—all IMs, all strong contenders for the top spots and all senior respected citizens failed to turn up and forfeited their first round games. Raja Ravisekhar (T.N.), K. Murugan (T.N.), Ravi Hegde (Maharashtra), T.N. Parameswaran (T.N.) and Sekhar Sahu (Orissa) all felt that commuting was impossible. Also, staying in Lingaredipalayam was difficult because of food and other problems.

D. Prasad: sweet victory in the championships



Well, they were scratched, but further problems now arose. It would be manifestly unfair to those who had played the first round to restart the championship having annulled the first round results. It would also lead to great colour imbalances if the championship was played with five byes in each round.

Colour imbalances, i.e. an unequal number of whites and blacks are taken very seriously by pros because white generally scores around 57% success in competitive games. A second players' meeting apparently generated a great deal of heat, but ultimately the first round results were allowed to stand and colour problems were accepted as a necessary evil by the participants

There is however a further complication because Fide could well declare the National championship null and void because of this very problem It is quite possible that the five players could appeal to Fide that the national championship was illegal It is also possible that the AICF may take punitive action against these five for withdrawing after the first round was played Right now the Indian chess community is clearly divided on this issue.

The next minor problem arose when Anup Deshmukh (Maharashtra), the national Under-25 champion pulled out after 4 rounds citing medical reasons. To be exact he produced a certificate stating that he could not take the strain of commuting. By the way half the players had opted to stay in Pondicherry and the other half had shifted to Lingaredipalayam.

So now there were six byes per round and four games being played. The championship continued with Girinath taking an early lead. He was stopped by Konguvel and then Prasad took over. A ding dong battle ensued between Prasad and Thipsay Finally Thipsay needed to beat Prakash in the last round to pick up the title.

Prakash held the draw and so people started counting up tiebreak scores. The decisive game fittingly for such a farcical tourney proved to be the match between backmarkers C.S. Unni and S. Ganesan.

Tiebreaks in a round robin are the sum of beaten opponents scores added to half the sum of opponents one has drawn with. Thipsay had beaten Unni, so if Unni beat Ganesan, his tiebreak score would exceed Prasad's. Unni achieved a winning set up but then he blundered to hand Ganesan the point and Prasad the championship.

There is a pretty good chance that this is not the end of the saga. Undoubtedly the AICF will have to exhibit Solomon's judgement to ensure that further complications do not result and the game does not suffer. A pity really that this had to happen as this had the makings of a very good championship with a fine blend of veterans and debutants. ●

Dibyendu Barua: an unexpected withdrawal



It is quite possible that the five players who forfeited their first round games could appeal to Fide that the national championship was illegal. It is also possible that the AICF may take punitive action against these five for withdrawing after the first round was played. Right now, the Indian chess community is clearly divided over the issue.

IMRAN RECOMMENDS

THE 18-year-old Pakistani Test bowler, Aaquib Javed will be making his debut for English county Hampshire against Oxford University. The Pakistani pace prodigy has been signed on to replace West Indies fast bowler Malcolm Marshall He impressed the Hampshire officials in pre-season training and his selection was obvious since his recommendation came from the Pakistan **captain, Imran Khan.**

THE FIGHTING SPIRIT

WEST INDIAN fast bowler, Ian Bishop is awaiting medical reports to decide if he is fit enough for the West Indies cricket tour of England, starting next month.

A newspaper report said that Bishop was diagnosed as having a stress fracture of the spine. The injury has kept him out of the current series against Australia and he has not bowled in a match since January.

He firmly believes that he can come back to bowl again and has received a lot of encouragement from Australian bowlers, Bruce Reid and Mike Whitney. Both of them have overcome similar injuries to force their way back into international cricket.

JAHANGIR IN POWER

SQUASH legend, Jahangir Khan was elected chairman of the

PRADEEP MANOHAN



SPORTING TRIVIA

Interesting snippets from the world media that we normally don't get to hear about...

Ian Bishop suffered a stress fracture of the spine and is desperate to make it back to the West Indies side

International Squash Players' Association (ISPA) at its annual meeting in London recently.

His election to the post came as no surprise since he was the only nomination for the post. Earlier in the season, the 28-year-old Pakistani squash player was in dispute with ISPA after it fined him £500 and awarded a zero ranking score for his late withdrawal for health reasons from the World Open.

Jahangir Khan has also been a central figure in the growing animosity between Pakistani and Australian players on the circuit this season.

"Perhaps it will be good to have a Pakistani on the ISPA board so that we can try to resolve the problem before it gets out of hand," he said. "It is not good for squash to have all these arguments."

With him on the board is Australian, Chris Dittmar the president, who also stood unopposed for the post.

JESUS CHRIST, VIV!

ARCHBISHOP Anthony Pantin, head of Trinidad and Tobago's Catholic church, accused the West Indies Test cricketers of bad sportsmanship He was referring to the controversial dismissal of Dean Jones during the second Test.

Pantin, in a letter

which appeared in Trinidad newspapers, said, "I was appalled that the West Indies captain, Viv Richards, did not recall Dean Jones". He went on to say, "The umpire had made an unfortunate mistake....but whatever the case, Richards could have resolved everything by recalling Dean Jones."

THROW INTO THE DEEP END

TOP class American swimmers in college are in a bit of a jam. A new rule by the (NCAA) has made it virtually necessary for them to quit college in order to attend practice. As a result of this, a mass exodus is taking place from colleges to practice pools. One of the swimmers to suffer is three time world record holder Janet Evans.

Evans has chucked up a promising academic stint with Stanford University in order to put in the required amount of training. She will be selected on the basis of this and her timings for the '92 Olympics.

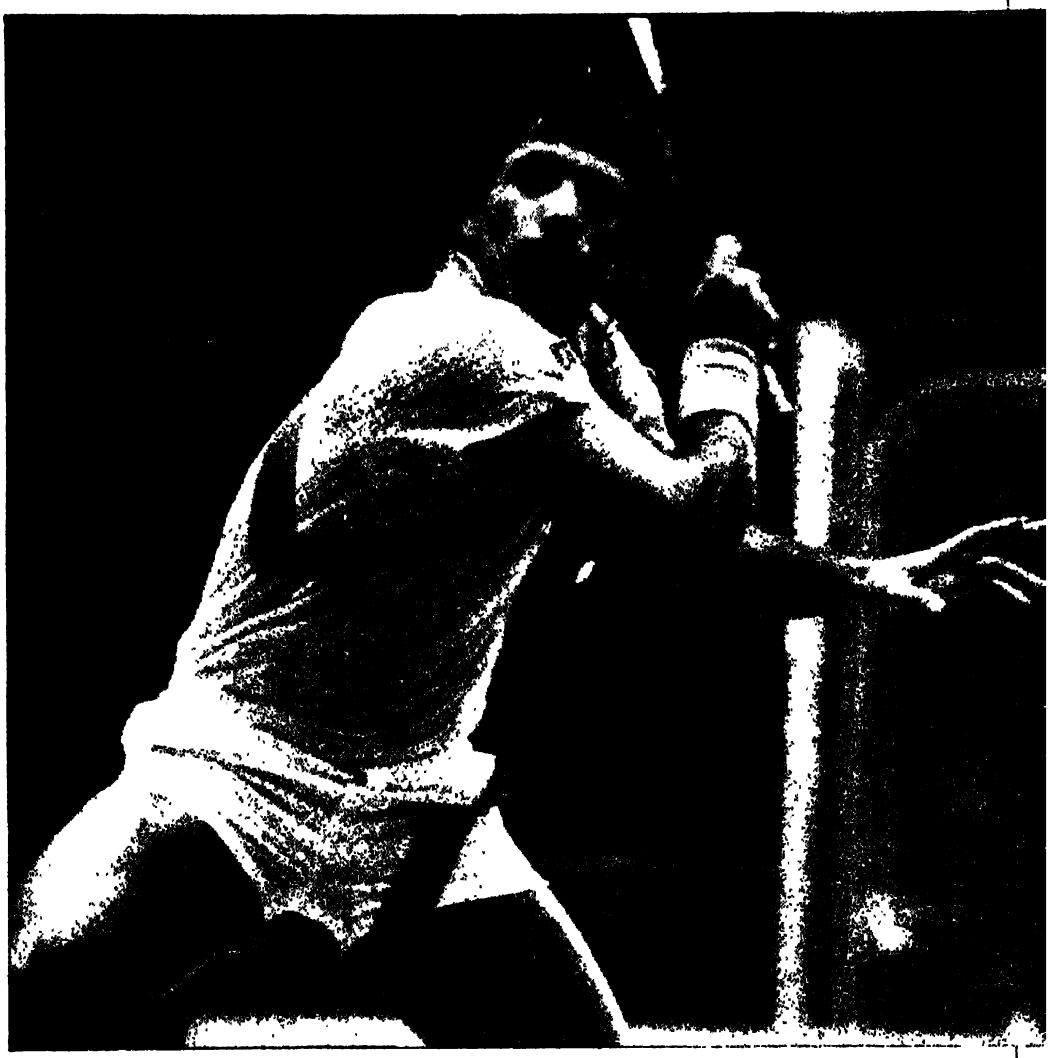
"Isn't it sad for someone who is as excellent a student as Janet Evans has to quit college to pursue her dream? Mark Schubert, coach of the Texas women's team said, "I think it borders on criminal."

Evans along with Tennessee's Melvin Stewart announced that they were leaving school to prepare for the Barcelona and both blamed the new rule.

But Jim Marchiony of the NCAA defended the new rule saying that its content was being misinerpreted. "That limit refers to the amount of time that a coach can require a student athlete to participate in his or her sport. Swimmers can voluntarily practise as many hours as they want."

There's got to be a catch somewhere.

Jahangir Khan was elected chairman of ISPA. This should help him resolve a lot of problems faced by his countrymen



LEAKING INFORMATION

IN an age of leaking question papers and marksheets in college, Sri Lanka's Sports Minister, Nanda Mathew comes across as an ardent supporter of that fad. The honourable minister has admitted leaking a controversial report on Sri Lanka's cricket tour of New Zealand to a government run newspaper.

Mathew released manager Stanley Jayasinghe's report, which slammed assistant manager Jayantha Paranathala and captain Arjuna Ranatunga for their behaviour during the two-month tour. The state run *Sunday Observer* gave front page coverage to the report and this resulted in Paranathala resigning from the executive committee of the Board of Control for Cricket in Sri Lanka (BCCSL).

Paranathala said that the BCCSL rules were violated when the report was leaked; he also cited 'double standards' in the move to dispose him. But Mathew defended his actions in true ministerial fashion saying, "It was I who released the manager's report to the Press. I have the right to do so I have a duty to the public who are eager to know what is taking place." ●

CRAZY GOLF!

Without a single major triumph Ian Woosnam leads the computer rankings. The best golfer Nick Faldo is rated number three. And Sev Ballesteros may not find a place in the Europe team for the Ryder Cup. The golf world has gone topsy-turvy



NICK FALDO's three iron shot in the first play-off in the 1989 Masters at the Augusta National was the most important among his 2,022 shots he had played at the course to win the Green Blazar. It was a major breakthrough: Faldo had become the first Briton to win the Masters. And that one particular shot enabled him a chance to repeat the feat. Yes the Briton was on the verge of creating history, which the legendary Jack Nicklaus missed by a whisker.

Earlier in 1988, the golden haired Sandy Lyle, who claims to be the hardest hitter in the world, will remember that his seven iron on the 18th bunker in the final round changed the whole scene. The Scottish went on to win the British Open in 1985.

And what about Welshman,Ian Woosnam? He must have been frustrated in his three appearances at Georgia, venue of the Masters. His maiden attempt in 1988 culminated in a low key; he was on the guillotine list. The next two years he finished 14th and 13th respectively It seemed that for Woosnam time was running out. He is yet to win a major in his seventeen years in the money race.

But this season has been very eventful for Woosnam. He's on felt when compared to Sandy Lyle and Faldo in matters of money. In fact, he is in a strong position to be European number one. Although Europe's professionals have felt the pinch of the Gulf War with as much as $1.92 million being lost because three tournaments had been scrapped. Yet everything is not lost, the total prize money has been enhanced and Woosnam has made the best use of his playing prowess in this circuit to laugh all the way to his bank. He has already notched up a marvellous record in Europe. Out of seventeen events he's won five,finished second in four,and has pocketed $478,688. Quite remarkable, especially when he's yet to triumph in a major championship.

In fact, Welshman Woosnam has been putting much better these days: "I don't feel I've got to

Ian Woosnam





Top golfer Nick Faldo

Sev Ballesteros coming out of the bunker during the 1980 British Open

knock every iron shot really close to get a birdie...it's nice to be in such a strong position, because it's happened almost by accident."

But in spite of Woosnam's successes, the fact cannot be ruled out that Faldo and Jose Maria Olazabal are menacing in the race to grab the larger chunks offered as prize money. Spain's Olazabal this season has been performing consistently. His play through the greens was brilliant which should stand him in good stead in the forthcoming majors. But Olazabal has to find the remedy to his indifferent putting, if he is to win his first major. However, his feats this year have been three wins in Europe and one in the United States. He's a brilliant winner and Europe's Ryder Cup non-playing captain Tony Jacklin strongly feels Olazabal will make an "imminent breakthrough". At least the Spaniard is one up against Woosnam where age is concerned. But undoubtedly the biggest obstacle is Nick Faldo. He casts an awesome shadow. As a consolation Woosnam is merely a "phenomenally consistent money-maker."

And would you believe that at the time of going to press Woosnam teed off in the 55th edition of the Master as the number one golfer in the world. Hard to believe isn't it? The Welshman moved up the pedestal on the Sony World rankings, whereas Nick Faldo trailed Olazabal. But Faldo's peers still rank him the best in the world. His fans think the formula (of rankings) seems grossly inaccurate especially when Faldo has already won four majors: two British Opens and two Masters. And still he's number three.

Besides talk of money and rankings, the pros in Europe this season are far more enthusiastic—and more serious on putting up their best performance so that they find a place in the Europe Ryder cup team to face the USA at South Carolina,come September. A prestigeous fight, for it will be Europe's defence of the Ryder cup title. In this case the fees for winning is meaningless to them in one sense. To them its just glory. Nothing but glory over the Americans whose domination over the past few years has received a big jolt.

For a place in the European team of the Ryder Cup the Volvo Order of Merit will decide the twelve golfers who will participate across the Atlantic. But then,there is the other side of the story. Suppose Spaniard Seve Ballesteros is not among the dozen highest earners when the team is finalised in August, what then? Certainly there will be a hue and cry if Europe's hero over a decade is sidelined. Well, he can only blame himself for his abominable form last year, of course unless he shows his merit now. Last season, Seve had won only one title and the rest of the money came as appearance fees.

A Correspondent



Down and out! A common sight at the Grand National

BY CYRUS J. MADAN



THE GRAND NATIONAL

FROM THE POINT OF NO RETURN

By winning the Grand National, Seagram made history. In 1988 he broke down so badly that his forelegs required carbon-fibre implants and in 1991 Seagram leapt his way to stardom

SEAGRAM, the New Zealand-bred hero of the Grand National, may now attempt to become the only horse, apart from Red Rum in 1974, to complete the double of the world's greatest steeplechase and the Scottish National in the same year.

"He definitely won't go for the Whitbread Gold Cup," said the winning trainer, David Barons. "He's going to be sent up to Ayr to take part in the parade and there's a good chance that he could take part in the race."

The prestige of the nation's greatest sporting spectacle had never stood higher. Apart from the possible exception of 1975, when the dual Cheltenham Gold Cup, winner L'Escargot beat Red Rum, this was the highest class National since the war.

After all, Seagram won the Ritz Club National Hunt Handicap chase at Cheltenham by four lengths, and Garrison Savannah, the five lengths runner-up with 11st 1lb on his back, was a "Gold Cup" winner.

In the past three years 118 runners have taken part in the National, of which 24 have fallen. On Saturday an extraordinary 35 of 40 runners were still on their feet at the Water Jump. At the finish, seven had fallen or unseated their riders. The remaining ten were pulled up or refused.

Despite the fact that he was tackling the National for the first time, 25-year-old Nigel Hawke's show jumping and point-to-pointing experience in Cornwall had helped to develop an intuitive understanding of horses and a keen racing brain.

Seagram, well back in the early stages of the race, started to make significant ground racing out into the country on the final circuit. "He wasn't enjoying himself at first," said Hawke. "He jumped the first few fences so big that he was scaring himself and I had to take a pull. I'd wanted to go down the inside rail, but I couldn't because I had to give him room to look at his fences."

The moment of truth, which eventually decided the fate of the



COLORSPORT

Brechers Brook. The most difficult jump in the Grand National which usually tears the heart out of a jumper

1991 National, was as the field raced towards the largest obstacle on the course, "The Chair." "He took a big stride from a long, long way away and landed full of running. From then on it was just like another race, Cheltenham or anywhere, and I could ride him on a lovely, long rein. The further we went the more he came on the bridle. I honestly think that it was because I'd had to take a pull in the early stages that he came home better than Garrison Savannah."

At the post the elated winning jockey punched the air in triumph, but for Mark Pitman, who, like his father, Richard, on Crisp eight years earlier, had seen apparently certain victory snatched from his grasp in the final strides, it must have been a bitter moment

The pain is not new, but that makes it no easier to bear Mark Pitman learnt on Saturday how his father and quite a few others have felt at Aintree— when the cruellest 494 yards in sport enabled Seagram to rob him and Garrison Savannah of the 145th Grand National.

They had richly deserved to win and, landing clear, apparently full of running on the flat, looked poised to do so. The name Garrison Savannah seemed to be carved securely up alongside Golden Miller's on Steeplechasing's all-time Roll of Honour.

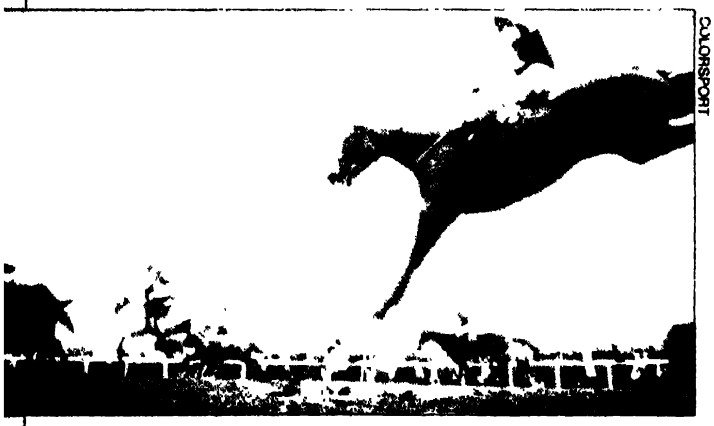
The 1934 Gold Cup-Grand National winner would certainly not have been ashamed of the flashing, fearless leap with which his would-be successor skimmed the second-last. For Seagram, floundering under pressure, it looked a last decisive blow.

However, hard he tries and however many famous victories he achieves. I'm afraid Mark Pitman will never forget what happened next. You never can. One moment you and your horse are united in time,a winning team. The next, without any warning, the light is out, the rhythm gone—and there is nothing you can do but pray.

Garrison Savannah was nowhere near as exhausted as the Richard Pitman ridden Crisp in 1973, but suddenly passing the Elbow, all the power and drive were gone from his stride. At the same moment, as though somehow strength was being stolen from tne big bay horse and given to the little chestnut, Seagram seemed to fly.

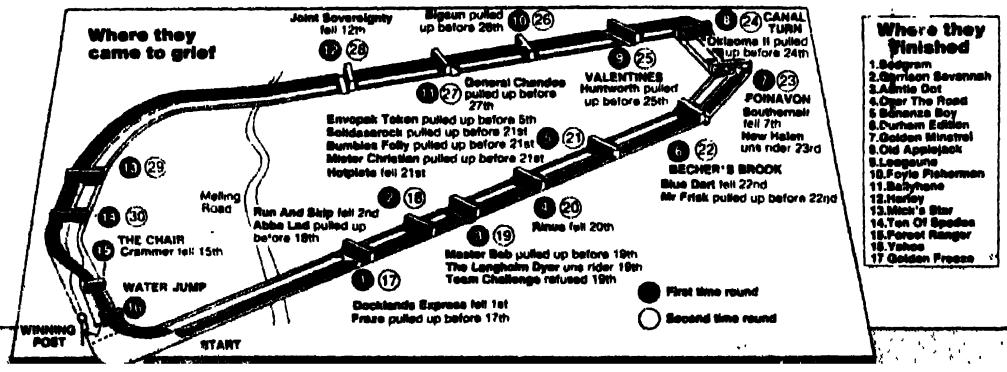
Of course, he did no such thing. No horse flies after four miles of jumping big fences on lifeless ground. But compared with poor weary Garrison Savannah, "fly" is no great exaggeration. Seagram covered the last furlong so much faster than his opponent that, from six lengths behind, he finished an amazing five in front.

The 145th National was over and Seagram had made history. He had come back from the point of no return back in 1988 when he broke down so badly, his forelegs required carbon-fibre implants. Trainer David Baron had nursed him back, put him on his feet and Seagram leapt his way to stardom. ●



COLORSPORT

Seagram hung back and tackled every jump





I'VE had enough. I'm tired of struggling. I'm retiring for good. Now I want to enjoy life. I want to spend life with my daughters.
MARADONA, after he went back to Argentina from Italy, following the drug scandal.

I wasn't mature enough to deal with the fact that hey, maybe I can do something else. As opposed to being an adult, I decided to search for a substitute. I've always been one who has been rather stubborn and did things the way I wanted to do them. So I resorted to drugs and alchohol. So occassionally I did cocaine. I'm not trying to justify what I did. It was wrong. It was childish. It was stupid. I'll be the first one to admit that.
SUGAR RAY LEONARD, that he took to drugs and liquor, from '83-86 to escape from the frustration that had got to him when he was forced to give up boxing after an eye operation.

I am going to have to go into the locker room and say sorry to these guys. When I saw the article I went berserk because it is going to cause me considerable embarrassment. I have been stitched up.
NICK FALDO, denies the allegations that were attributed to him, in which he had passed scathing comments on his fellow professionals.





The Mystery

The fun's begun. There are more mysteries than one. Together let's get, set 'n' go on this Mystery...

The Choudharys' child has disappeared. The Circus Crook has struck again! Who at the Circus is responsible? The BSA SLR Secret Seekers turn detectives and tackle a dangerous criminal.

It all happened on Priyanka's way home from school. Suddenly a red car stopped and pulled her in. And then she was in a dim candle lit room. She could hear animals growling. "Oh my, they sound like hungry lions" she thought.

The worried Choudharys receive a call at 8 p.m. "Do you want to see your daughter alive? On Sunday, 11.45 a.m., bring Rs. 2,50,000 to the circus. And wear a white suit," the villain roared hoarsely.



ENTER BSA SLR SECRET SEEKERS

FRIDAY: "Two days, in fact less than that," calculated Vipul. Idea!



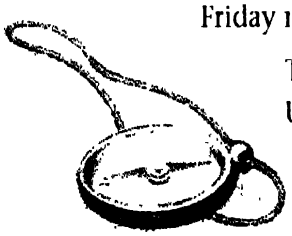
'Why don't we check the place?' "Hey, let's go on our BSA SLRs", added Ralph.

Pitch dark ahead. A bump. A brake. The Secret Seekers pedal furiously on their BSA SLRs. Suddenly,approaching footsteps.

"Quick, hide behind the wall" warned Pooja. "Come Sunday, 2,50,000 will be ours or else..." came the growling voice. And then, loud laughter. As the Secret Seekers came out of hiding they found a handkerchief with the letter 'J' on it. "Let's go. This could be the clue!' And they set on their BSA SLRs.

SATURDAY: "J , whose hanky could this be and what's the connection? Will it lead us to Priyanka?" wondered Vipul.





Secret Seekers saw a kerchief falling from the air. The same 'J' as on the kerchief found on Friday night.

The Secret Seekers shouted "Choudhary Uncle, do you see what we see? Quick, call the police. Go on your BSA SLR. Ask Inspector Uncle to come..."

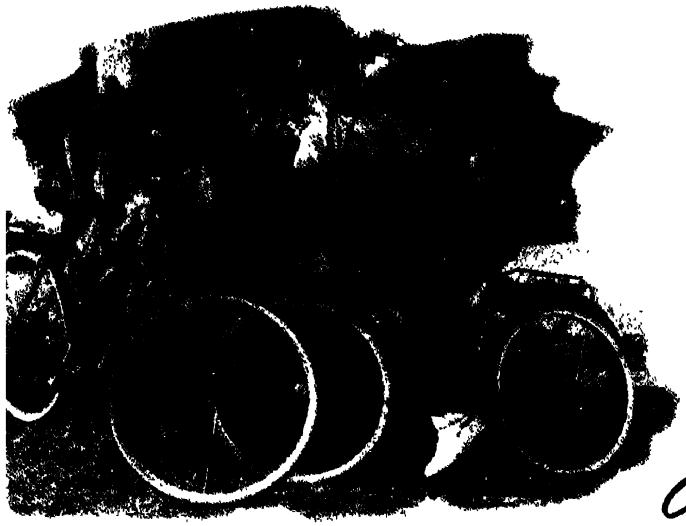
The crook and his gang were caught. And Priyanka rescued. Thanks to Friday night's cycling trip on their BSA SLRs, when they found the vital clue that led to the crook.

Do you know him?

The Circus Crook

SUNDAY: A nervous Mr. Choudhary did the needful... white suit with Rs. 2,50,000. In crisp 100s. The Circus show began. Came the trapeze artistes and the joker with his funny tricks. Suddenly, the

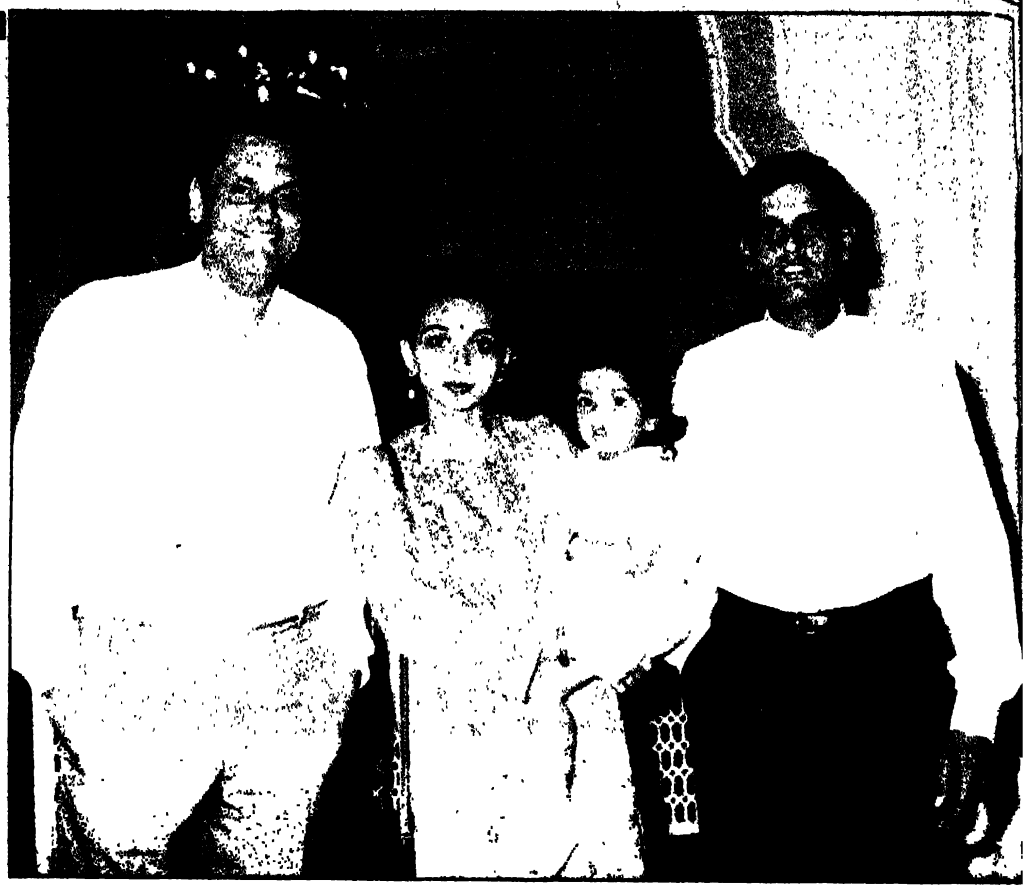
You'll get the Crook when you read The Mystery of the Mad Vassovich So long Happy cycling on your BSA SLRs.





BSA SLR

Get Set'n' Go on an adventure



With father Ramanathan, wife Priya and daughter Gayatri in Jaipur

RAMESH KRISHNAN

"Borg was



"In 1982, the year Lendl didn't play and said 'grass is for the cows', that was one of the weakest Wimbledons. So maybe he should have played. Perhaps now the Gods of Wimbledon are coming back to haunt him"

As fierce as the best'

As ferocious as a fieldmouse', could be a cynic's evaluation of the physical intimidation Ramesh Krishnan musters on court. Ah, but this fieldmouse has teeth, because, face it, no-one gets to No. 23 by virtue of being a wimp.

Way back in 1981 at the US Open, Krishnan so befuddled John McEnroe in their quarter final, that at one juncture he was two points away from registering a two-sets-to-love lead. McEnroe subsequently took the match and when questioned on his discomfiture, quipped, "I went to sleep waiting for his serve". Mac was hardly being cruel, he was merely in his unsubtle style recognising the variant problems Krishnan posed with his unusual style of play.

In fact the more one watches Krishnan, the more the label 'anachronistic' seems to fit. In an era of 6ft+monsters who do sit-ups at the breakfast table and eat dumbells for dinner, not to mention firing torpedoes on court, the 5 ft 7 in almost daintily built Indian seems a misfit. It's as if at the banquet table of tennis gifts, while everyone chose power, athleticism and muscle, Krishnan chose grace, timing and touch. All of which makes him both difficult to play and absolutely sensational to watch. Could there be anything quite so wonderful as watching Goran Ivanisevic belting down a serve, pounding to the net only to find Krishnan move two feet and caress the ball just that inch out of reach. It makes players wonder and spectators too, for height and muscle be damned, Krishnan is a player few will forget.

In his 16th year on the circuit, Krishnan's body is beginning to gradually shut shop, his game, equally gradually, beginning to lose its effectiveness. His longevity on the circuit have given him the opportunity to play against, meet and understand the strengths and weaknesses of the world's greatest players. And that was just one of the topics in the freewheeling conversation **ROHIT BRIJNATH** had with him.



Would you agree that the Top 5 players today do not compare really to McEnroe, Borg and Connors at their peak?

Yes, I would say so.

A lot of people say this is because the Top 50 standard is higher, so the competition is stiffer.

Well that may be, but champions always have that little bit extra

So what's happened?

I think sometimes it could be connected to making so much money so young. Does that change their lifestyle, are they less prepared?

What about Becker?

Yes Becker has mentally that little bit extra. He's a big occasion player

He moves really fast





for a big man.

Quite a lot of big guys move fast. But he's not as quick as Connors or Borg. You could never catch Connors off balance. He had the best footwork. Even on grass he gave you no chance to come up.

Talking about speed, what about McEnroe, he doesn't look good enough to win a Grand Slam.

Well for 4-5 years he hasn't played on a consistent basis. He's confused, whether to give it 100% or quit. He's been contradicting himself long enough. He won't prepare, then he'll lose to a nobody, then he'll get mad. He's playing these mind games. And he's older, his shoulder's hurting, and then you start to lose your mental toughness.

Ramesh with daughter Gayatri

When he was young he was match sharp, because he played a lot. of doubles.

Nothing seems to stop Connors though!

Oh yes, he continues to amaze me.

Did you know he's going to coach Muster?

I heard something like that. Seems a strange combination

Well, they're both animals (style).

(laughs) Yes, but coaching is more about psychology and communicating. They make an odd couple.

Why do you think Connors keeps playing?

It's tough adjusting to life after tennis and he wants to prolong his life on center stage which he loves. I think he mentally compromised that he would be able to play and live without being No. 1. I don't think Borg and McEnroe could do that.

But who was the best of that lot?....

Borg. Statistically it's clear. They said he couldn't play on grass and he came and won Wimbledon five times. McEnroe played in spurts. He came close to winning five successive Wimbledons. He won in 1981, 1983, 1984 and lost two finals in 1980 and 1982, but he didn't. Look at it this way: if

Borg and McEnroe played on grass it would be a close match; if they played on clay it would not be.

How do you fit in on the circuit?

Well, you feel a little left out. Because the Swedes are with each other, the Americans group together and for me it's difficult because there aren't any Indians.

"They (the other pros) admire my smooth stroking. My calmness. They find it awkward to play me. And they kid me, that when it's hot I look so cool"

Perhaps also because you're introverted.

I guess so.

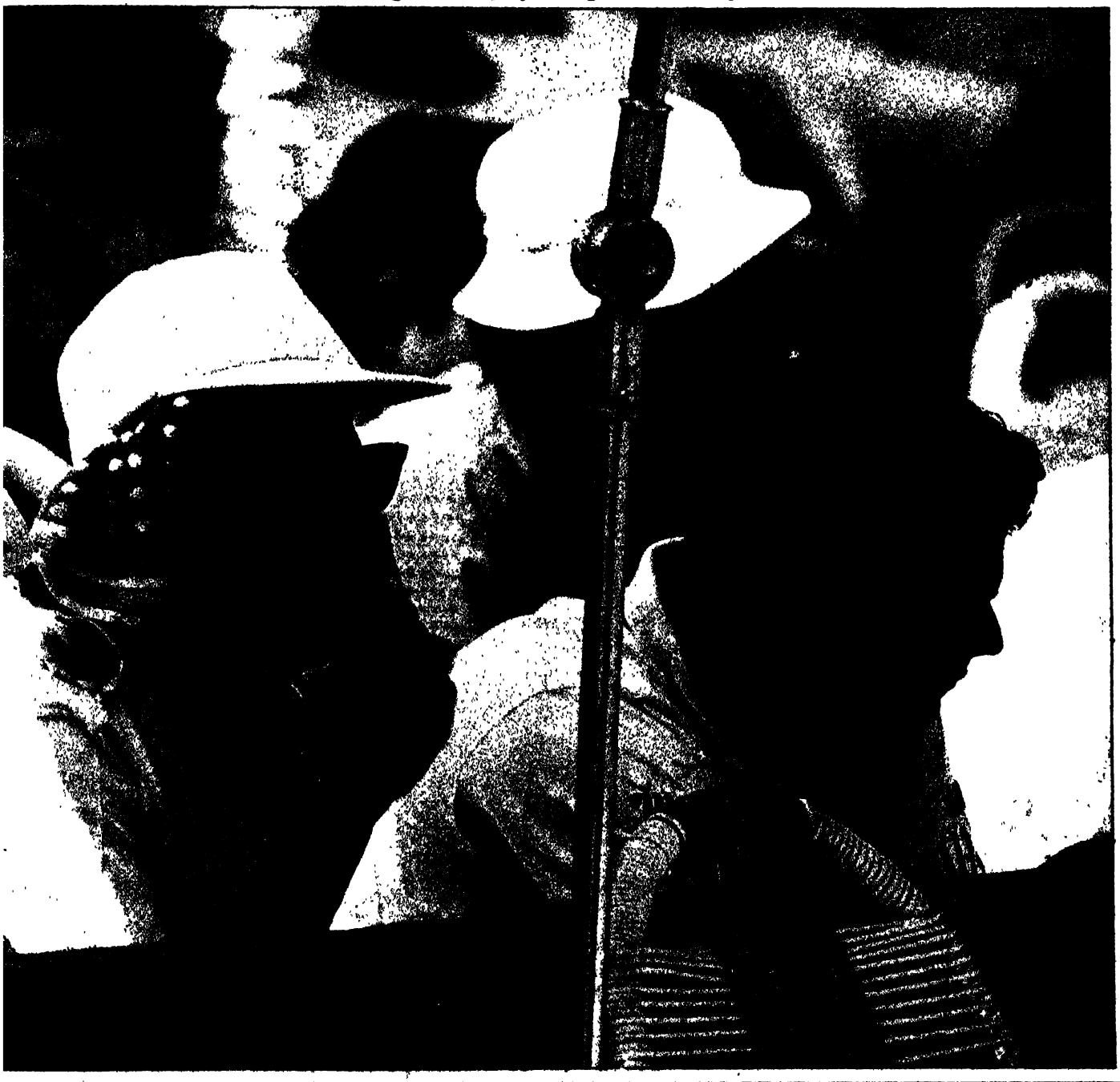
But how does it feel in the locker room because now you're playing guys who are 10-12 years younger than you?

It's not so bad. It's nice. It makes me think younger.

How do they look at your game, what do they think of you?

Well I've sort of picked up some feedback here and there over the years. They admire my smooth stroking. My calmness. See we are at an advantage because we understand them better than they understand us. We give the impression that nothing bothers us. They find it awkward to play me, and they kid me when

Watching Leander play during the Davis Cup



it's hot because I look so cool.

One obvious question is, what happens to Lendl at Wimbledon?

Well every year he's favourite, and he's never really that far, so it won't be a surprise if he wins it. Perhaps he has a mental problem believing he can win it. He gets so close, especially that 1989 semi final against Becker...but there's always that small slip between the cup and the lip. You know in 1982, the year he didn't play and said 'grass is for the cows', that was one of the weakest Wimbledons—Mayotte and Edmonson were in the semi finals. So maybe he should have played—perhaps now the Gods of Wimbledon are coming back to haunt him.

Lendl never seems to perform that well in the last match. For instance against Cash at Wimbledon 1987 he didn't win a point on Cash's serve in the second set. Connors, McEnroe and Becker however play their best on the final day. Like Becker in Australia this year. You know Connors once said that Lendl became No. 1 by default. Connors himself had got old, McEnroe was in trouble and taking breaks from the game and Borg had retired.

But Lendl won seven Grand Slam titles.

True, he made best use of it. But look who he beat—Pernfors at the French (1986) and then Mecir, first at the US Open(1986), then in Australia (1989). McEnroe gave him the French in 1984, and at the US Open (1985) McEnroe was dead after playing a gruelling five set semi-final against Connors the previous day. I cannot remember Lendl playing an outstanding final. Yes, but I would think Lendl is up there with Borg, Connors and McEnroe as all time greats.

How would you rate them—in order?

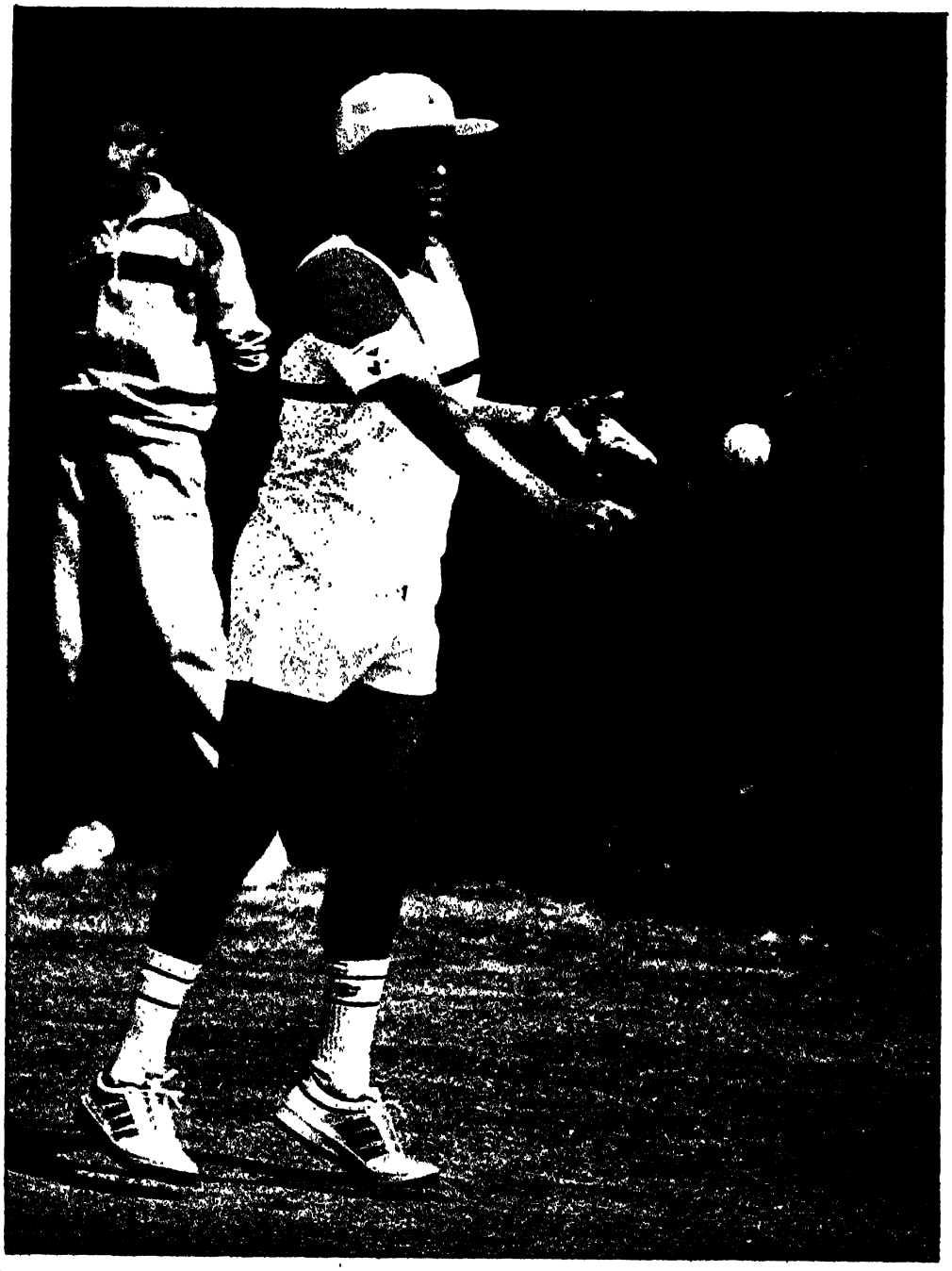
Borg, McEnroe, Connors, Lendl.

Yet Borg could never make it at the US Open. Why?

Maybe it was the lights. Just a mental thing you know. Also the ball bounces higher and his weakness on the volley was exaggerated on hardcourts. I guess it's just horses for courses

You've played Connors and McEnroe quite often. Both were quite ruthless on court. Did they ever say anything to you?

Not really, in that sense. But they would say things here and there. For them, all's fair in love and war during the match. Once it's over though there are no excuses.



PHOTOGRAPHS: KAMAL JULKA

Ismail Sets The Standard

Asif Ismail: tough kid



THE field seemed open for former national champion Zeeshan Ali to run through and claim the men's singles winner's prize money of a whopping Rs 50,000 when reigning national grass court champion Leander Paes and Soviet Vladimir Gabrichidze cried off at the eleventh hour from the inaugural Rs 4.39 lakh prize money Standard Chartered Indian Open Tennis Tournament held at Bombay's Maharashtra State Lawn Tennis Association's hard courts.

But there was a shock in store for everyone. The big and burly Asif Ismail shattered Ali's hopes with a fine display of serve and volley game to walk away with the biggest pay cheque of his career.

Ismail won in straight sets, 7-6 (tie-break 10-8), 6-4 and, more than anything else, his booming serve and winning volleys clinched him the title over a more fancied opponent.

The 21-year-old Ismail's victory is significant in more ways than one. Ali, till last year India's number one Davis Cup player, lost to national grass court champion Paes against Indonesia recently at Jaipur after Ramesh Krishnan made himself available for the first time in three years.

With the 17-year-old

SANDEEP KIRTANE
ONWARD MARCH



THE most-talked about player in the Standard Chartered Indian Open at Bombay was 17-year-old Sandeep Kirtane of Pune who knocked out two seeds before losing to Zeeshan Ali in the semi-final.

It has been a highly successful season for the Pune lad, son of former Maharashtra Ranji Trophy player Sanjay Kirtane who is a qualified medical practitioner now.

Kirtane showed exquisite timing on his double-fisted backhand and often had the opponents beaten by the power and depth that he obtained with that stroke.

Kirtane's success story commenced with his triumph in the junior national Grass court championship at Chandigarh last October where he completed a fine double.

Later he lost to Leander Paes, in three sets in the men's singles semi-finals of the MP state tournament at Gwalior in November '90.

Kirtane was a losing semi-finalist at the Sarda Plywood Masters championship in Calcutta last November where he was given a special trophy as the most improved player of the tournament.

The short-statured Kirtane, then, decided to concentrate on the juniors event and made it to the semi-finals of the ITF juniors tournament held at Jaipur earlier this year.

The Pune lad then hit a purple patch abroad, winning the Sri Lanka international junior tournament and the Ceylon inter-continental juniors championship, both at Colombo, before going to Brunei to become the Asian junior champion.

His performances have pitchforked him to the top spot in the national juniors rankings and have also earned him a spot in the reserves list of the Davis Cup squad for the tie against South Korea in May.

The Paes-Kirtane rivalry goes back a few years, notably to 1987 when the two met in the final of the sub-junior nationals at Lucknow where Paes emerged triumphant.

The performance secured the duo tickets to the Rice Bowl Junior International championship at Hong Kong where, in an all-Indian final, Paes once again emerged triumphant after three hard-fought sets with Kirtane.

At present Kirtane does not have a fixed coach, though he trains with other boys in the Nandan Bal-run Batra Tennis Centre at Pune as a stop-gap measure.

Kirtane plans to play in the juniors event of this year's French Open, Wimbledon and the US Open after taking part in the Hong Kong International Juniors championship.

Only last year Paes hit the bulls eye by winning the junior Wimbledon event after finishing runner-up in the Australian Open for Juniors. Now Kirtane is bidding to follow his long—time rival Paes's footsteps. These two are, easily, the most gifted youngsters in their age group.

junior Wimbledon champion Paes already ahead of him, Ali was under pressure to prove himself, with the success of the Brittania-Amritraj Tennis Trust-trained Ismail at Hyderabad.

Ali managed to win that semi-final after being knocked off his feet by the 17-year-old Kirtane's power-packed double-fisted backhand in the second set. But Ismail proved all too strong with his big serves and sharp volleys in the final.

force in Indian tennis. Apart from Ismail, the performance of Kirtane portends a healthy sign.

Unseeded Kirtane knocked out wily Piperno, fresh from two titles at his hometown, Calcutta, at the pre-quarter—final stage in the three sets and then ousted Soviet number nine David Kacharova in the quarter-finals.

He lost the first set of his semi-final against Ali rather tamely but played some brilliant tennis, hitting passing

with a very weak second service, which was slaughtered by Ali, he submitted the third set meekly.

Kirtane showed that he has the requisite talent. He has some obvious drawbacks. He is short-statured, an obvious disadvantage in modern tennis, and he has to improve his second serve drastically as there is neither enough spin nor sufficient deception in it to trouble any average opponent.

Rohit Rajpal



Zeeshan Ali: on slippery ground

Ismail, incidentally, did not drop a single set throughout the championship and increased his AITA singles points tally by 50 to move into the third spot in the national rankings behind Paes and Enrico Piperno.

The championship was a pointer to the emergence of a new

shots at will and also coming up to volley home sharp winners, to rattle up eleven points in a row after being 0-40 down in the third game of the second set.

Had Kirtane continued in this vein in the third set he could have disposed of Ali, but it was not to be. His first serve deserted him and

completed the semi-final line-up with a shock defeat of Srinivasan Vasudevan, the lanky clay-court specialist. But Rajpal came a cropper against Ismail in the fight for a berth in the final.

The men's doubles title and the top prize of Rs 35,000 were pocketed by

Nandan Bal and Gaurav Natekar. Natekar combined well with Bal to clinch his fourth double crown of the season.

Natekar, had earlier won the National Hard Court crown at Hyderabad and the South India championship, both with Bal as his partner, and the Gujarat State tournament with Sachin Kirtane. Some food for the national selectors' thoughts.

If the men's section carried a prize money of Rs 3.14 lakhs, the women's event was not too far behind—Rs 1.25 lakhs—especially considering the lack of quality and keenness of competition.

Bombay girl Janaki Krishnamurthy clinched the women's singles first prize of Rs 25,000 by beating Madras girl Aradhana Reddy in a long-drawn-out, error-prone final

But there was a shock in store for everyone. The big and burly Asif Ismail shattered Ali's hopes with a fine display of serve and volley game to walk away with the biggest pay cheque of his career

Aradhana and Sohini Kumari won the doubles crown defeating K.V. Nirupama and Sahiba in a lacklustre final to share the winners' purse of Rs 16,000.

Sri Ram
MAHARAJA FEATURES

RIVALRY!



BREAKPOINT

ROHIT BRIJNATH

TWELVE months ago, almost to the date, women's tennis was as watchable as Rajiv Gandhi's speeches on the campaign trail (with apologies to Women's Rights Organisations and Mr. Gandhi's speechwriter). Then out of the blue, or should that be Bollitieri's camp, came Monica Seles. She beat Graf at the German Open, at the French Open, subsequently became No. 1 and before you could say 'grunt', the women's tour was as hot, no make that hotter, than anything men's tennis was offering.

Yet the most fascinating aspect of this upheaval must be the turn-around in the Graf-Sabatini rivalry. Astonishing? Perhaps not.

From late 1987, as Chris and Martina began the slow ride into the sunset, Graf's era dawned but she was untouchable, read boring. So Sabatini, French semi-finalist, 15 years old, sexy, and because there was no other option, became an inadvertent accomplice to history. The world decided: okay Gaby, you're going to be the Chris to Steffi's Martina.



Sabatini leads.... Graf falters

By 1988, the score read Graf 11-Gaby O and 'rivalry' looked as stupid a word as you could find for this duo. Gaby's finished, she lacks stamina, a weapon, heart, a mind, everything—was the conventional wisdom then.

Yet, last fortnight, Sabatini beat Graf 7-5, 7-6 at Amelia Island, *her fifth successive victory over the German*. In career head-to-head meetings Graf still leads 20-9, but what matters is that since the US Open last year, Sabatini leads 6-2. What happened?

Few recollect that when Graf won 7 of 8 Grand Slam tournaments in 1988-89, she did actually in those two years lose some matches. In fact, she lost 5 matches, coincidentally, three would be at the hands of Sabatini. Surprisingly, all Gaby's





TOMMY HINDLEY

wins were over three sets—2-6, 6-3, 6-1 (Boca Raton, 1988): 6-3, 4-6, 7-5 (Amelia Island, 1988); 3-6, 6-3, 7-5 (Amelia Island, 1989)—not bad for a girl short on stamina.

Yet even then it was obvious that Gaby's high looping topspin, resulting in a deep, high bounce upset Graf's rhythm, especially on her backhand, a slice shot with which she could at best fend off the ball, not attack it.

Graf had a multi-dimensional game then in comparison to Gaby, and was finding no reason to change. It appeared enough. Sabatini was a one-dimensional player, just that stroke short of moving from good to great. Yet writing her off was foolish, for a decade earlier something just the same had occurred.

Despite an inadequate diet and training, Martina Navratilova remained No. 1 till 1980. Everything changed abruptly as Tracy Austin and Evert took over, the final cut being a 6-0, 6-0 thrashing by Evert at Amelia Island, 1981. Former basketball star Nancy Lieberman, present at that match, offered Martina a way back: Martina accepted and was put through gruelling roadwork and weight training, supplemented by a low-fat, high-carbohydrate diet supplied by nutritionist Robert Haas.

In early 1982, Martina returned, her muscles chiselled, her body ready Chris Evert, who had won 20 of their 45 previous meetings from 1973 to 1981, would not beat her again till 1985.

Gabriela Sabatini did not have Nancy Lieberman or Robert Haas. She had instead new coach Carlos Kirmayr and psychologist Jim Loehr. One said 'volley tough', the other said 'think tough'. And her transformation was as unique as Martina's.

She became as tough and capable as Graf from the back, and more proficient at the net. She is simply, the better player now. More complete.

If this rivalry was lopsided once, it is again, but the onus to make it more competitive now strangely lies with Graf. Yet, for her too, history has an example, coincidentally again from the Martina-Evert story.

In 1984, Evert was becoming increasingly despondent over her inability to handle the new Martina. Their rivalry too was absurdly one-sided, and Evert's pride as a champion was being eroded. In a startling move, Evert hired a fitness trainer, underwent physical and mental drills and returned to the circuit in 1985 more resilient and more athletic. Times had changed and Evert had recognised that her game required a sharper dimension and she was right: in two magnificent finals at the French Open in 1985 and 1986, she beat Martina and brought their rivalry back to a more even keel.

The mark of a champion, as we have seen, is the courage to go back to the drawing board and find a new equation. Steffi Graf needs a topspin attacking backhand and a volley—now will she go and get it? Or become a page in history. ●

EXTRA-TIME EXTRA

Make errors, help soccer

DID you ever believe that refereeing errors can actually help football retain its popularity, its inherent passion instead of bringing disrepute to the game. If you didn't, listen to Mr. Roberto Wright.

Remember him? The man who shattered Paul Gascoigne's World Cup dream, causing those now-famous tears that rolled down his cheeks and dropped right on to the history books, while photographers and poster printers the world over enjoyed a boomtime they had never even dreamt of. Listen to this opinionated man s startling theory.

Mr Roberto Wright is dead against the use of electronic devices to make refereeing error-free. Because he believes that any electronic innovation could make football mechanical.

And when that happens football loses its greatest charm—the passion that erupts during every match and then continues to simmer deep down in every fan's heart even amid the drudgery of his everyday routine.

As is natural for someone who regularly referees in South American football, the 46-year-old Wright has been involved in plenty of controversy since he began his career in 1974.

Once Wright even sent off five Bolivian players and in doing so provoked a crowd disturbance. "There was an awful confusion, the game didn't finish and it began the 90th Bolivian revolution" Wright later recalled.

But no matter how many controversies he was involved in, Wright, under no circumstances, would ever agree to the use of videos or other electronic methods to eliminate errors.

Why?

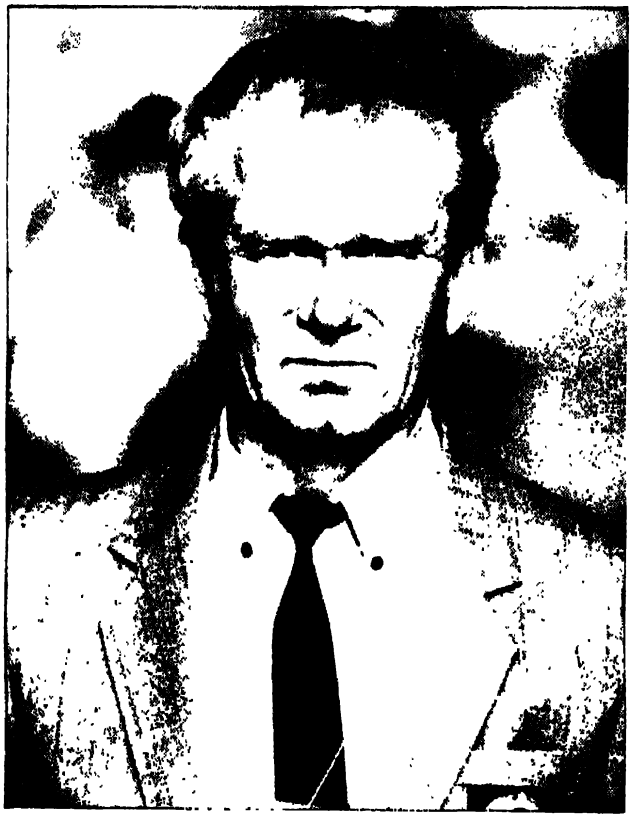
Here he explains: "I have alwaays believed that the error of a referee is a thermometer of football's passion. If the referee gets everything 100 per cent right in a game, nobody will say anything. But when he makes a mistake, a player scores with a hand, or he wrongly gives a penalty, or does not give one, this mistake is a motive for argument that keeps football on the boil. On the other hand, the moment football becomes mechanical, it will stop being a passion.

"So, I always say that, principally in the Latin countries, the supporter wants his team to win in injury time, in an off-side position, or with a handball, because then he can make fun of the other team. He always wants the most irregular happening possible."

Bravo Mr. Wright. By your logic Maradona's 'hand of God' must have made the greatest contribution in enhancing the 'passion' of soccer in this century.

USSR on comeback trail

THE Soviet Union is working hard to recover fast from its Italian misadventure. They have already launched a major rebuilding programme and one indication that their efforts are bearing fruit came during their recent victory over Scotland at Ibrox.



Valery Lobanovski :betrayed

The Soviet went to Italy as one of the dark horses. Veteran manager Valery Lobanovski was expected to end his national coaching career in glory. Instead, the Soviets suffered the humiliation of becoming the first team to be eliminated—despite the much too-late 4-0 victory over Cameroon in their last first-round match.

A bitter Lobanovski later accused senior players as keeper Dasayev and striker Oleg

Protasov of sabotage while the players, in retaliation, charged that Lobanovski fouled up the team's strategy, panicked after the shock Romanian defeat, and took one wrong decision after another. And the most glaring example of his mistakes that they cite is his refusal to field Alexei Mikhailichenko, who in their opinion could have changed the whole complexion of the Russians' game.

After Lobanovski handed over charge to his one-time Kiev pupil Anatoli Bishovets as national manager, the man now at the helm is facing the unenviable task of starting from scratch—primarily because most of the senior Soviet stars have already been sold to the West.

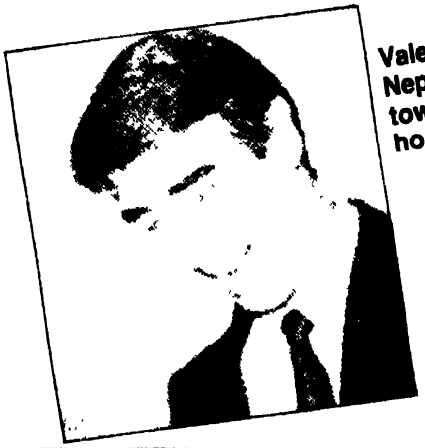
So, even if the victory in Scotland had come as a confidence-booster for the new boss, Bishovets, one swallow does not make a summer. Bishovets has before him a long hard way to go.

Cameroon's loss, China's gain

WILL the Chinese soon do a Cameroon in the world stage of soccer? The question may not sound pertinent just now, but when you consider the fact that China has recently hired the miracle-man Valery Nepomniachi as their coach, you certainly wonder what's there in store for the world footballing balance of power.

Valery Nepomniachi coached Cameroon to the wonderful exploits that they showed in Italy last year, coming right out of almost nowhere. His hard work, his managerial skills and, above all, his superb sense of adaptation brought Cameroon on par with the advancing and changing styles of world football.

And given the enormous potential that China have, Nepomniachi has no reasons to be a failure in his new assignment.



Valery Nepomniachi: towards newer horizons

Initially, at least, the Russian coach will be on only an eight-week contract, and is expected to work with the Under-16 teams they prepare for the World Championship in Ecuador.

Nepomniachi left Cameroon partly because of repeated interference from officials. The Chinese Football Association also has a long and controversial history of poking its nose into their coach's affairs, but if they realise the benefit they can reap from the Russian's coaching genius, maybe, Cameroon's loss will prove to be China's gain.

A giant awaits his turn

IF South Africa does really return to the international sporting arena, as it is now poised to do, with the gradual dismantling of the institution of apartheid, soccer will certainly be among the fore-runners in the race to get back into world-class competitions. Simply because the country just abounds in footballing talent,very little of which is yet to be exposed to the world. And, according to some experts, the country has the potential to rate even higher than Cameroon at the World Cup in Italy.

Although to most outsiders South Africa has long been perceived as a rugby mad country—one of the myths perpetuated by the apartheid government—soccer's popularity, in fact, far outstrips that of rugby, the official national sport.

The national soccer league has sponsorships worth millions of rand from major corporations, and hundreds of hours of soccer are shown on television. The World Cup last year was screened for the first time on South African television, and 42 games were taken live—more than in most countries in Europe, including even those participating.

The World Cup experience has certainly given the game a boost and its protagonists now command such intense fan following that soccer heroes are now treated almost like Gods.

Last year, the league built a 75,000 seat stadium on the outskirts of Johannesburg and Sweto, called the Soccer City.

And as the country now awaits its passport to international competition, optimists predict that the entry would happen some time in 1992.

But whenever that happens, it is sure, a potential giant will arise and the world will wake up to a new, massive soccer power to reckon with.

INSIDE TRACK



DO MIRACLES



Having got his right forearm sewn back on, Alessandro Nannini wants to make a comeback to Formula One racing!

HOW many of you believe in miracles? Nelson Piquet didn't. That's why he said it would be "a miracle if Sandro drove Formula One again" when Alessandro Nannini had his right forearm severed in a freak helicopter accident last year.

Now, less than a year after the horrific accident, Piquet might just become a believer. High-tech medical science and old-fashioned jaw-clenching determination being the factors for this change. The specialists who attended to Nannini immediately after the crash sewed his right forearm back on. And Nannini, showing the same grit he displayed on the race track, has decided that he is going to make a comeback.

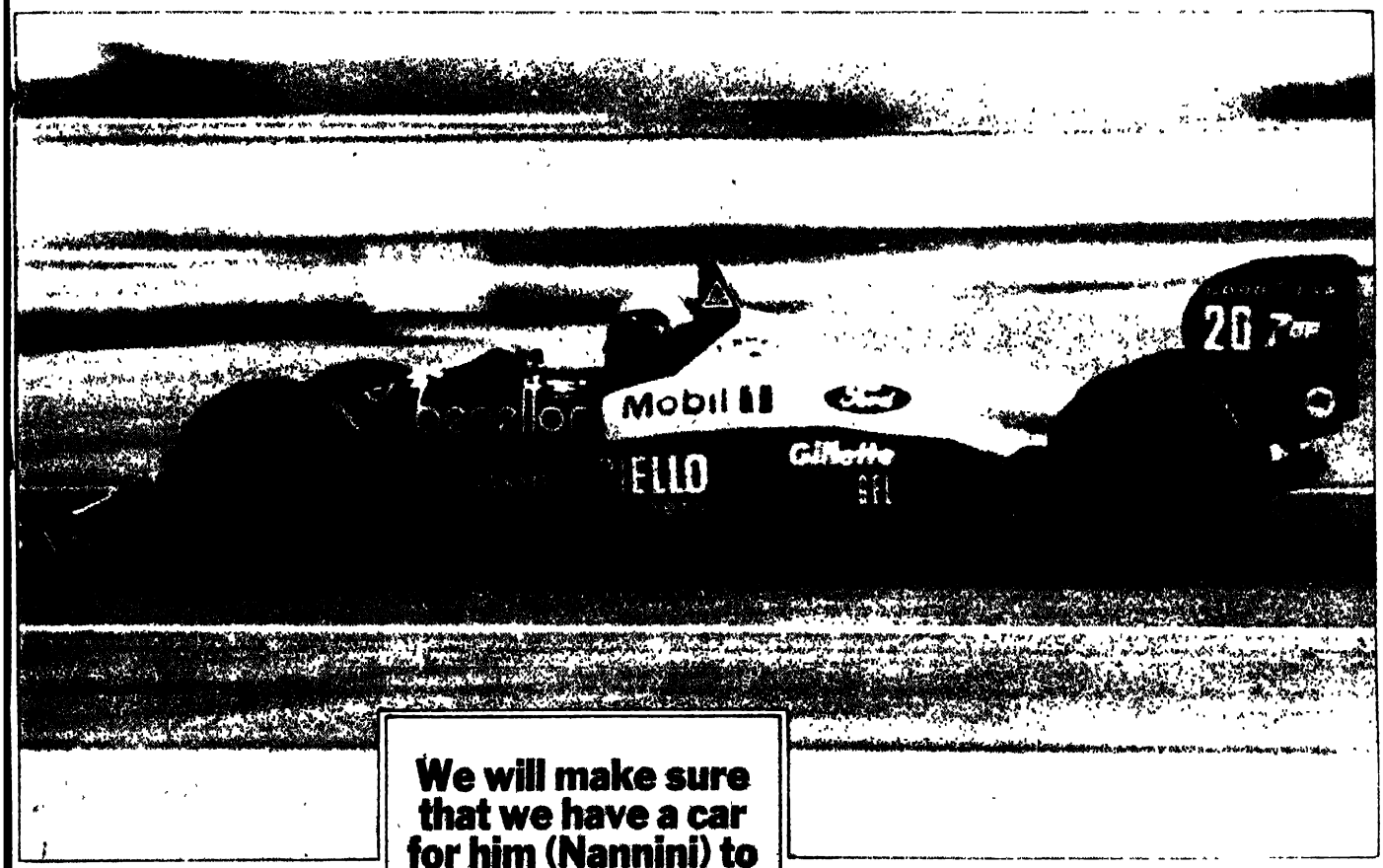
Can a man with a sewn-back right arm ever drive Formula One cars again? Nannini plans to find out

Will Nannini ever drive the Benetton Ford with the same mastery again?

HAPPEN?

After undergoing surgery on his injured arm recently, Nannini expressed his desire to get back into the cockpit of a Formula One car by October this year, making a fulltime comeback to the breakneck competition by next season. In high spirits, thanks to his constantly improving condition, he is more than eager to resume his chase of the hotshots like Ayrton Senna and Alain Prost, having served notice of his intentions by notching up 65 points since slipping into a Benetton Ford in 1988. By the time the unfortunate accident cut short his promising career, the Italian even had one Grand Prix victory to his credit—the 1989 Japanese GP.

But his ever-supportive wife Paola is a little more realistic. Having helped her highly-talented 31-year-old husband through the time of crisis, she however says "unfortunately the medical team feel it may take longer than Sandro says. There is very light



The Benetton team are willing to sacrifice Roberto Moreno if Nannini makes it back

We will make sure that we have a car for him (Nannini) to drive at that point he is sure he can come back...Alessandro Benetton, president of the Benetton Ford team

movement but he cannot do anything too heavy with it "

That doesn't mean that she doesn't want to see her husband back in the cockpit again. "Overall, he is in very high spirits and his condition is constantly improving," she says, adding "Alessandro would like everything to happen quickly but he may have to be a little more patient because his injury will take time to heal "

However long it does eventually take, Nannini has one consolation· there will be a car waiting for him Benetton, the team he drove so well for till the accident, have announced that a seat would be found for Nannini as soon as he proves his fitness.

As Alessandro Benetton, president of the Benetton Ford Formula One racing team said at the launch of the new John Barnard designed B191 car, "We will make sure that we have a car for him to drive at the point he is sure he can come back."

Going on to point out that the sport was very strenuous and would tax even normal people to the limit, Benetton added "Alessandro has become a friend of the family. We are concerned about his recovery as a man first because he had very complicated surgery quite a few times, and I am not quite sure anybody can say at this point how things will turn out. There is a possibility that he will make a complete recovery and yes, absolutely, there will be a place for him with our team."

If Benetton and his team are excited about the possible return of their former driver, the man who stepped in to fill the void created by Nannini's sudden departure—Roberto Moreno—is thrilled. Exhibiting none of the rancour expected from a driver who stands to lose his drive, Moreno said "I have only a one-year contract and I am going to make the most of it. If Alessandro comes back no one will be happier than me. If I have to leave then I shall get myself another drive"





Having started 1990 as Benetton's test driver, the Brazilian—a longtime friend of the other Benetton driver Nelson Piquet since they raced karts together way back in 1971—was inducted into the team proper for the Japanese Grand Prix last year and surprised everyone by following teammate Piquet to the chequered flag. Since then success has been a lot more elusive, but that hasn't stopped Moreno from earning a name for himself on the Formula One circuit as a man who is capable of running with the best if he is given the right machinery.

"What's happening in Formula One is that some people are finding it hard to accept that I am up there near the front of the grid when not long ago I was finding it hard to qualify in less competitive cars" explains Moreno when asked how the rest of the F1 circuit was reacting to his new found fame with Benetton.

But he's not letting petty jealousies get him down. "It's normal for people in Formula One to just look at the front of the grid to see who is doing well or badly and now Benetton have given me the chance to join them from nowhere. Well, after two or three more races I will have fully settled down in the job, hopefully to surprise those who cannot accept where I am" he adds.

Getting back to the team he is very happy with, Moreno is full of praise for the Benetton Ford outfit and makes it very clear that he's not grudging Nannini his desire to come back into the sport he loves so much. "I know that he won't be back this season and has a long road ahead of him, but his mind is on the job of recovery. He understands that he is not part of the team at the moment so is doing what is best for him, getting proper movement in his arm first before thinking about driving again."

If and when Alessandro Nannini does strap himself into the cockpit of a Formula One car again, two people will have places to go. Moreno to another team. And Piquet to church. After all, it will be a real miracle!

A Correspondent

Moreno (Inset) appreciates what Nannini is planning to do...and will not stand in the way

READERS' QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. 'Octopus' is a type of sport, what is the common name for it?

2. When asked what she wants to be in her next life, she said 'Michael Jordan' the basketball superstar. Who is she?

3. In the gladiatoral arenas of Rome when the crowd put their thumbs down—it meant 'kill him' (The Gladiator). What was the symbol to spare him?

4. Who described the decathlon as 'Nine Mickey Mouse events and the 1500 metres'?

5. Who said "With losers let it (victory) sympathise, for nothing can seem foul to those who win"?

6. Who called his selectors a "bunch of fools"?

7. What are Thompsons Yorkers nicknamed?

8. What was unique about the four men's semi-finalists of Wimbledon 1988?

9. Who said "I would rather win this race than be the President of the United States"?

10. Which is the only sport in which playing with the left hand is not allowed?

11. At Lords, what is the 'Old Jim'?

12. A former Olympic gold medallist, later joined politics and was Robert Kennedy's bodyguard. At the time of Kennedy's assassination he was by his side, who was he?

13. "If he is as fast as Lillee, then Lillee must be bowling at half pace". About which young fast bowler did Sir Gary Sobers say this?

14. Who was the first person to introduce 'Judo' in India?

15. In the 1986 Seoul Asiad, Shiny Wilson (Nee Abharam) was disqualified in the 800 metres for changing tracks. What was the required distance that she had to cover before she could change her tracks?

16. 'That's Out' is an autobiography of a person whom Dennis Lillie mentioned in his foreword as "a great official and great man". Who is this person?

17. If willow is to cricket bats, what type of wood is to sporting rifles?

18. In 1986 what did Ronald Reagan of U.S.A. bet with premier Bob Hawke of Australia if Australia could win the America's Cup in yatching?

19. "You have worked wonders. Just look at him, he only straight drives now. The days of leg glances are over"—Thus spoke Gavaskar in his inimitable style paying tribute to whom?

ANSWERS

1. Underwater Hockey.
2. Martina Navratilova.
3. A closed fist.
4. Daley Thompson
5. William Shakespeare in Henry IV.
6. Wayne Phillips. (the wicket keeper of Australia).
7. Sand Shoe Crushers.
8. Lendl was looking for his 1st title. Edberg was looking for his 2nd title. Becker was looking for his 3rd title. McEnroe was looking for his 4th title.
9. Thomas Hick who won the marathon in 1904 Olympics.
10. Polo.
11. The Scarecrow.
12. Rafer Johnson, 1960 decathlon champion who lit the torch at the 1984 Olympics.
13. Imran Khan Niyazi.
14. Rabindranath Tagore at Shantiniketan in 1928.
15. 120 metres.
16. Dickie Bird.
17. Walnut.
18. A. Ranger's hat, which Reagan eventually lost.
19. To Ritu, Ravi Shastri's wife.

THIS QUIZ HAS BEEN COMPILED BY:

SUPRATIK (BUBUN) DEY

SOUTH POINT,

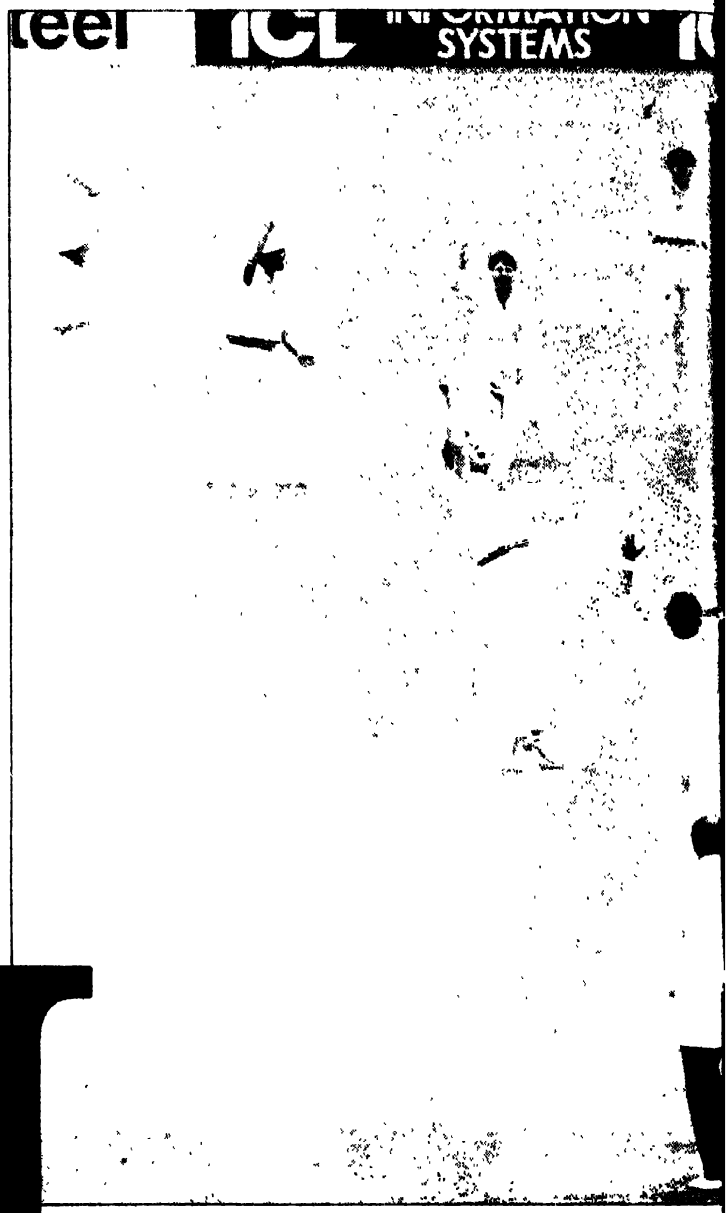
NATIONAL HIGH WAY,

SILCHAR-788005

DT. CACHAR (ASSAM).

All answers sent in by the contributor

Until and unless a sincere effort is made to minimise the errors of judgement on the part of umpires, cricket would become a fertile ground for unnecessary controversies and chaos



Minimise

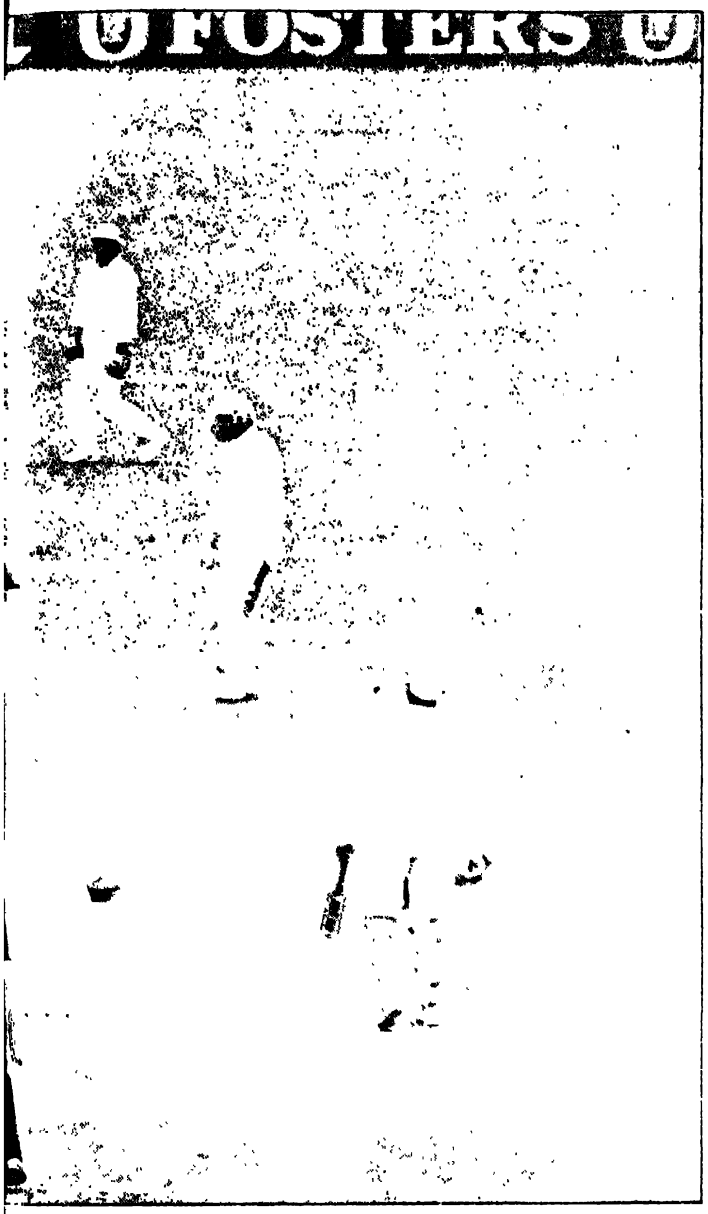
Raju Mukherjee

CRICKET could do with some innovative ideas. It is high noon for the game to move with changes of time and attitude and to free itself from the shackles of antiquity. Until and unless a sincere effort is made to minimise the errors of judgement on the part of umpires, the game would become a fertile ground for unnecessary controversies and chaos.

It may not be too early to think in terms of linesmen and an extra umpire. Four linesmen, each to look after a quarter of the playing arena would be a yeoman help to the umpires. Catches and saves at the boundary line inevitably create confusion.

Years back, the umpire relied on the views of the fieldsman concerned for his judgement. But now, the pressures and high stakes have unfortunately diluted the honesty of some cricketers. They are prone to mislead and gain an unfair advantage. They are not averse to making wrong assertions and so, today, to rely on the opinion of players could create more problems than it would solve.

Of course, it must also be readily admitted that the fielders are not always to be blamed. It is very difficult for a fieldsman to correctly judge whether he has crossed the boundary line or not while effecting a catch or a stop. Remember, how during the Reliance World Cup match at Bombay between Australia and India, Ravi Shastri declared a boundary when the television screen showed it to be a 'six'? Ultimately, the adjudicator for the match, I reckon it was Pakistan's Hanif Mohammed, who over-ruled the umpire and gave



PATRICK EAGAR

The importance of the umpire: Hadlee and the rest of the Kiwis are up in arms. But its all much ado about nothing, because umpire Kitchen signals no ball and Atherton is not out

Errors

Australia the two extra runs.

Ironically, Australia won the match by one run and went on to win the World Cup. Actually it was that excellent judgement which made all the difference to the fate of the tournament.

This was a typical case when the presence of linesman would have saved the umpire from an embarrassing situation. A few years ago, a similar incident occurred in Pakistan while they hosted India to a one-day international match. If memory be trustworthy India's Vivek Razdan fielding at deep square-leg picked up the ball just outside the boundary line and with a fast, flat throw had some Pakistani batsman 'run out'. The television screen once again very clearly revealed to the viewers the actual happening but, by then, the hapless batsman was wending his way to the gloom of the pavilion.

It is, of course, not always possible for the fielder to correctly judge his position in relation to the boundary line. Because his whole concentration would be on the ball and so in the heat of the moment he would be quite liable to make a genuine mistake.

Taking all these factors into consideration, I feel we ought to seriously visualize the introduction of linesmen into cricket. A minimum of four may be thought of to begin with. Each linesman in that case would cover one quarter of the ground. And further they would be expected to assist the umpires as the line judges do in tennis and the linesmen in soccer and hockey.

The introduction of an extra umpire, too, is a matter that should receive our attention. If it is to happen then two umpires would be asked to operate by turns and the third umpire would rest. This is very very essential today especially because of the tremendous demands that are made on the umpires. The period of rest and recuperation would work wonders. Their concentration would improve and they certainly would be in a far better mental frame of mind to give decisions.

Moreover, the third or the extra umpire concept would also be a boon if one of the umpires plays truant. As was the case in the recent Delhi-Punjab Ranji Trophy tie, which led to such an embarrassing and unfortunate situation. In the even of such absence, the two other umpires would still be available to conduct the game.

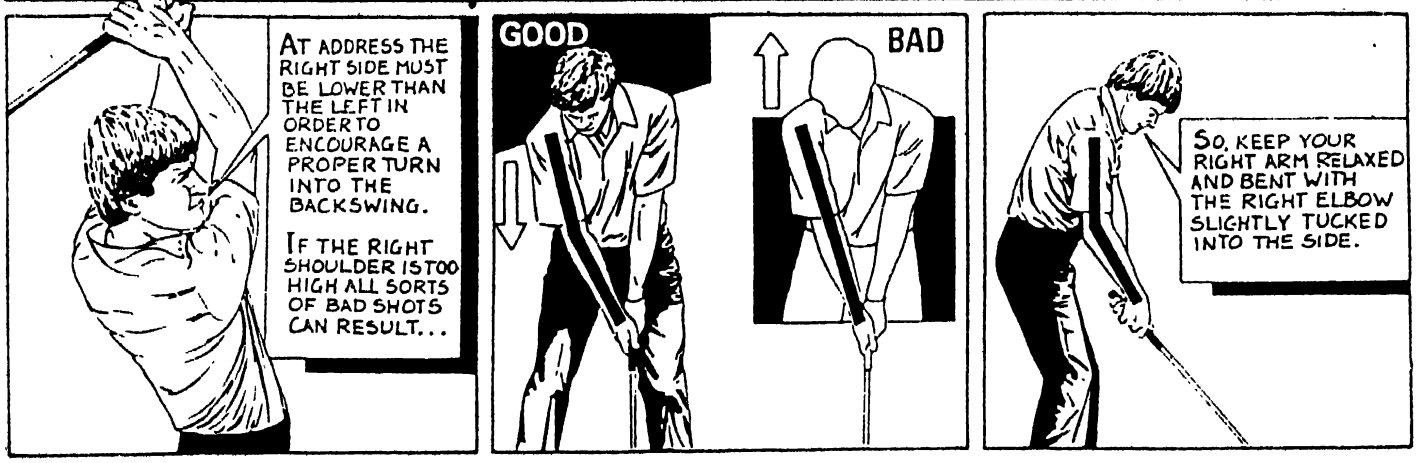
The third umpire may also be given the power to supervise off-the-field activities. For instance, he could instruct the groundsmen in the movement of sight screens, in the fetching of old balls when replacements are required, deny players the chance of a out-of-turn drink etc.

Cricket authorities would do well to realise that until and unless an effort is made to minimize errors, the game as a whole would be the ultimate loser. ●

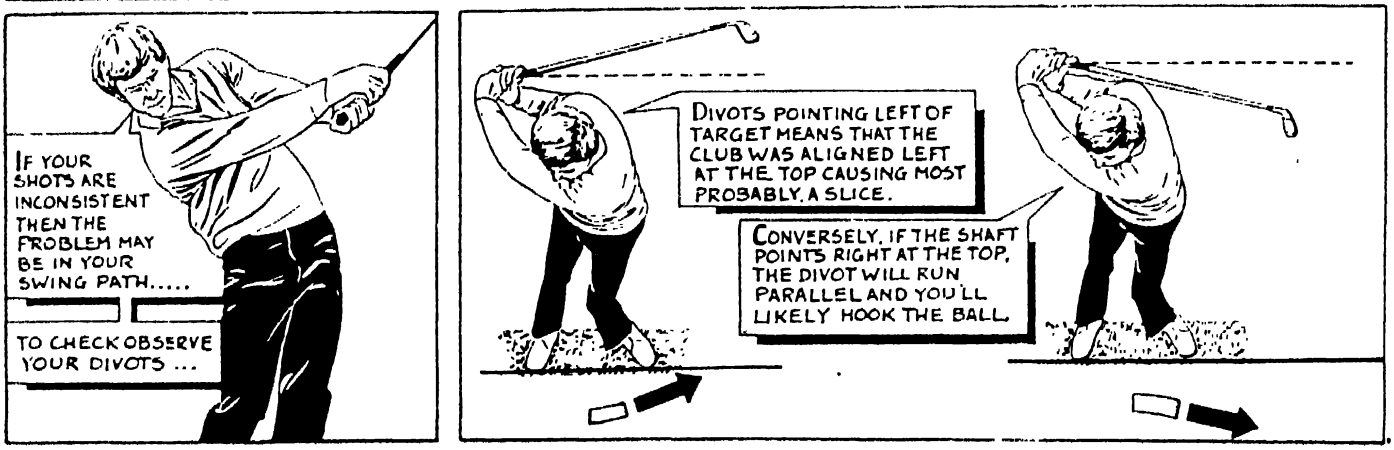
THE FALDO FORMULA

FROM TEE TO GREEN

Set-up with the Right Side Low

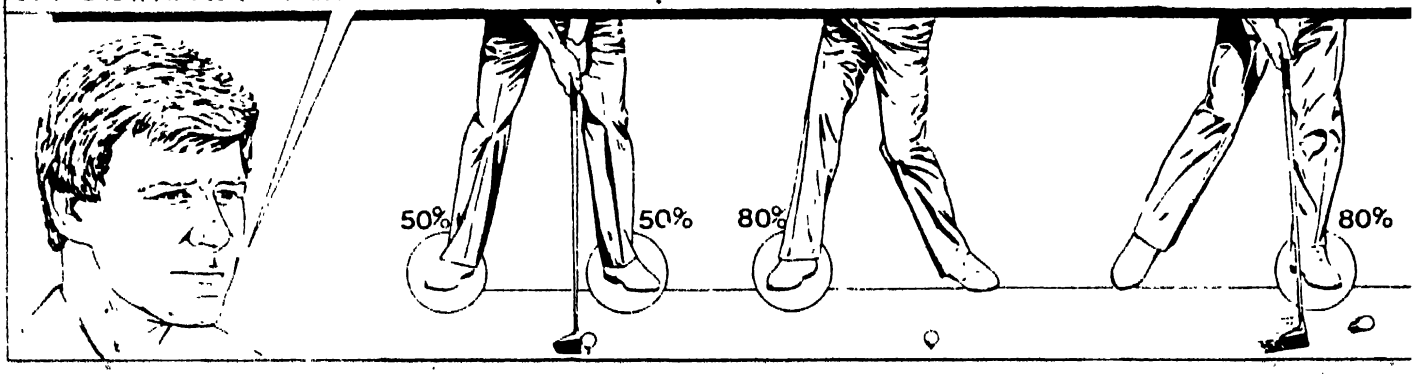


swing-Path with Divot Check



Move Weight with Club

I LIKE TO MOVE MY WEIGHT IN UNISON WITH THE CLUB DURING MY SWING. AT ADDRESS I DISTRIBUTE MY WEIGHT EVENLY BETWEEN BOTH FEET. AS THE CLUB MOVES INTO THE BACKSWING PERHAPS 80 PERCENT MOVES TO MY RIGHT SIDE. THE DOWN-SWING IS A MIRROR IMAGE. AT IMPACT PERHAPS 80 PER CENT OF MY WEIGHT IS ON MY LEFT SIDE.



KARATE

THE POWER OF THE EMPTY HAND



On landing after the previous kick, deliver a chudan-gyaku-tsuki



Go into zenkutsu-dachi and throw a right chudan-gyaku-tsuki



Deliver a jodan maigiri

TO carry on with the kata, throw a left *chudan-gyaku-tsuki* or a reverse middle punch. Follow that up with a left *jodan-maigiri* or a front kick to the upper region On completion of the kick, drop into *zenkutsu-dachi* and perform a right *chudan gyaku-tsuki*. Follow that with a *chudan-morote-uki* from a right *zenkutsu-dachi*.

Keep in mind that all these movements are shown facing the camera for your convenience. In reality, you would be performing them all in the opposite direction.

By Shivaji Ganguly

Kyokushinkaikan karate

PHOTOGRAPHS RAMAN BHALLA



From zenkutsu-dachi, perform a chudan-morote-uki

FITNESS

THE ABSOLUTE TRUTH



SUMMER'S here. And that means it's time to hit the beach or pool. In other words it's strip-off time Pull off those hot clothes, dive into the cool, refreshing water.. and beat the heat!

But are you really proud of the body you expose? Do you strut all the way to the water? Or do you cover yourself with a towel right till the moment you jump in? It all depends on how much care you've been taking of your physique over the last few months.

Anyway, if you're one of those lucky few who lace up skin-tight costumes and trunks with pride, you've got nothing to worry about. But if you're always looking for the most opportune—read deserted—time to take your dip, then you've got problems

Nothing that a good, gutbusting workout

won't solve though. If you're willing to give it a shot, we at the Fitness Column are prepared to take you through a whole range of abdominal exercises that'll burn the spare tyre off and have you dying to hit the pool when it's most crowded. Interested?

The first thing to do is understand what your abs do for you An extremely complex network of muscle tissue, it provides the basic strength in almost every movement your body makes. Try it if you don't believe us. Just concentrate on which muscles come into play whenever you do anything, and you'll realise pretty soon that, minus those abs, you'd be struggling to even lower yourself into a chair. Something we take for granted, don't we?

Basically the abs consist of the rectus abdominis and the oblique—external and internal—muscles. Get them into shape and you're in business. While the rectus abdominis lies slam-bang in the centre of your abdomen, the obliques run along the sides, contributing to that sexy tapered look we all covet

And if it's more details you want, here goes: the rectus is one hung slab of muscle that is divided by four strips of connective tissue (hey, that's what makes it look ridged, right!) called the tendinous inscripitons. It's these strips of tissue that keep the rectus abdominis supple and prevent us from rupturing it. There's also the linea alba which runs down the middle of the rectus abdominis, dividing into two vertical halves.

As for the obliques, they run diagonally down from the rib cage to the groin and provide the muscle mass to the sides of your waist. Worked when you twist your upper body at the 'raised' position of the sit-up, these muscles are about the hardest to find. Leave alone develop. See these muscles well defined on anyone...and you're looking at a person who's deadly serious about fitness.

Now that you know where the problem lies—actually it's not fair to lump the muscles with the blame since it's fat that does the damage—how about doing something about it? Over the next few weeks we're going to give you a series of abdominal exercises recommended by the champions Do them religiously and there's nothing to stop you from peeling off that teeshirt even before you reach the pool.

Sure the season's hot. But so are you! Stick with us and we'll show them the hottest set of abs in town, won't we?



BLAST THOSE MYTHS

YOU'RE in the mood for a workout. You put on a MC Hammer cassette, and pump up the volume. You are in your second set when, your dad peeks in and tells you to turn down the volume "At this rate you'll soon go deaf", he says, and vanishes, before you can tell him as to how you can get the adrenalin pumping only when the music is playing real loud. You grimace, but continue nevertheless.

It's your mum's birthday and the family goes out for dinner. You are waiting for the food to arrive, and suddenly the silence is punctuated by some sharp cracks, and your mother tells you that if you keep cracking your knuckles you'll get arthritis. Well, you hadn't even realised that you had cracked your knuckles, until you were told so by your mother.

Familiar with the above situations? Well, there's not much truth in the relation between cracking knuckles and arthritis, but then your folks were probably right about some of the other stuff. We're not saying that all of Mom and Dad's health advice was medical malarkey. Some of it is good enough to pass on to your kids..

Your dad was hip to the one about the music. Listening to loud music, especially through headphones can cause permanent hearing loss. The next best thing you can do is to play the music a bit softly. Another very interesting aspect about music. If you are on a diet, then, have your food listening to soft music, because rock'n roll makes you gulp down your food and you end up eating much more than your really need.

"Don't read in the dark; it will ruin your eyes."

TRUE. Improper lighting causes eyestrain which can result in headaches and fatigue. Reading in poor light can even bring on nearsightedness, especially during the years of growing up. As a rule of thumb, a shaded 150 watt bulb about three feet away should provide enough light. The wattage should increase as the distance from the light increases. To counter eyestrain from reading, look up and away, after every 15 or 20 minutes. This relaxes the tight-focusing eye muscles that play a role in furthering nearsightedness.



"Eat your carrots. They're good for your eyes."

TRUE. Have you ever seen a rabbit wearing glasses? Chances are, that you will not. The rich supply of betacarotene in carrots is converted in your body to Vitamin A which contributes to better functioning of the retina. This nutrient is specially helpful to prevent night blindness.

"Let some air get to that cut and it'll heal faster."

NO, IT WON'T. Keeping a minor cut moist, and then covering it with an airtight dressing helps the wound heal 40% faster than the conventional gauze and other dressings. Doctors are not too sure as to why airtight dressings are the best. Probably the reason is that an airtight dressing keeps the healing substances in body fluids from drying up.

"Keep making those faces and someday your face will freeze that way."

TRUE, Facial expressions are made by contracting muscles. Every time you make a face, you produce folds in the skin When you are young, with the skin at it's elastic best, folds soon disappear. But as you age, the connective tissues get damaged, (courtesy the sun and cigarettes), and the wrinkles don't vanish so easily. When these actions are repeated over a period of time on damaged tissues, then you begin having crow's feet, smile lines and frown lines.

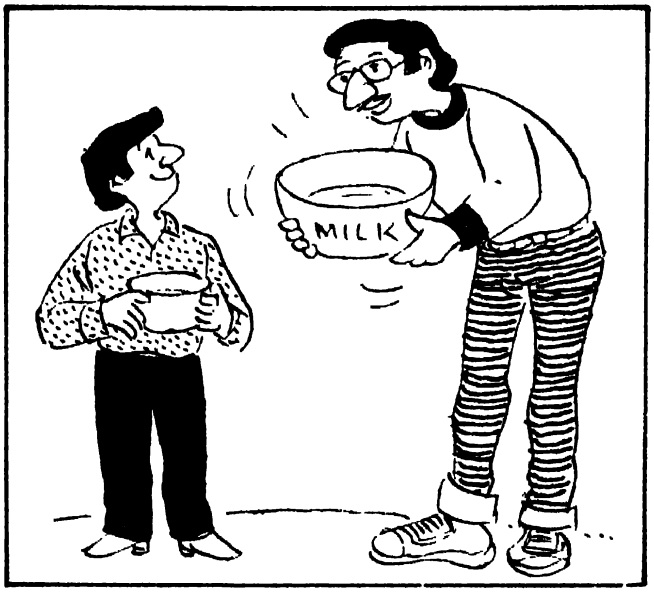


"Get back in here with that wet hair, or you freeze to death."

FALSE. Cold viruses cause colds. Wet hair, raw weather and sudden chills may aggravate existing symptoms, but they won't make you sick. A study conducted by medical experts in America, compared on group in a warm room with others in a chilly room. Both were equally susceptible to the cold virus. Actually the cold viruses are passed on to you by contact. So the best way to avoid a cold is to be careful when you shake hands with someone, who has a cold.

"Leave those pimples alone."

TRUE. In most cases tampering with the pimples just aggravates the condition. Angry red pimples often become more inflammed when squeezed. Pores with tiny whiteheads should also be forgiven, not driven. On the other hand, blackheads and pimples that are filled with yellow pus can also be safely squeezed. Once the pus is taken out from these, then it heals more quickly.



"Drink your milk if you want to grow tall."

FALSE Skeletal growth depends on calcium, and calcium rich milk helps develop the bones, but then you cannot put on a couple of inches just by drinking milk. Basically, your genes determine how tall you grow, so as long as you receive adequate amounts of calcium, your chromosomes will see that you grow to your full height.

"If you don't stop doing that, you'll go blind."

FALSE We haven't yet. ●

THE HEALTH COLUMN

Fascinating!

THE issue dated 27 March-2 April was filled with interesting articles. And of course the cover story on Kapil Dev by Robin Chatterjee was real good reading though, we could have done with a better poster of Monica Seles, but the sweet fragrance of Sabatini could be smelt all over the issue. Thanks a ton for the picture.
JERRIN,
Nagercoil.

Satisfactory

LOOKING at the performance of the Indian team against the Indonesians in the Davis Cup tie at Jaipur, one is convinced that Leander can lead India on to greater heights. Though the Indonesians were not expected to do much better, we should still be satisfied with our performance.

Ramesh Krishnan has correctly predicted that the Koreans will be a much tougher lot But his presence in the team will make one hell of a difference. We should be optimistic about the tie, and because the tie will be played on grass Leander has a much better chance.

The win of Leander's and his association with Ramesh Krishnan should have boosted his morale a lot. Though Zeeshan Ali was not too good, he does still have time for improvement.

Krishnan and Co, it's time for you, to make your presence felt in the international arena. Go all out for it and prove to us that we are justified in pinning our hopes on you.
RAJIB MISHRA,
Sambalpur.

Fall From Grace

THAT would have been the apt heading for Diego Maradona's life story. All the fame and superstardom that was his, has been blown away. Today he stands alone as the most disgraced sportsperson of the decade. His failure to pass the drug test, will surely end his career. For the past two years his activities both and on off the field was in total disarray, and it did nothing to revive his sagging image and the respect that he had lost. And the latest episode about him being involved in the drugs and prostitution ring, just stinks to high heavens. Now it comes as no wonder that he was voted the most hated footballer in Italy. He might be a superstar, but that does not mean he could get away with anything. He surely deserved the 15 month suspension that was given to him by FIFA.
S.SURESH,
Madurai.



Winner All The Way

THE cover story on Kapil Dev in the issue dated 27 March - 2 April gave a detailed picture of Kapil Dev's life. As a cricketer he gave everything he had to the game of cricket. This was evident from the fact that he was the highest wicket-taker in the world of one-day cricket. The year 1983 was indeed a historic year for Kapil and also for Indian cricket. His knock of 175 against Zimbabwe was of sterling quality. He topped the world's all rounder's list with distinction. Just goes to prove that he is indeed a winner all the way!
C.K.SUBRAMANIAM,
Madras

More Indian Sports, Please

IT is certainly nice to know as to what is happening in the international arena in sports. But it is also necessary that we know what is happening in the country. There appears to be a tendency in your otherwise excellent magazine, to give secondary importance to sporting events held in our country.

Since sponsorship is critical for encouraging up-coming talent, magazines like *Sportsworld* should do their best to promote new talent in the country. Only then can we become a force to reckon with, in international sports.
RAHUL YADAV,
Ambala.

SPORTS HALL OF SHAME — BY NASH & ZULLO

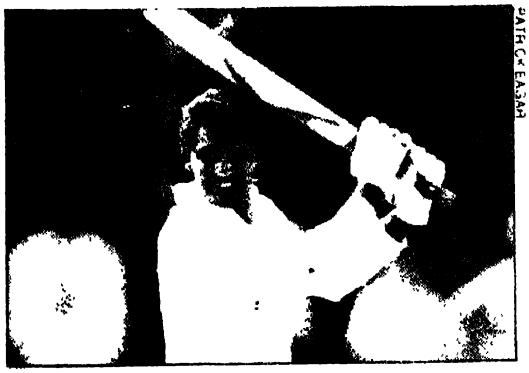


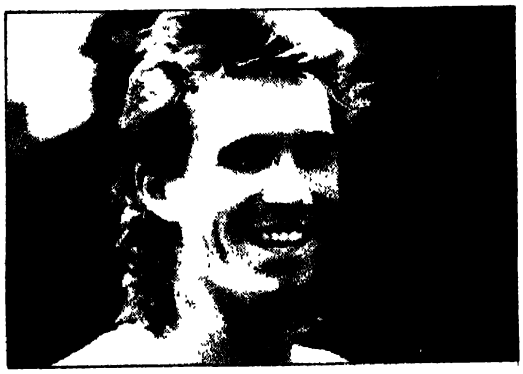
IN THE 1980 MASTERS, GOLFING GREAT **TOM WEISKOPF** SET THE TOURNAMENT RECORD FOR MOST STROKES OVER PAR ON A SINGLE HOLE... 10.! ON THE PAR-3 12TH HOLE, TOM PLUNKED FIVE STRAIGHT BALLS INTO THE DRINK FOR A HORRENDOUS 13. THE FOLLOWING DAY—APPARENTLY TAKING DEAD AIM AT HIS RECORD – HE SPLASHED TWO MORE BALLS IN THE WATER EN ROUTE TO A SEVEN. ON CONSECUTIVE DAYS, TOM HAD PLAYED THE 155-YARD HOLE IN 14 OVER PAR!



AFTER A WILD OPENING-ROUND 75 IN THE 1979 MASTERS, PRO **MAC McLENDON** TOLD HIS WIFE, JOAN, "I'M PLAYING SO BADLY, I JUST KNOW I'M GOING TO HIT SOMEBODY. IN FACT, WHATEVER YOU DO TOMORROW (IN THE GALLERY), DON'T GET IN FRONT OF ME." IGNORING HIS WARNING, JOAN DUTIFULLY JOINED THE FAIRWAY GALLERY ON THE FIRST HOLE TO WATCH MAC'S TEE SHOT. *CRACK!* McLENDON HOOKED A BLUE DARTER INTO THE CROWD AND HIT... YOU KNOW WHO! HOSPITAL X-RAYS SHOWED JOAN SUFFERED ONLY A BAD BRUISE.

MILESTONES





VOTED: Graham Gooch, as England's player of the year, for his record breaking exploits and for his leadership acumen.

SHIFTED: From Ecuador to Mexico, the under-17 World Cup football by FIFA. This was done because a cholera epidemic had invaded Ecuador from Peru.

HONOURED: Azharuddin, by Wisden, as one of Wisden's cricketers of the year '90. He was joined by Mike Artherton, Desmond Haynes, Mark Waugh and Allan Butcher.

APPOINTED: Ramanathan Krishnan as the coach of the Peninsula Tennis Academy at Delhi. This incidentally is his first coaching assignment.

BOUGHT: By Guissepe Ciarrapico, the Italian first division club AS Roma, which was in dire straits financially. Guissepe is the owner of the Fiuggi mineral water empire.

WON: By Stefan Edberg, the $1.15 million Japan Open, defeating Ivan Lendl, 6-1, 7-5, 6-0.

RECALLED: Pat Cash for the Australia's Davis Cup squad, for the tie against France to be played at Nimes, next month.

CALCUTTA

CAB Knockout Cricket

SENIOR division CAB league champions Aryan capitulated to Sporting Union in the final of the CAB Senior Knockout cricket championship recently. Sporting Union's seven-wicket victory helped them avenge their semifinal defeat to Aryan in the league championship earlier on.

Sporting Union, with one of the best sides in the local circuit, triumphed basically due to some callous batting by the Aryan middle-order. Veteran spinner Aloke Bhattacharya and upcoming off-spinner Arun Banerjee lured the Aryan batsmen into all sorts of errors as the two shared six wickets between themselves.

Sporting Union invited Aryan to bat on an easy Eden Gardens wicket, but the league champions made a disastrous start, losing opener, Debopam Sarkar for nine runs. Aryan could not recover from the early blow and had lost four wickets before even putting up 50 runs on the scoreboard.

Number four batsman Joydeep Mukherjee played the only decent knock in the innings, but could not force the pace because he ran out of partners. Mukherjee top-scored with 30 runs.

Set to score 110 for victory in 45 overs, Sporting Union did that with ease. Kalyan Dhal, who has been amongst the runs this season, knocked a quick 42 to set the ball rolling for Sporting. The job was completed by Raja Venkat who took his team to victory in the 29th over by lofting Pradip Pandey for a huge six. Venkat remained unbeaten on 14.

Sporting Union won the CAB senior knockout tournament

Brief scores: Aryan 109 in 32.1 overs (Joydeep Mukherjee 30, Aloke Bhattacharya 3/16, Arun Banerje 3/42). Sporting Union 114/3 in 28.3 overs (Kalyan Dhal 42). Sporting won by seven wickets.

P. Sen Trophy

MOHUN BAGAN ended a streak of bad performances by lifting the P. Sen Trophy limited overs cricket championship. Bagan, who had been winning almost all the local cricket tournaments with consummate ease over the years, had struck a bad patch this season when they were ousted from the league and the senior knockout championships. But all the bad days were forgotten as Mohun Bagan lifted the P. Sen Trophy for the unprecedented 12th time.

But victory was not all that easy



KISHORI ROY CHOWDHURY

against a CAB President's XI side which boasted of some of the State's upcoming youngsters, including Sourav Ganguly, playing in between his Higher Secondary examinations, and Sanjay Das, who has been knocking on the doors of the Bengal Ranji Trophy side with tall scores in the local circuit. Bagan won by four wickets and with only 16 balls to spare.

Das and Ganguly prospered for a solid 189-run second wicket partnership, which actually helped the CAB President's XI set Mohun Bagan a worthwhile target to chase. Das scored 101, which although had its minor blemishes, was a praiseworthy effort, coming off 103 balls. But Ganguly, as usual, was his flamboyant self, cracking an electrifying 96 off 93 deliveries. Ganguly's innings contained six fours and two sixes, but he was unlucky to miss a deserving century because the man marking the scoreboard blundered. The scoreboard wrongly showed that Ganguly had scored his hundred. This prompted the southpaw to go for a big hit and lose his wicket.



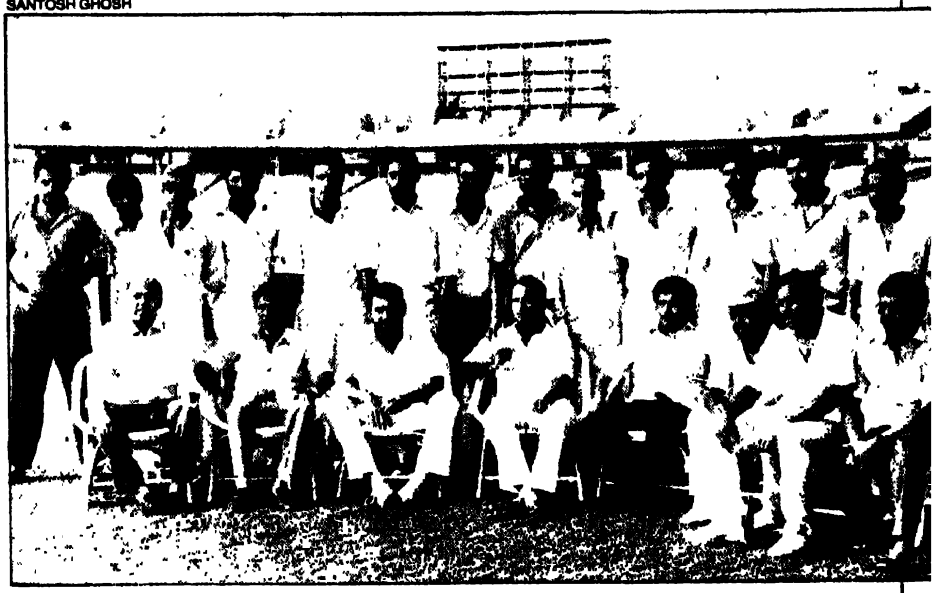
From a healthy 221 for three at the fall of Ganguly's wicket, the CAB side slipped to a precarious 243 for seven. The strong middle order, having the likes of Ranji stalwarts Srikant Kalyani and Saradindu Mukherjee, drew a blank.

The wrecker-in-chief for Mohun Bagan was their bespectacled former Bengal captain, Pronob Nandi. Bowling rather gentle leg-spins, Nandi had the CAB middle-order in a quandary. Nandi finished with figures of five for 27, mainly due to the generosity of the CAB President's XI batsmen.

Requiring to score over six runs an over, Mohun Bagan made a bad start. Opener Indu Bhusan Roy went back to the pavilion at the team score of 25 and Bagan were into deeper trouble when Palash Nandi departed soon after.

But Bagan recovered from that as Arun Lal and Ajay Verma settled down easily and soon exposed the mediocrity of the opponents' bowling attack. Only medium-pacer Abdul Monayam, who picked up four crucial wickets for 43 runs, bowled well and even Bengal's off-spinner Saradindu Mukherjee, who has donned national colours, looked very ordinary.

SANTOSH GHOSH



Mohun Bagan were the winners of the P. Sen Trophy

Just as it appeared that Bagan were cruising easily, Lal was brilliantly caught by Probal Ghosh at square leg for 29. Change-bowler Srikant Kalyani got the vital breakthrough. But the damage was repaired by a short and glorious innings by Pronob Nandi who not only stepped up the run rate with a pugnacious 39 off 31 balls, but also took Mohun Bagan to within sniffing distance of victory.

The man who actually helped Mohun Bagan achieve that was Verma. The right-handed opener played a splendid innings and was simply superb in the off-side. Two extra-cover boundaries were just a treat. Verma scored 120 and it could not have been better timed.

Despite losing two quick wickets in Verma and Gautam Shome, out first ball, Mohun Bagan went on to win with the chubby Ashok Malhotra hitting the winning runs. Malhotra remained unbeaten on a crisp 32 Brief scores: CAB President's XI 249/8 in 41 overs (Sanjay Das 101, Sourav Ganguly 96, Pronob Nandi 5/27). Mohun Bagan 250/6 in 38 2 overs (Ajay Verma 120, Pronob Nandi 39, Arun Lal 29, Ashok Malhotra 32 not out, Abdul Monayem 4/43). Mohun Bagan won by four wickets.

Soumitra Bose

QUIZ

QUESTIONS

1. Who became the first player to perform the match "double" of 100 runs and 10 wickets?
2. Mark Greatbatch is the ninth Englishman to suffer a particular bad luck in Test match What was it?
3. Whom did Poland beat to win the third place in the 1974 World Cup soccer?
4. Which club side did Bobby Moore represent?
5. 'Pan Pan was the mascot for the Beijing Asiad What does the word mean?
6. What is common to Matt Busby Edmund Hillary and Don Bradman?
7. Tommie Smith the famous----meters runner from the U.S A was nicknamed 'Jet (100, 200, 400)
8. A judo match is won by the first person to hold his opponent immobile on his back for---seconds (15, 30 60)

ANSWERS

1. Alan Davidson
2. Being dismissed for 99
3. Brazil
4. West Ham United (1958-74) and Fulham (1974-76)
5. "Longing"
6. All of them were Knighted
7. 200
8. 30

CHESS

Another interesting game from the Soviet young masters. Here black essays a rare gambit and after white reacts with a bad novelty he works up a lovely attack IM Vladimir Yepeshin is another Russian who is bound to make waves very shortly

White Kheukin Vs Black Yepeshin, Minsk '90

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 f3 c5 d5 b5! An idea borrowed from the Blumenfeld and of course also the Leningrad Variation of the Nimzo

6 e4 bc4 7 Bxc4 Nxd5! The cheapo 8 ed5? Qh4 limits white's options **Bxd5 ed5 9 Qxd5 Nc6 10 Nge2 Ba6 11 Be3 Qb6 12 0-0-0?** More usual would be 12 Kf2 This is not an experiment that is likely to be repeated.

12---0-0-13 a3 (See Diagram) **Rab8!!** A very good piece sacrifice especially since it must have been found at the board

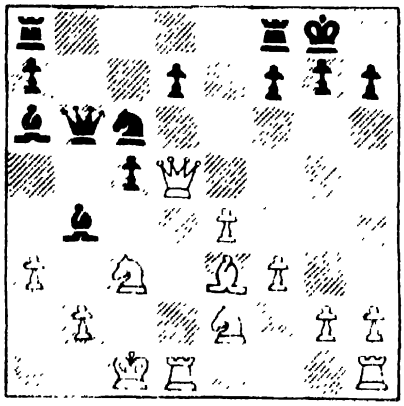
14 ab4 Nxb4 15 Bxc5. White has several depressing options For example 16 Qd6 Na2 or 16 Qxc5 Nd3 17 Rxd3 Qxb2 18 Kd1 Bxd3

15---Qh6! 16 Qd2 Nd3 17 Kb1 Rxb2 18 Qxb2 Nxb2 19 Rd6 Bd3! White is lost despite material compensation because his pieces lack all coordination

20 Kxb2 Rb8 21 Ka1 Qd2 22 Ba3 Rb3 23 Bc1 Qc2 24 Rxd3 Rb6! The shortest route to victory

25 Rd4 Ra6 26 Ra4 Rxa4 27 Nxa4 Qxa4 28 Kb1 Qb5 29 Bb2 Qb3 30 Kc1 Qxe2 31 Rd1 Qxg2 32 Rxd7 h6 33 Rd2 Qxf3 34 e5 a5 0-1 It's just skin and bones now

Devangshu Dutta



BRIDGE

Benito Garozzo, a member of the famous Italian Squadra Assura that swept world bridge from the mid fifties to the mid-seventies once again demonstrated his superb card-playing skill by winning the Pamp Per Contest organised during the last world championships at Geneva leaving second-placed Robert Hamman of USA far behind However, his reputation is not only for his technical excellence in card-play and the ability to devise new conventions of undisputed merit but also for being one of the most original devisers of false-cards Here is a hand from the prestigious *Sunday Times* pairs in January -

Dealer North E-W vul

NORTH(dummy)
♠ 8 7 5 2
♡ A K 10 8 7 4
♢ 10
♣ 9 4

WEST
♠ J 10 9
♡ G 9 5
♢ K 9 4 2
♣ G 7 2

EAST
♠ 6 4
♡ J 3
♢ A 5 3
♣ A K J 10 6 3

SOUTH
♠ A K G 3
♡ 6 2
♢ G J 8 7 6
♣ 8 3

Andy Robson, the British player who has made a name for himself at the comparatively young age of 27, bid spades and diamonds and finally reached four spades from the South seat after Garozzo had opened a natural club as East A club was led and Garozzo found the only defence to give any trouble to South---he won two rounds of clubs, cashed the diamond ace and played back a third club giving declarer an useless ruff-and sluff This killed the heart suit whichever hand declarer ruffs in Robson chose to ruff in hand and led the diamond queen, letting it run when West followed low Now came a diamond ruff and declarer seemed to be on the winning line for East would not be able to over-ruff the fourth diamond However, Garozzo devious as ever found a way to divert his opponent After ruffing the third round of diamonds Robson cashed the heart ace and Garozzo dropped the *jack*! Now Robson could see that he did not need to risk an overruff in diamonds as long as he could guess whether East had started with the singleton jack of hearts or the doubleton queen-jack after all, he surely could not have started with Jx! So he drew trumps, could read East for at least two hearts and accordingly tried to drop the heart queen, down one!

In the same contract, Peter Crouch, another young Brit, found an excellent line after the same start He ruffed the third club in *dummy*, came to hand in trumps, passed the diamond queen, ruffed a diamond and ran the trumps to catch West in a red-suit squeeze

Santanu Ghose



Pedal power gaining momentum on the continent as battle lines are drawn up by professional riders challenging the controlling body, the Federation Internationale du Cyclisme Professionnel (FICP).

First it was this year's compulsory use of hard hats, and now riders are complaining about the length of the road racing season.

PHOTOGRAPH BY TOMMY HINDLEY

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK

Sun, Sea... And A Dinghy

Jean D'Orgeix created a record of sorts when he travelled 12,000 km on a rubber dinghy from Marseilles to Calcutta, accompanied by his wife Natalie, 40 years younger than him, and dog Bobby



JEAN D'ORGEIX is a 70 year-old balding Frenchman. The other day, he landed in Calcutta on a bright sunny summer morning. You would think that this was just another curious tourist visiting the City of Joy. Except for one difference: he had come on a mechanised rubber dinghy accompanied by his wife Natalie, aboard his dog Bobby (8 years old.), all the way from Marseille, France. Distance travelled: a cool 12,000 kms. This is a record for the longest distance travelled in a rubber dinghy and could well enter the Guiness Book of World Records. At the Man of War jetty in Calcutta, they looked weary and tired but Jean D'Orgeix's handshake was firm, his voice was throbbing with enthusiasm, and his smile warm as he greeted the State Sports Minister and other officials who had come to receive him.

The idea for this trip occured casually. He had visited a friend in the Mauritius Islands on a rubber dinghy and he wondered whether he could do a longer trip. He checked the Guinness Book and found that nobody had made a very long trip on a rubber dinghy. So he decided to give it a try. Through sponsorship from a French magazine for the aged, *Le Temps Retrouve*, they set out ten months ago, with tins of food, gallons of water and hope in their hearts. Their idea was to stay close to the coastline and make their way slowly. So they went down the Italian coast, towards Greece, then by the coast of Turkey, on to the Suez Canal. From Egypt, they sailed to Yemen, and from there on to Oman, and then to Karachi and finally to Bombay. From Bombay, they came to Calcutta.

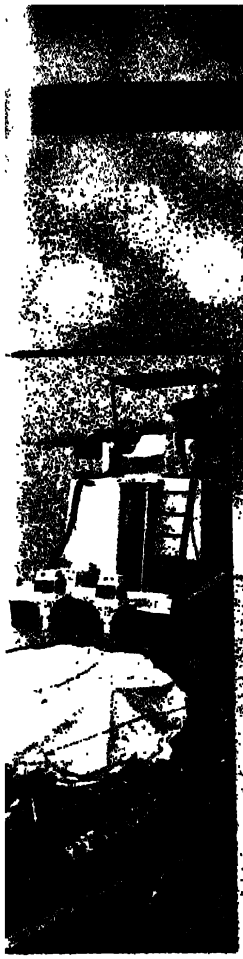
The weather was fine on most days and they did not experience any problems except near the Yemen coast, when they encountered waves of about 20-25ft high. That was the only point in the whole trip that they felt in some sort of danger. Otherwise, it was a set routine. They would get up at five in the morning, have a quick cup of coffee and they would set sail. On a good day, they would travel 130 nautical miles. By about two in the afternoon, they would look for a place to anchor their boat and then Jean D'Orgeix would go ashore to get provisions and fresh drinking water. That was all the travelling they did that day. Then they would spend the night on the boat and again set sail early the next morning.

Jean D'Orgeix and his wife Natalie being welcomed at the Man of War jetty in Calcutta



It seemed cool, but to think that a 70-year-old man was doing this arduous journey—what men half his age would hesitate to do—does point to a remarkable man.

Look at what he has done: he has been a stage and film actor. He was an Olympic bronze medallist in the '48 London Olympics [illegible] champion [illegible] fifteen years [illegible] company in [illegible] writer.



Waving from their small dinghy after their long trip

[redacted] beside him a [redacted] in [redacted]. He has [redacted] four years on the Red Sea. And the [redacted] coach cum instructor of [redacted] medal winning [redacted] team at the '76 [redacted] Olympics.

[redacted] I think [redacted] I am [redacted] I do, I [redacted] achieve my [redacted] completion. [redacted] on. I am afraid [redacted] want to [redacted] time. I want to keep developing my courage. The more encounters I do, the more fulfilled I am as a person. Although this sense of fulfilment is for a short while and then I want to do something new.'

Jean D'Orgeix plans to write a book about this journey. Then he plans to write a book from the dog's viewpoint ('Bobby was nervous for the first fifteen days, but after that he had a whale of a time') and then write his memoirs.

His wife Natalie sitting beside him is 40 years younger than her husband and when asked whether that made a difference, she quipped: 'In fact, at times, I feel that I am much more older than him.' And then she bursts out laughing. 'He, actually, what attracted me to him was not only his passion for life but his artistic personality. He is [redacted] although he [redacted] Life is so much more [redacted] around. [redacted] office day in and day out.'

Incidentally, the whole trip cost 500,000 francs or [redacted] 20 lakhs.

Attaboy Jean D'Orgeix! We wish Natalie and you all success in all your future endeavours.



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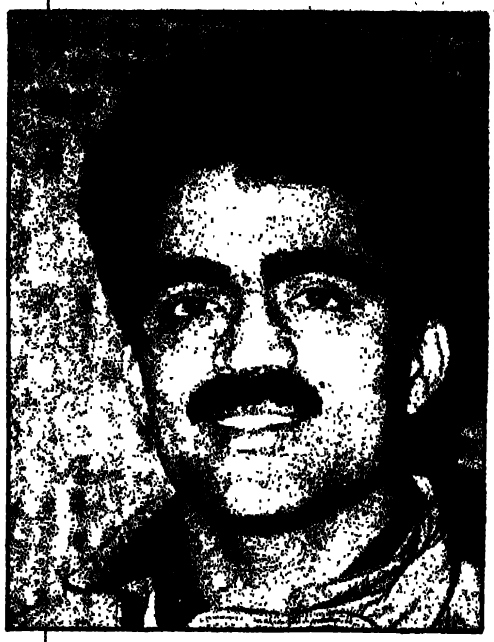
- Keratin . The essential constituent of hair
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Uday Pawar

FOUL PLAY

What emerges loud and clear is that the Badminton Association of India can no longer take the players for granted

GIVE the dog a bad name and hang it, seems to be the policy adopted lately by the Badminton Association of India (BAI) to weed out unwanted elements from the national badminton scene. In international Uday Pawar's case age is the stick with which the BAI has shoved the 32—year—old stocky Maharashtrian out of the Indian squad for the World Championships at Copenhagen from April 30.

Pawar has no longer any illusions about his prowess in the singles but his record in the doubles, in tandem with Kerala's Vinod Kumar, is enough to gain him a place in the Indian squad or so he feels.

And that is the reason he has sought legal redress at the time of going to press and the BAI has one more court case to fight.

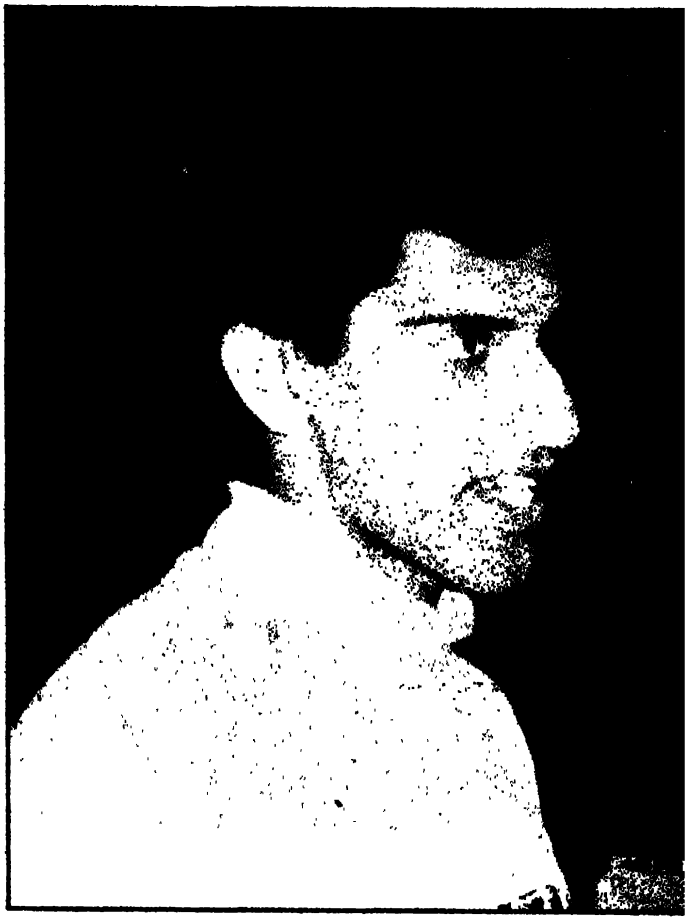
Consider, Uday Pawar's track record recently in the doubles.

He and ex—national champion Vimal Kumar's younger brother Vinod Kumar bagged the national men's doubles title in Hyderabad last January. In the Syed Modi Major tournament at Gorakhpur in November 1990, the pair had won the doubles crown.

Originally, the BAI had fixed these two tournaments as the selection trials for picking the World Championships team but later added three more tournaments to the list—the Bangarappa Gold Cup at Bangalore held just after the Nationals, The All—India Invitation tournament at Goa towards the end of January and the Thane Mayor's Trophy tournament in February.

And the Pawar—Vinod Kumar combine did not let loose its grip on the doubles title in any of these tournaments with the result that the duo's record stands at seven triumphs and one runner—up spot in eight all—India tournaments this season. Quite impressive, don't you think?

The national selectors, however, thought otherwise and Pawar finds himself out in the cold along with last year's national champion Vimal Kumar, who is in his



Discard national champion Vimal Kumar (Left) with Sanjay Sharma

late twenties.

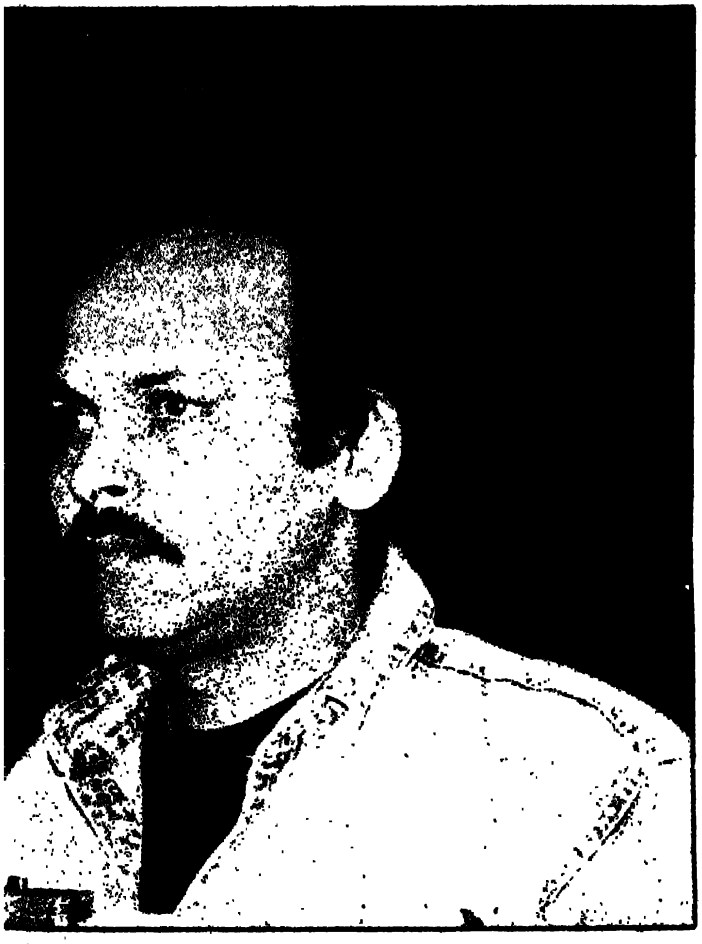
The title—triumphs in the doubles have placed Pawar and Vinod Kumar on top of the national heap followed by the plus—30 pairing of Vikram Singh and Partho Ganguly, Bhushan Akut and Rajeev Bagga of Maharashtra and another near—veteran combine of Leroy D'Sa and Sanjay Sharma in that order.

"We have a hundred per cent record in the doubles. We have beaten the number two, three and four pairs as per the BAI's own points system thrice, four times and thrice, respectively, in the five selection tournaments termed by the BAI as selection trials. What more should I do to make the team?" fumed the stocky Pawar.

Ironically Pawar's partner, Vinod Kumar, has found a place in the team alongwith Bagga. The conclusion drawn by Pawar and several others is that these two would be paired in the team championship which is played over best-of-five-matches-one men's singles one men's doubles, one women's singles, one women's doubles and finally a mixed doubles tie.

Pawar's query, "How can we field an untried scratch combination for such an important event?" seems a valid one. However, logic and the BAI have been seen at variance more often than not,in recent times.

Till last year the question of age did not hold water with the BAI. Otherwise how can anyone explain the inclusion of Partho Ganguly, 38 then, in last year's Asian Championship, and 35—year—old Sanjay Sharma in the Commonwealth Games and the Asian Games.



"Last year even before I had landed at Auckland as skipper of the Indian team, that is even before I had proved or disproved myself, I had been dropped from the squad for the Thomas Cup. Dropping top players has been a regular feature with the BAI"—Sharma

"If these two can play why shouldn't I?" asked Pawar.

BAI treasurer, Ahmed Hussein, has come out with a statement that age factor went against Pawar. How and when did the BAI decide not to include players above thirty is a mystery.

However, chopping and changing of top—ranked players is nothing new for the BAI officialdom. Sanjay Sharma himself is a prime example of the whims and fancies of this august badminton body in India.

Sharma said: "Fazil Ahmed (BAI president) takes the cake in dramatics. Last year even before I had landed at Auckland as skipper of the Indian team, that is even before I had proved or disproved myself, I had been dropped from the squad for the Thomas Cup. Dropping top players has been a regular feature with the BAI. Vikram Singh, Sanat Mishra, Leroy D'sa and Hufrish Nariman are other examples."

Hufrish Nariman's case is a striking one. She was not even called for the trials prior to the '86 Seoul Asian Games despite being ranked number three in India at that point of time.

She went on to appeal to the Bombay High Court and got a verdict in her favour to force the BAI to include her in the trials for the Seoul Asiad. She later made it to the Indian team too. That she, Ami Ghia and other Indian women were no match for the Koreans and Chinese in Seoul is neither here nor there.

This time Pawar, a normally reticent character who tries to avoid confrontation with the officialdom, has gone to court over his omission from the national team. Whether he succeeds in his efforts to make the squad or not, the point which emerges loud and clear is the BAI officials can no longer take the players for granted.

BY SRIRAM
MAHARAJA FEATURES

FONDA FITNESS



"To be successful at weight-control", says Jane Fonda, "you need to raise your metabolism so you burn off fat and retain muscle. To do this safely, you have to exercise sensibly and eat sensibly. So I recommend learning a new way of eating that's based on an understanding of why certain foods are better for you than others."

FROM acting, to health and fitness, to the world of politics—no other contemporary American actress has been as honoured or successful as Jane Fonda.

With two Oscars, five additional nominations, an Emmy and numerous other awards to her credit, her work has been recognised by every major film society.

She has also built her *Jane Fonda Workout* business into a household word, turning her thirty year interest in health and fitness into a remarkably successful and respected enterprise, and in the process altered the way women approach fitness. In November, 1985, a Roper Poll for Ladies Home Journal listed her as the fourth most admired woman in America.

In her 30-year career, Ms. Fonda has starred in over forty films, including *"They Shoot Horses, Don't They?"*, *"Julia"* and *"Klute"*, for which she won her first Academy Award.

For long a citizen activist, she was a participant in the movement to end the war in Vietnam, and she has spoken widely on behalf of the environment and the role of women in society. A particular concern of hers has been human rights abuses throughout the world, particularly the cause of Jewish refuseniks in the Soviet Union and the

FONDA'S FITNESS TIPS

1) "How much you weigh isn't the best measure of your progress." Focus on improved measurements, posture and energy.

2) "Don't look for a quick fix." One to two pounds of fat loss per week is an achievable, reasonable and healthy goal.

3) "Allow your tastes to adapt to healthy eating." Prepare appealing dishes, using spices and herbs in place of fats and sugars.

4) "Changing habits doesn't mean giving up variety." Treat yourself to a new lowfat cookbook. You'd be surprised at the delicious recipes you can find.

5) "Snack frequently on healthy foods because this may give you the energy and psychological boost you need."

6) "Don't expect perfection." An occasional lapse—say, overdoing it at a birthday celebration—is perfectly okay. Feeling guilty about it is actually counter-productive.



JANE FONDA'S LEAN ROUTINE

THE FIVE-STEP PLAN

1. Take stock of yourself. "If you have excess body fat, not only do you look heavier but you have an increased risk of heart disease, high blood pressure and adult-onset diabetes," says Daniel Kosich, Ph.D., program director of the Jane Fonda Workout and a specialist in physiology, exercise and nutrition.

2. Eat more complex carbohydrates. Roughly 60 to 65 per cent of diet should be comprised cereals, whole-grains and bread, pasta, peas, beans, fruits and vegetables.

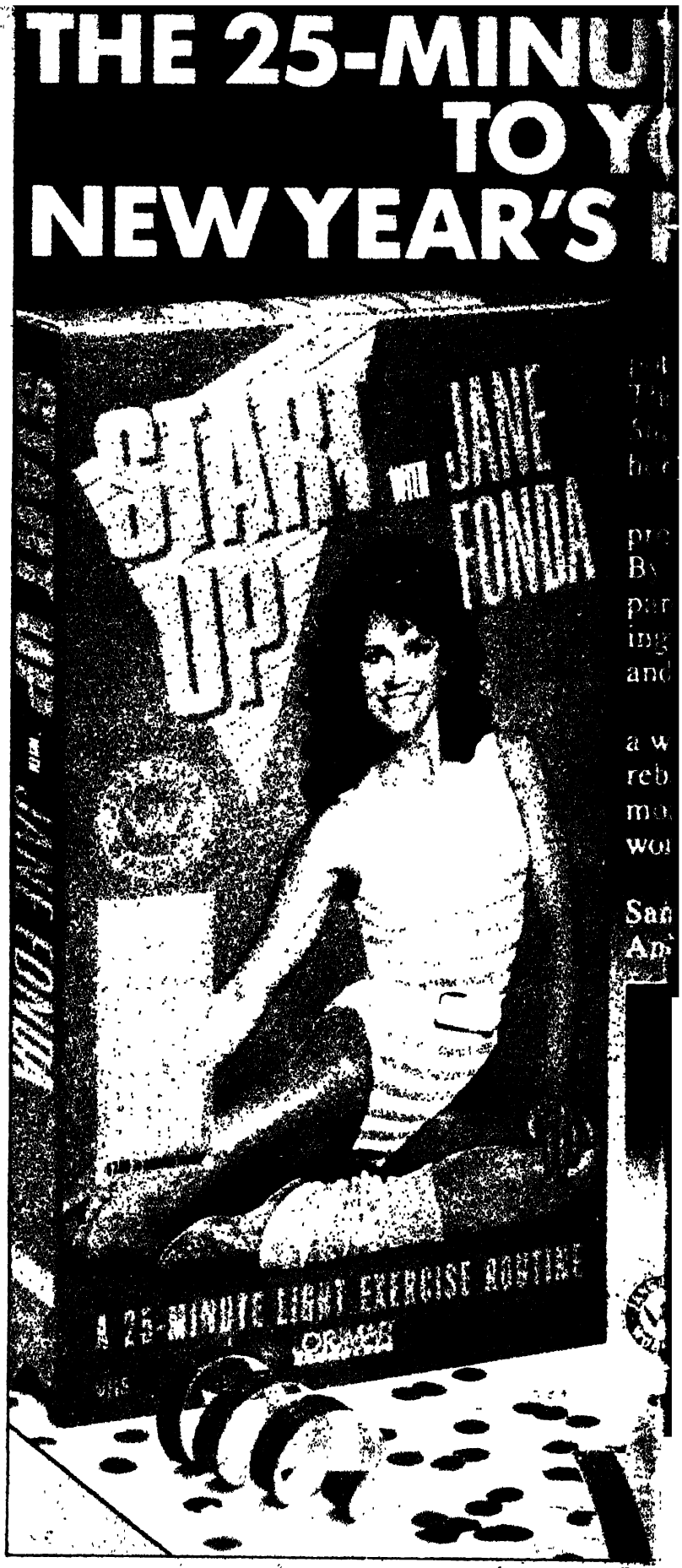
3. Cut down on fats. Fat should comprise no more than about 25 per cent of your daily calories, says Dr. Kosich. "If you're eating more than that—the average American gets about forty per cent of daily calories from fat—you're likely to gain weight and you're also jeopardising your health."

"Read ingredient labels carefully. Be aware that salt may be called sodium or soda; fat may be listed as lard, tallow, oil, butter or margarine."

"Eating fatty foods, particularly those high in saturated fats and cholesterol, such as red meats, whole-milk cheese and products containing palm or coconut oils, can increase your blood--cholesterol levels, which can contribute to the formation of plaque in your coronary arteries," explains Dr Kosich.

4. Go easy on protein. Limit consumption to about 15 per cent of your daily diet. "Americans eat more protein than is necessary, and rely too heavily on protein sources that contain saturated fat and cholesterol," says Dr Kosich. It is better to choose low-protein foods, such as fish and skinless poultry. Plant foods are good sources of protein. However, unlike animal foods, plant foods do not individually supply all of the essential aminocids that make up proteins. "However, when properly combined, they can form complete proteins," explain Dr Kosich.

5. Eat at least 1,000 calories a day. "Starving yourself on a diet of fewer calories than this not only can damage your health, it doesn't help you lose weight," says Dr Kosich. "Because these diets deplete your carbohydrate reserves, you use the protein in your muscles for energy," says the expert. "These diets can also deprive you of vital nutrients, which can cause vitamin and mineral deficiencies and illness," stresses Dr Kosich. "They can lead to eating disorders such as bulimia, which is a binge-and-vomit cycle, and anorexia, a starvation disorder that can be disastrous to your health."



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LIGHTYEAR ENTERTAINMENT
WARNER HOME VIDEO



anti-apartheid movement in South Africa. She even travelled to Poland in February, 1987, to meet with Lech Walesa and express support for the then-outlawed Solidarity movement.

Now busy as the director of the Laurel Springs Children's Camp, a summer program for children from a variety of backgrounds which uses the performing arts to build self-esteem and cooperation located on her ranch in the Santa Ynez Mountains above Santa Barbara, her *"Jane Fonda's Workout"* book was at the top of the bestseller lists for over two years, breaking publishing records, and continues to sell well both in hardcover and paperback editions.

A second book, *"Jane Fonda's Workout for Pregnancy, Birth and Recovery"*, by Femmy Delyser, is also a bestseller, as are *"Women Coming of Age"*, a comprehensive layperson's guide to aging and mid-life well-being and *"Jane Fonda's New Workout and Weight-Loss Program"*.

Her video exercise programs are phenomenal sellers which have outpaced all other programs on the market. Her original *"Jane Fonda's Workout"* tape was at the top of the charts for nearly four years, and is the top-grossing home video of all time, having sold over a million copies.

Among her other eleven videos are the bestselling *"Pregnancy, birth and Recovery Workout"*, the *"Workout Challenge"* for advanced exercise enthusiasts, and *"Easy Going"*, a program for mid-life women, *"Jane Fonda's New Workout"*, *"Jane Fonda's Low Impact Aerobic Workout,"* *"The Complete Workout"* and *"Jane Fonda's Light Aerobics and Stress Reduction Program."* ●

FLO SHOW

Going all the way



Flo Jo with hubbie Al Joyner. You can't take steroids for the marathon

FLO JO is coming back! So what's new, you might say. They all do. Yeah, but we've got to share this with you. She's seriously coming back to take part in the marathon!

The glamorous Mrs. Joyner says that she expects to take part and win the marathon in the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta. So much for retirement. What is stunning is that she's never run a marathon distance before. In fact, the closest she's come to running the distance is on an indoor treadmill machine now and again. She's managed upto 8 miles (12.9km) on this contraption.

But why this sudden urge? "Why not try to be the best?" said Al Joyner, her husband and coach. "Florence has never done anything she was not prepared to do." But the sprinting siren knows one thing: it will take that much longer for her 31-year-old sprinter's body to adapt to the marathon.

But a body like that surely might object. After all, distance runners don't take steroids.

PRIVATE EYE



WE LOOK WHERE WE'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO!

OFF THE TRACK

The bells are ringing

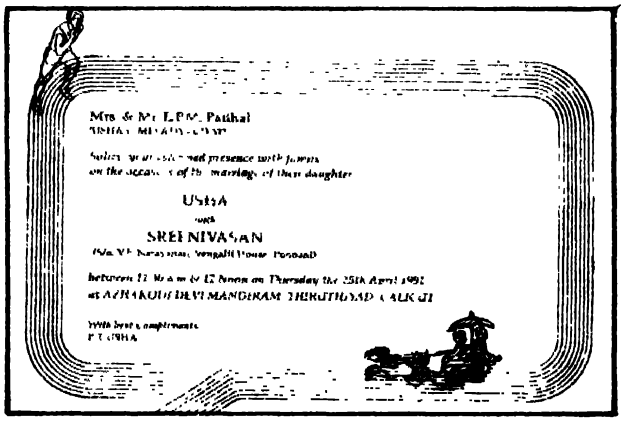
P.T. USHA'S really signing off in style. She's running her last lap and it's ending straight at the altar. And just in case you think that we're overdoing it a bit, take a peek at the wedding invitations her parents have sent right out of Kerala.

The outline of the card signifies a running track and Usha's all set to start running on it. Halfway through, however, there is a chariot waiting for her (—with a certain Mr. Sreenivasan in it) and the path of the track diverges slightly. That's the path Usha has decided to take and all the best to her.

Speaking of the invites, a number of people have been invited: we've actually got three! But there might be a notable absentee on the day of the nuptials: none other than coach Nambiar. In fact, he didn't even go for the engagement though he was a few houses away attending a wedding.

What gives? Is the man still possessive about his discovery. It would be highly stupid if he is. Because some time between 11.30 a.m. and 12 noon on April 25th, Sreenivasan's gonna walk off with the bride.

Usha's wedding card. Did Nambiar get one too?



Mrs & Mr E.P.V. Pathal

USHA

with

SREENIVASAN

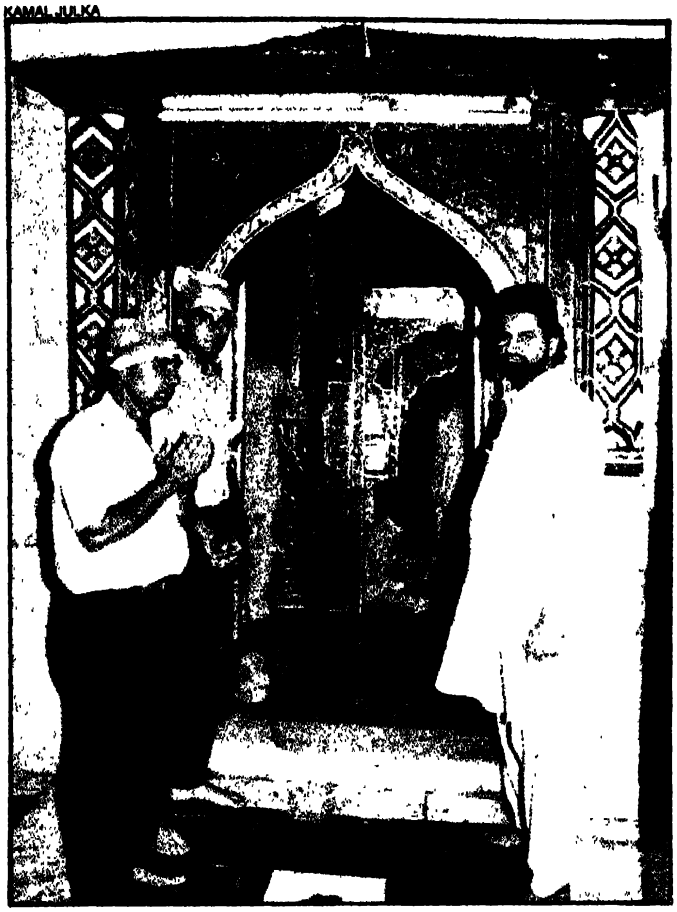
between 11.30 a.m & 12 Noon on Thursday the 25th April 1991

at AZHAKOOTDEVI MANDIRAM THERUTTUVAD (ALKOT)

With best compliments

P.T. USHA

KAMAL JUKA



LOSING SPIRIT

Get Spiritual

LOSS of form? Turn to god. Sportsmen and religious superstition is old hack. Like for instance, G.R. Vishwanath who offered three silver cricket bats to Lord Venkateshwara if he regained form. Venkateshwara obliged and Vishwanath had to cough up the silver bats. Gavaskar and Azharuddin offered prayers there too.

And so did Akhtar and Zeeshan Ali, just after the recently concluded Davis Cup tie in Jaipur. Both father and son went to Ajmer to offer prayers at the shrine of Khwaja Moinuddin Chisti. Akhtar Ali prayed for his son's fitness and speedy recovery of form. Shaken after his singles loss against Indonesia at Jaipur, Zeeshan too found solace in prayer. Akhtar has promised to come back and offer *chadar* at the saint's *majar* if his son does well.

Looks like the prayers are working slowly if Zeeshan's runner-up spot at the just concluded Standard Chartered Indian Open is any indication.

Zeeshan with father Akhtar Ali at the *dargah* in Ajmer Sharif

THE RAJ DAYS

Kapil stays

OH, and we've just found out why Kapil Dev waved his bat around like a mad man after helping India avoid the follow-on at Lord's, last summer. Kapil went berserk smashing spinner Eddible Hemmings for four successive sixers.

After the follow-on was wiped out, in truely sensational manner Kapil stalked up and down the pitch and waved his bat towards the Press box like a proud gladiator. But why the Press box and who was the waving his bat so disdainfully at?

Kapil cryptically replied, "The gesture was for Raj Singh Dungarpur who was seated just adjacent to the Press Box."

Any special reason for this "Because he had the gall to comment before the tour had even started that Kapil Dev was finished. That gesture was just to let him know that I was still around."

And don't we know that.



Kapil: actions speak louder than words

freewheeling

LIKED the Ramesh Krishnan interview, did you? Or are you one of them guys who flips straight to this page and then checks out the rest of the issue? Well, doesn't matter really. Cos, you're going to read that interview sometime. I did. And was immediately reminded of the only time I've met the gentleman.

The All England Club. 1989. The men's singles final. Boris Becker versus Stefan Edberg. Krishnan, having lost in an earlier round, was sitting at Centre Court. Me, poor thing, being on a mere Rovers Pass, was sulking in the Press Area's Monitor Room while the cream of the accreditated journalists spilled out of the meagre Press Box in Centre Court.

Finally, unable to stand it any longer, I broke the stiff, upper-lipped tradition of requesting a special Centre Court pass and charged up the steps. Becker was pedalling his imaginary bike furiously after blasting yet another winner. And the uniformed gent at the gate was as distracted as the rest of the crowd. I slipped past, only to be stopped by a solid mass of humanity that thronged the stairwell. Every person detailed to posts of security had deserted and was now totally engrossed in the battle on court. A scuffed sneaker toe in a miniscule cleft in the wall. A bruising grab of a pillar. And I was in business. Even a not-too-gentle jostle from Daley Thompson (yup, the ace decathlete himself) wasn't enough to dislodge me. Torn between the urge to chase Thompson and set up an interview and the desire to watch Becker hold up the trophy, I opted to stay. And then, suddenly, came a brainwave of capturing the moment forever on celluloid. Yet more elbow-scraping contortion later, I had my camera in my hand. But every attempt to aim-and-shoot almost had me falling off.

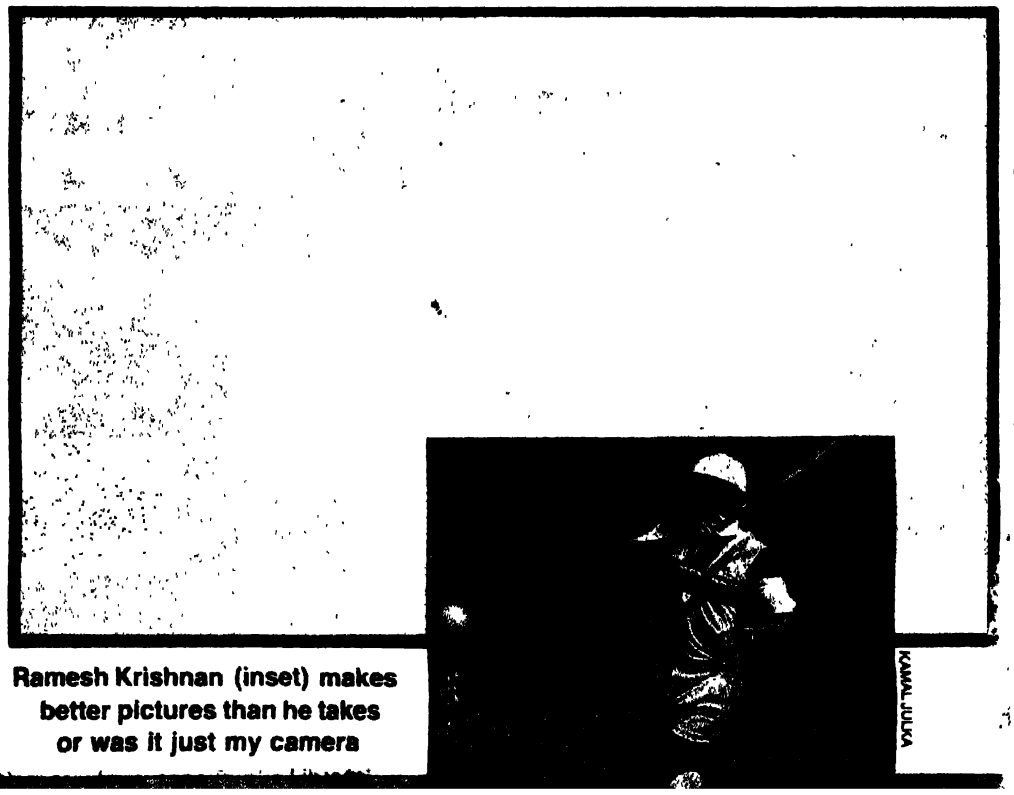
Desperation set in. Here was Becker walking up to the Duchess of Kent and I couldn't point the camera in the right direction! It was at this stage that I noticed Krishnan standing—by now everyone was—unobtrusively in the stands. A hurried, furtive call in his direction had him looking in my direction, eyebrows reaching for the sky. I proferred the camera. He took it. And pointed it at me! Seeing my agitation through the viewer, he looked up. 'Of Becker, of Becker,' I yelled. A disgusted look at my HotShot and Krishnan proceeded to click a couple of shots of Becker. Sheer ecstacy. Photographs of possibly the greatest moment in world tennis clicked by India's leading player...on my camera.

Just one problem though. The damn camera wasn't up to the situation. The much-awaited prints turned out blurry. The distance between lens and object so large that only Krishnan and me would vouch for that wavy figure being the Wimbledon champion.

All plans of mailing one copy—complete with thank you note—to Krishnan fell flat. So did the hype I'd generated about the photographs...prior to the trip to the studio.

Haven't met Krishnan since. Hence haven't had the chance to express my gratitude for lending me a pair of hands that English summer. We were just two Indians in a faraway land. Him, a leading star in his turf. Me, a lowly sports journalist who didn't even merit a seat in Centre Court for the final. Yet neither of us hesitated: me, to ask and him, to respond. Can you, then, blame me for still finding space in my album for those blurry prints?

Pradeep Paul



KAMAL JUKA

Ramesh Krishnan (inset) makes better pictures than he takes or was it just my camera

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B.K. Birla
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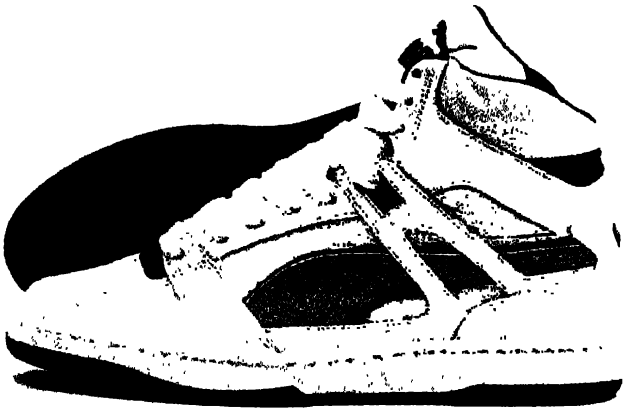
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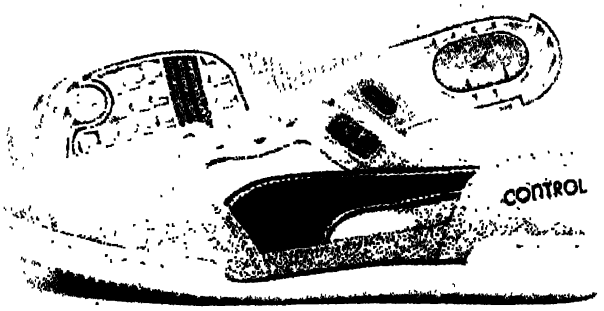
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